

# Hurston/Wright *Cordially Invites You to*

## A Community Discussion

*“Remembering Martin Luther King’s Writings & Landmark Speeches”*

**January 15, 2010 – 6:30PM**

**Charles Sumner School**

17th & M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036

Facilitated Discussion & Readings of Dr. King’s:



There comes a time when people get tired of being trampled by the iron feet of oppression ...



There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must do it because Conscience tells him it is right.

### Letter from a Birmingham Jail (1963)

One has not only a legal, but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws. Any law that uplifts the human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust.

### Playboy Interview (1965)

**Playboy:** Can you recall any...mistakes you’ve made in leading the movement?  
**Martin Luther King:** ...believing that because our cause was just, we could be sure that the white ministers of the South, ....would rise to our aid.

### “Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?”

Many of the ugly pages of American history have been obscured and forgotten. A society is always eager to cover misdeeds with a cloak of forgetfulness, but no society can fully repress an ugly past when the ravages persist into the present. America owes a debt of justice which it has only begun to pay. ....

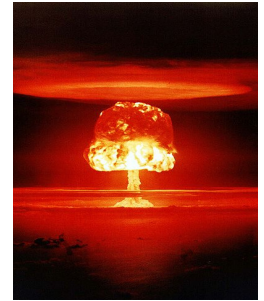
### Beyond Vietnam (1967) Riverside Church - New York City

...I knew that I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed in the ghettos without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today — my own government.

### Speech on Vietnam (1967) Ebenezer Baptist Church- Atlanta, GA

There is something strangely inconsistent about a nation and a press that would praise you when you say, “Be nonviolent toward Jim Clark,” but will curse and damn you when you say, “Be nonviolent toward little brown Vietnamese children.” There is something wrong with that press.

*“Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.”* Martin Luther King Jr.



It is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world; it’s nonviolence or nonexistence.



It is true that behavior cannot be legislated, and legislation cannot make you love me, but legislation can restrain you from lynching me.

# Celebrating 20 Years

**The Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation**

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