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Coming from a foreign country where everyone has the right to vote and equality is embedded in our values, I admire the work of Martin Luther King Jr. The influences he had on people at the time was great as well as the times after him. From what I know, the US is an immigrant country where almost everyone comes from a different place other than the indigenous people, and when I learned the time the “I have a dream” speech was delivered, I was shocked.

From the experience I have staying here and listening to events and news reported here was astonishing for me. As a country where the population highly relies on immigration, I cannot believe how poor the immigration system is and people’s attitude towards immigration or different races is that bad. However, I believe people like King truly had an impact on how the country is like today. His “I have a dream” speech was so profound and influential at the time and I’m glad that from my experience here as a foreigner, people are nice to me and I feel no discrimination.

On the other hand, from the news and articles regarding issues here in the US I’ve read that the country can still do more. King’s speech quoted from the Declaration of Independence “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal” and that the quote is the creed of the United States. I beg to differ that this must be the creed of all human race that everyone is equal and we should treat each other with respect, as stated also in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

King’s influence proved my point. His actions not just impacted the shape of the US, but also the world. His actions called for anti-racism around the world. There are still some countries where racism still persists such as Malaysia, and his view on different countries’ racism is also influential, such as South Africa. His actions led the US to pass bills to deter from racism, he’s truly a great figure.

His death did not stop his influence. Looking at the US nowadays, the BLM movement, and an awakening culture happening in the country, it’s apparent that the country is still propelling towards its ideal view. Martin Luther King’s actions influenced civil rights movements in this country, and his speech still inspires generations of Americans to fight for their rights peacefully. Just like many countries around the world, the US has many significant figures who fight for their rights. Martin Luther King Jr. is definitely one of the figures people think of who influenced the US. He is one of humanity's greatest martyrs for democracy.