

## **MLK Freedom Song Essay**

By: Evan Callicoa

South Vienna Middle School

Teacher: Kiley Anderson, Grade 6

The freedom song that I am writing about is “We Shall Overcome.” This song showed that blacks believed that one day they will have rights and do things they weren’t allowed to do and not to be treated unfairly because of their skin color. My interpretation of this song is that blacks had hope that they would be just like anyone else on this earth and that they were not afraid to stand up for themselves.

Some issues in my community that people might have to overcome are violence, drugs, alcohol, depression, and financial pressures. Ways my community can deal with the issue of violence is get more police officers. Another way is to help the people who have anger issues that are causing violence by having therapy with those peoples. Ways my community can deal with the issue of drugs is help people who did them or is doing them by talking about what made them do the drugs. Also, the D.A.R.E. program teaches kids and teens to resist drugs by saying NO.

My community can deal with the issue of alcohol abuse by cutting down on the sales of alcohol and when people buy it they have to show ID so minors do not purchase alcohol. Ways my community can deal with the issue of depression is to give free therapy sessions to people who have this problem and is available any time so patients can share stories or talk about their depression. Ways my community can deal with the issue of financial pressures is offer job fairs and counseling to help people get back on their feet.

This song can give people of my community strength to overcome many things such as things I talked about. Freedom songs gave blacks confidence to fight for their rights. I believe that “We Shall Overcome” is a song that still brings meaning in the world today.