Be Famous

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Abstract
In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay’s first paragraph:

Everyone wants to be famous. Everyone wants to be popular and recognized, but not everyone can. Some people are really friendly and some are really shy. Popularity is literally your friend list. Some lists are larger than others, however they mean nothing. It’s one thing to have a lot of friends, but if they don’t know or care about you then they are not your friends. For example, you could have over 2,000 friends on Facebook, but if you only know 50 of them then you don’t have 2,000 friends. I believe this is the message that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is trying to convey. A friend is someone who is helping you move forward, not holding you back.
achieve distinction, to lead the parade. ... And the great issue of life is to harness the drum major instinct. It is a good instinct if you don’t distort it and pervert it. Don’t give it up. Keep feeling the need for being important. Keep feeling the need for being first. But I want you to be the first in love. I want you to be the first in moral excellence. I want you to be the first in generosity.”

(Martin Luther King, Jr - Sermon at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta on February 2, 1968)

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Be Famous

Everyone wants to be famous. Everyone wants to be popular and recognized, but not everyone can. Some people are really friendly and some are really shy. Popularity is literally your friend list. Some lists are larger than others, however they mean nothing. It’s one thing to have a lot of friends, but if they don’t know or care about you then they are not your friends. For example, you could have over 2,000 friends on Facebook, but if you only know 50 of them then you don’t have 2,000 friends. I believe this is the message that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is trying to convey. A friend is someone who is helping you move forward, not holding you back.
If your friend is holding you back, then they’re your enemy. To me this quote says, keep in touch with your best friends and help each other succeed. For example, I came from a low income family and I couldn’t afford to go to college. However, one of my teachers said I had a chance to go to school at an affordable cost and it happened. My teacher became one of my best friends and I’m living my dream. It’s thanks to him that I was able to live my dream and after I got my chance, the rest of my peers followed. Your friends are the ones that will help you the most, it’s important to stay in touch with them so that when an opportunity comes, you will be ready for it.

I got help and I took advantage of my opportunity, my friends soon followed. My friends got help and then took advantage of their opportunities. I’m not saying play follow the leader, but instead lead by example and help your friends take advantage of the opportunities. Stay in touch with friends who care, but always take opportunities so that your friends can learn from you. It’s important to remember those who have been with you through tough times and it’s important to go and help them the best way that you can.

I believe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wants us to lead by example and help teach others of mistakes that can be made. I think the best way to do that is to take advantage of opportunities and share your experiences with your friends, that way they learn from you and they take advantage of other opportunities. I learned the hard way that when life gives you lemons, you make lemonade and you never give up in pursuit to your dreams.