

## FITCH FILES - MLK Day 2009

As you celebrate this day, please reflect on the man and what he stood for... and be grateful that he stood in the path of righteousness for all of man-kind.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is a person whose name is synonymous with peace, non-violence, determination, righteousness and love. For me, Dr. King, in his purest moment, represents my own struggles in life. He makes me think that no matter what, I can conquer anything and anybody. No matter of my color, background, religious beliefs, appearance and/or personal feelings, I can stand proud of who am I today, tomorrow and forever more...

In his speech, "I have a dream . . ." is so profound because everyone has a dream. The dictionary tells us that a dream is a train of vagrant ideas which present themselves to the mind while we are asleep.

In some cases, dreams are *trained* to be nightmares... See, people are not born with the thinking, "I hate blacks" or "I hate whites" or "I hate gays." They are led to this thinking by society, people around them and how people live today.

The more common dreams are ones of good deeds and sound, solid purpose. See, I dream too... I dream of what might be for my own daughter... I dream of how will the next generation, her generation, embrace one another. I dream of how will they tackle the inequalities that life presents... I dream of how will they attempt to stand shoulder to shoulder for what they think is right in a manner acceptable by God? I also dream of how will they preserve our history and put their stamp on theirs.

As a child, I often dreamt of a man that looks like me... that walks like me.... that can relate to me... that will have a mailing address of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500...

We have come a l-o-n-g way... On January 21, 2009, we have HOPE moving into the white house...

Some dreams come true...

So, I leave you with a quote from Brother Martin... "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

*Steven E. Fitch*