



**Mt. Hood
Community
College salutes
the contributions
African-Americans
have made to
our community
and looks
forward to the
achievements of
tomorrow.**

Marcia Graves
MHCC
Computer Services



"The celebration of black history can give blacks a sense of the positive achievements of their people, and provide self-confidence and self-pride which are essential to any program of assertiveness. In fact, a positive identity or enhanced self-concept is critical for the academic, social and personal success of Blacks everywhere. The knowledge and dissemination of African history would, besides building self-esteem among blacks, assist in the elimination of prejudice among other races."

Shireen Duke
MHCC
Science Department



"February celebrates the month in which we bear witness to the progress, richness, and diversity of African American achievements. We as a race have made many positive strides and have contributed much to this country."

**Registration for spring term begins March 11.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 503-491-6422**



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The Martin Luther King You Don't See On TV



Calling attention to the abysmal living conditions of Chicago's poor and making a constructive effort to improve them, King and his wife join a group of activists in cleaning up a building in a west side ghetto. Dr. King fostered the Movement to End Slums, which helped with repairs and assisted rent strikes against slumlords in 1966.

BY JEFF COHEN AND NORMAN SOLOMON

It's become a TV ritual: Every year in mid-January, around the time of Martin Luther King's birthday, we get perfunctory network news reports about "the slain civil rights leader."

The remarkable thing about this annual review of King's life is that several years — his last years — are totally missing, as if flushed down a memory hole.

What TV viewers see is a closed loop of familiar file footage: King battling desegregation in Birmingham (1963); reciting his dream of racial harmony at the rally in Washington (1963); marching for voting rights in Selma, Alabama (1965); and finally, lying dead on the motel balcony in Memphis (1968).

An alert viewer might notice that the chronology jumps from 1965 to 1968. Yet King didn't take a sabbatical near the end of his life. In fact, he was speaking and organizing as diligently as ever.

Almost all of those speeches were filmed or taped. But they're not shown today on TV.

Why?

It's because national news media have never come to terms with what Martin Luther King Jr. stood for during his final years.

In the early 1960s, when King focused

his challenge on legalized racial discrimination in the South, most major media were his allies. Network TV and national publications graphically showed the police dogs and bullwhips and cattle prods used against Southern blacks who sought the right to vote or to eat at a public lunch counter.

But after passage of civil rights acts in 1964 and 1965, King began challenging the nation's fundamental priorities. He maintained that civil rights laws were empty without "human rights" — including economic rights. For people too poor to eat at a restaurant or afford a decent home, King said, anti-discrimination laws were hollow.

Noting that a majority of Americans below the poverty line were white, King developed a class perspective. He decried the huge income gaps between rich and poor, and called for "radical changes in the structure of our society" to redistribute wealth and power.

"True compassion," King declared, "is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring."

Jeff Cohen and Norman Solomon are syndicated columnists and authors of "Adventures in Medialand: Behind the News, Beyond the Pundits."

"There is nothing more dangerous than to build a society, with a large segment of people in that society, who feel that they have no stake in it; who feel that they have nothing to lose. People who have a stake in their society, protect that society, but when they don't have it, they unconsciously want to destroy it."

-MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

**IN THE SPIRIT OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER
KING JR.
JOIN REPRESENTATIVE
DEBORAH KAFOURY
IN BUILDING
TOMORROW'S
LEADERS**



Phone: 503-281-3960
e-mail: kafoury.rep@state.or.us



Charles Jordan, Exec. Director of PP&R

Unintentionally, through a lack of understanding, we don't value the gifts that give us life... the trees, the air, the water. They speak to us, they sustain us, but we don't hear and continue the violence against ourselves. We must protect our legacy.

Live the Dream.

