

To write this I researched and thought about Martin Luther
King Jr
He was a man whose words wove the way to justice through
peace
As I read the sentences he strung that stirred the spirits of
millions of people
I felt words rise from within me and transfer themselves
From mind to hand from hand to pen from pen to paper And
that poem that was placed on that piece of paper was a
mess
But that is fine because poems and assemblies and days off
Are not the only ways we can honor him
Dr. King was a man who established tranquility and equality
through his tenacity
Yet still he was gentle
Tenacious as he sat alone in a jail cell
At rock bottom he did not think about his own circumstances
But he contemplated the condition of America and wrote
"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly"
Gentle as he taught those who were oppressed not to be bitter
Tenacious as he dared to dream a dream
Which was dismissed by many
In spite of that his dream is lived today
Gentle as he did not seek to destroy his enemies but to
connect with them
So instead of being in separate units they would be united
Tenacious as he was told to slow down
But he quickened because he knew that if he quaked those
who held the power
They would be forced to confront the issues that needed to be
addressed
Today be gentle yet tenacious people, because we need more
people like him
Honor Dr. King with your own actions
Work to correct the injustices of today
Follow Dr. King's example and create tension because
tension creates dialogue

And dialogue creates change

by Ann Lamptey, class of 2020