

Second Place
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In the past forty years, it is evident that many things in society have changed. Families no longer sit down over a nice home cooked meal and discuss their day, block parties were a thing of the past, and television does not end at nine o'clock. Technology has taken over the world and it is obvious it is here to stay. But one thing that does not have to change, just because everything else does, is how we care, communicate and connect with people in our community.

Dr. King fought his entire life just to show people of all races that it is okay to care about one another and to try and improve the society we live in. But if you look at how people act nowadays, you almost wonder if everything Dr. King worked for was in vain. Young men and women in society are joining gangs and fighting one another, when they can just talk and communicate with one another like civilized human beings. Young girls are feeling as though they have to degrade themselves in order to get attention from guys. Children are being raised in single-parent homes without any major role models to guide them into a positive direction. Where is the love that we should have for one another as brothers, sisters and as human beings in general?

If teachers would actually sit down with their students for five minutes and see how their day was, then maybe there would not be so many high school dropouts. If parents would take five minutes out of their day and actually talk to their kids, maybe there would not be as many teenage pregnancies or gang bangers in our society. If everyone just took a second out of their day to smile at someone, whether they may know the person or not, then maybe we would have one less suicide victim being taken to the morgue. If everyone in society took a moment to care, communicate and connect with people in their community, then I truly believe Dr. King's legacy will be fulfilled.