



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. & THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT USEFUL WEBSITES

Biography

Martin Luther King, Jr.

http://usinfo.state.gov/scv/history_geography_and_population/civil_rights/martin_luther_king_jr.html

The State Department's Office of International Information Programs presents documents and other resources on this American Civil Rights leader.

The Nobel Prize in Peace 1964

<http://nobelprize.org/peace/laureates/1964>

Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the "Southern Christian Leadership Conference," was awarded the Nobel Prize in Peace in 1964. The site, from the Nobel Foundation, features the presentation speech, by Gunnar Jahn, Chairman of the Nobel Committee, and a biography of Dr. King.

Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

<http://www.africanamericans.com/MartinLutherKingBio.htm>

A second look at Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. Speeches and quotes from AfricanAmericans.com.

The Seattle Times Martin Luther King Jr. Educational Web Site

<http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/mlk>

Provides background on King, his legacy, and a timeline and photo tour of the civil rights movement. Links to other sites include a voting rights chronology, the U.S. Code section on civil rights and significant African-American figures past and present.

Speeches of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Speeches from the 1963 Civil Rights March in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.hpol.org/master.php?t=browse&s=speaker&id=12>

From History and Politics Out Loud, a searchable archive of politically significant audio materials for scholars, teachers and students.

A Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr.

<http://www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/mlking.htm>

This site, which was written and composed in 1998 by Professor Melvin Sylvester of Long Island University, gives modest historical data concerning the life of Dr. King. It contains a brief tribute and provides significant dates in Dr. King's life, ranging from his birth to his assassination. It reveals Dr. King's writings, offering an extensive reading list for users interested in finding out more about the leader of the Civil Rights Movement.

Organizations

40th Anniversary of the "I Have a Dream Speech," August 28, 2003

<http://www.mlkmarchaar.org/anniversaryhome.htm>

Describes programs and activities sponsored by the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, Atlanta, Georgia, and other organizations.

Behind the March on Washington

<http://www.npr.org/news/specials/march40th/part1.html>

Subtitled "A 40th Anniversary Look at the Struggles to Stage an Event," this site from National Public Radio (NPR) features audios of Juan Williams's three-part series on the March, an excerpt from Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, and remarks by organizers A. Philip Randolph and John Lewis as well as a photo gallery. Links to other NPR pieces and resources are also included.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change

<http://www.thekingcenter.org>

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change was established in 1968 by Mrs. Coretta Scott King. The Center is dedicated to carrying forward the legacy and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. through research, education and training in the principles, philosophy and methods of nonviolence. The Web site includes links to the King Library archive, key dates in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life, with related links, a glossary of terms used to explain nonviolence, and information on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site

<http://www.nps.gov/malu>

The U.S. National Park Services offers basic information on the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Park and its surrounding community. It features the home where Martin Luther King, Jr. grew up in the residential section of "Sweet Auburn," the center of Black Atlanta, and Ebenezer Baptist Church, the pastorate of Dr. King's father and grandfather. The site is of special interest to visitors.

Official Program for the March on Washington, August 28, 1963

<http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=96>

From the Bayard Rustin Papers, John F. Kennedy Library, National Archives and Records Administration.

Remembering the March: The 40th Anniversary of the March on Washington

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/local/march40>

The "NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" and local public television stations produced this page, which provides historical snapshots and personal memories from "one of the defining moments in American history." A special feature, the "NewsHour Extra," offers lesson plans and background for students and teachers.

We Shall Overcome -- Lincoln Memorial

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/dc1.htm>

From "Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement," National Park Service.

Civil Rights

Civil Rights in Mississippi Digital Archive

<http://www.lib.usm.edu/~spcol/crda/index.html>

The project, from the McCain Library & Archives, University of Southern Mississippi, aims to provide an Internet-accessible, fully searchable database of digitized versions of rare and unique library and archival resources on race relations in Mississippi. The first phase will offer 125 oral history transcripts on the civil rights movement.

Civil Rights Movement Veterans

<http://www.crmvet.org>

Created by, and for, civil rights workers active in the Southern Freedom Movement organizations during the 1960's, the site offers personal stories, narratives, and interviews with those active in the movement. It presents the background and history of the movement, frequently asked questions, and a bibliography, speakers list, and related links.

Civil Rights Oral History Interviews: Spokane, Washington [Real Player]

<http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/holland/masc/xcivilrights.html>

This is one of the few civil rights oral history projects organized around the remembrances and memories of persons from a particular geographic locale. This collection of eight oral history interviews, conducted by Rebecca Nappi, was created in part by the Washington State University Library in collaboration with the Spokane Spokesman-Review.

Civil Rights Timeline

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/civilrightstimeline1.html>

"Milestones in the modern civil rights movement" from *Infoplease*, with cross references to Timeline topics.

Integrating Ole Miss: A Civil Rights Milestone

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/meredith/home.html>

From The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Timeline: "Civil Rights Era" (1954-1971)

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aaworld/timeline/civil_01.html

This site from African American World offers a Civil Rights timeline that is augmented by features from organizations such as NPR and PBS.

We Shall Overcome: Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement: A National Register Travel Itinerary

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/civilrights/index.htm>

A partnership project produced by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

Civil Rights Organizations

The Civil Rights Project - Harvard University

<http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu>

A policy-oriented institution whose work is focused on "matters directly related to race and ethnicity", more specifically falling under three overlapping headings: discrimination, diversity and opportunity; race in public policy; and leadership in connecting communities. The Civil Rights Project site includes policy reports and documents, "civil rights alerts", notices of conferences, and links to government and non-governmental web sites.

Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)

<http://www.core-online.org>

Founded in 1942, Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) is the "third oldest and one of the "Big Four" civil rights groups in the United States. From the protests against "Jim Crow" laws of the 40's to the "Sit-ins" of the 50's and the "Freedom Rides" of the 60's; through the cries for "Self-Determination" in the 70's and "Equal Opportunity" in the 80's to the struggle for community development in the 90's, CORE has championed true equality for all people."

Freedom Forum

<http://www.freedomforum.org>

The Freedom Forum is a nonpartisan foundation dedicated to free press, free speech and free spirit for all people. The foundation focuses on three priorities: the Newseum, First Amendment freedoms and newsroom diversity.

Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR)

<http://www.civilrights.org/about/lccr>

LCCR is one of the oldest and largest U.S. civil rights coalitions, leading the fight for equal opportunity and social justice. LCCR represents persons of color, women, children, labor unions, individuals with disabilities, older Americans, major religious groups, gays and lesbians and civil liberties and human rights groups."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

<http://www.naacp.org>

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the "nation's largest and strongest civil rights organization. The NAACP's principal objective is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality for minority group citizens of the United States and eliminate race prejudice."

The National Urban League

<http://www.nul.org>

A premier civil rights organization founded in 1910, whose mission is to "assist African Americans in the achievement of social and economic equality." Headquartered in New York, the NUL serves more than 2 million people each year through its 114 affiliates in most states.

The Southern Poverty Law Center

<http://www.splcenter.org>

SPLC is a national non-profit civil rights organization, internationally known for its tolerance education program, its legal victories against white supremacist groups, its tracking of hate groups, and its sponsorship of the Civil Rights Memorial which celebrates the memory of 40 individuals who died during the Civil Rights Movement.

Legal Resources

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended)

http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode42/usc_sup_01_42_10_21.html

Codified in [Title 42, Chapter 21](#) of the United States Code. Often cited as the most important civil rights legislation in the U.S., it prohibits discriminatory acts in [public education](#), (sec 2000c *et seq.*) [federally-funded programs](#), (sec 2000d *et seq.*) [accommodations](#), (sec 2000a) and [employment](#), (sec 2000e *et seq.*).

Codification of the 1866 and 1871 Civil Rights Acts

http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode42/usc_sec_42_00001981----000-.html

42 U.S.C sec 1981-85. Post-Civil War, Reconstruction Era statutes prohibiting racial discrimination in both civil and criminal venues. Criminal context is found in [18 U.S.C. sec 241](#) and [242](#)

"Civil War Amendments" to the U.S. Constitution:

[13th Amendment](#) (1865) abolished slavery

[14th Amendment](#) (1868) guarantees "equal protection" under law

[15th Amendment](#) (1870) lays out voting rights

Codification of the Fair Housing Act

http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode42/usc_sup_01_42_10_45.html

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and amended. Prohibited discrimination of race, color, religion, or national origin in the sale or rental of housing and other real estate related transactions. See the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) web site for [more](#) on the Fair Housing Act and [texts](#) of other laws and executive orders dealing with fair housing issues.

Codification of the Voting Rights Act of 1965

http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode42/usc_sup_01_42_10_20.html

Subchapters I-A, I-B, I-C). Abolished discrimination against voters.

See also, text of President Lyndon B. Johnson's Special Message to Congress: "[The American Promise](#)", 15 March 1965; [audio](#), and President Johnson's [remarks](#) at the signing of the Voting Rights Act, 6 August 1965. Images, transcripts and lessons plans can be found at the [OurDocuments.gov](#) web site.

Emancipation Proclamation (1863)

http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured_documents/emancipation_proclamation

See documents and an overview of the history and ramifications of the Proclamation from the U.S. National Archives' [publication](#), *Prologue*, Summer 1993.

President Harry S. Truman: Executive Order 9981: Desegregation of the Armed Forces

http://www.trumanlibrary.org/whistlestop/study_collections/desegregation/large/index.php?action=docs

Abolished segregation in the armed forces and ordered full integration of all the services. Images, transcripts and lessons plans can be found at the [OurDocuments.gov](#) web site. The [Desegregation of the Armed Forces](#), a collection of Project Whistlestop, the digital archive of the Truman Presidential Library, contains hundreds of pages of digitalized documents - press releases, letters, and diary entries - covering 1938 to 1957.

Court Decisions on Individual Civil Rights

Brown v. Board of Education (1954)

<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=US&vol=347&invol=483>

The Supreme Court Decision declared that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." For more information see [In Pursuit of Freedom and Equality](#) from Washburn University School of Law; [Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site](#) from the U.S. National Park Service; and an IIP [special feature](#) commemorating the 50th anniversary of the "Brown" decision.

Civil Rights Cases (1883)

http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/historics/USSC_CR_0109_0003_ZS.html

The U.S. Supreme Court case that effectively blocked attempts by Congress, in the post Civil War era, to enact laws barring discrimination against blacks in privately owned public accommodations.

The prohibition of private racial discrimination was enforced with the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=US&vol=163&invol=537>

The Supreme Court established the "separate but equal" doctrine, which remained in effect until Brown v. Board of Education (1954). See also the [analysis](#) of Justice Harlan's famous dissent, "Our constitution is colorblind."

Scott v. Sandford (1856)

<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=US&vol=60&invol=393>

The Supreme Court ruled that blacks were non-citizens, without constitutional rights associated with citizenship. The decision and its aftermath contributed to the outbreak of the Civil War; it was overturned by the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment. View an exhibit of significant [records](#) documenting the Scotts' early struggle for freedom, a [chronology](#) and additional links from the Washington University Libraries.

For more information, please contact:

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