# Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" Speech: A Turning Point in the Civil Rights Movement

On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. stood before a crowd of more than 200,000 people at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. He was there to deliver a speech that would become one of the most iconic and influential speeches in American history.

King's "I Have a Dream" speech was a powerful call for an end to racial segregation and discrimination. He spoke of his dream of a day when his children would be judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. He also spoke of his hope for a day when all Americans would be able to live together in peace and harmony.

King's speech was met with thunderous applause and cheers. It was a turning point in the civil rights movement, and it helped to bring about lasting change.



## Martin Luther King's I have a dream speech August 28 1963 (number one Book 1) by Royal Yarns

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Language	;	English
File size	;	2035 KB
Text-to-Speech	;	Enabled
Screen Reader	;	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	;	Enabled
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Print length	;	6 pages



#### The Speech

King's "I Have a Dream" speech is a masterpiece of oratory. It is a powerful and moving speech that has inspired millions of people around the world.

King begins his speech by recounting the history of slavery and segregation in the United States. He speaks of the injustices and hardships that African Americans have faced for centuries. He also speaks of the progress that has been made in the civil rights movement, but he emphasizes that there is still much work to be done.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character," King says. "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

King's speech is a powerful indictment of racism and segregation. He speaks of the need for a change of heart, and he calls on his listeners to join him in the struggle for justice.

"We must learn to live together as brothers, or we will perish together as fools," King says. "The time is always right to do what is right."

#### The Impact

King's "I Have a Dream" speech had a profound impact on the civil rights movement. It helped to galvanize the movement and bring about lasting change.

The speech was a major catalyst for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. These laws outlawed segregation and discrimination in public places and made it easier for African Americans to vote.

King's speech also helped to change hearts and minds. It inspired millions of Americans to join the civil rights movement and work for a more just and equal society.

#### Legacy

Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech is one of the most important speeches in American history. It is a powerful and moving speech that has inspired millions of people around the world.

King's speech is a reminder that we must never give up on our dreams. No matter how difficult the struggle, we must always believe that a better future is possible.

#### **Additional Resources**

- <u>The full text of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech</u>
- <u>A video of Martin Luther King Jr. delivering his "I Have a Dream"</u> <u>speech</u>

 <u>A lesson plan for teaching Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream"</u> <u>speech</u>



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