Fatoumata Sow Wexler Grant School New Haven, CT

What did Martin Luther King want then, and what would he want now? If he were still alive what would he fight for?

All of these are good questions to ask. We all will wonder if he would keep fighting or if he would give up. We will keep asking these questions and so will the next generation that comes after us. Martin Luther King Jr. was a hardworking man. He worked hard to end racism between whites and blacks. He worked extra hard for us to be able to have the same education as white people did. He also worked hard to have us use the same tools as white people.

Back then in the olden days, everything was "segregated" and the whites had their own schools and water fountains. Did you know it was also legal to make African Americans use different washrooms? If you were a black person caught using a water fountain labeled "White" you were whipped badly, whether it was a mistake or not. Blacks were also not allowed to talk to white people because then the black people were punished.

Way back before everyone new about Martin, African Americans were treated so badly all because of their skin color. They were arrested for no reason. They were beaten for no reason. They were burned, spit on, had water sprayed on them, taken out of their homes for no reason. The key words here are NO REASON. They had no rights, and that was what he was fighting for. He was fighting for not only African Americans, but for a better world.

My dream is just like his. I want to end racism. Even to this day, people are still racist. There was this video where this guy was arrested and choked for no reason, and this happened recently. He was holding a phone, which the police claimed was a "gun" and they were "terrified" of what would happen next. They choked him, but he wasn't resisting. He was fully cooperating. He said, "I'm not resisting," yet they still choked him until he passed out. After the date found out what really happened, they offered him a deal not to release the video, but he did to show the world what happened to him.

Martin Luther King Jr. was born January 15, 1929 and he fought until he died fighting in April 1968. He died fighting and if he was alive, he would still be fighting because he cared about our community. His name is Martin Luther King and this is what he fought for.