

During his lifetime, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had many goals for the good of mankind. When King concluded his famous Letter from Birmingham City Jail with “Yours for the cause of Peace and Brotherhood,” he concisely stated the true direction of his renowned actions of nonviolent civil disobedience. He wanted to help create a world in which a person is chiefly judged for the quality of their character and has the ability to coexist with all others that are around them and the equal opportunity to succeed. I believe that today we are headed from a desolate road of inequality to Dr. King’s envisioned “superhighway of justice.”

One of King’s most prominent messages was taking action with regard to problems with coexistence in the world. Even though the state of human affairs in our world is nowhere near a paragon of harmony, it is apparent that we are making strides toward achieving Dr. King’s dream of a society filled with peace and brotherhood. Our world has been engaged in two global wars in one century alone, and when considering the steps of preventative action that have been taken it is apparent that we as a human race are attempting to create a world which is better for ourselves. The creation of the United Nations as a global moderation group illustrates one of King’s finest points, located in his “American Dream” speech: “The world in which we live has now become a single neighborhood.” Along with the consideration of this message, it is clear that we have learned enough from our mistakes to realize the necessity to bond in a more harmonious and peaceful community. Change cannot be made overnight, but gradual developments may one day lead to the harmonious coexistence which King fought for in

his lifetime.

King also fought for a situation in the United States which promoted the advancement and acceptance of African Americans as equal within a society which had been plummeted into hypocrisy and inequality since its origin. His fight was not in vain, as many steps have been taken toward promoting equality for not only African Americans, but also all other minority groups in the United States. Affirmative action policies have been set in place allowing anyone of any race or any background to achieve their dreams and improve their status in society through motivation, determination, and a positive strive. While these policies definitely do not eliminate more covert methods of discrimination, it is indeed a step towards a society in which the man is judged for the quality of his character rather than the color of his skin.

Overall, I feel our world is indeed headed to a community and a superhighway of justice which King envisioned during his lifetime. Dr. King once stated that he wished for “justice [to] run down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.” With time and determination, we may one day be transformed into the oasis of freedom and justice he fought for throughout his lifetime.