

Selma

Daniel Martinez

Introduction:

What was the purpose
the march from Selma
to Montgomery?



Source:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1_KtW-9tIg

Purpose:

The 15th Amendment: “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”

This was passed in 1870; still in the 20th century there were local laws put in many places that made it so that many non-white people can vote.

Plot:

The movie goes through MLK and his pursuit of civil rights for African-American people, specifically voting rights.

The Culmination leads up to the march across Edmund Pettus Bridge; this day would be known as “Bloody Sunday”

Plot:

- **First March:** March 7, 1965 some 525-600 people marched
Five hours later footage would be shown on national television depicting the events that had transpired.
- **Second March:** March 9, 1965 King lead 2500 people across Edmund Pettus Bridge bridge, prayed, and turned around in order to respect the order given by the state not to go the full march.
It's a 54 mile march over the course of a few days; according to google it's a 16 hour walk.
- **Third March:** March 21st, 1965 8,000 people gathered to make the march protected by the national guard now.

Plot:

- March 15th, 1965 Lyndon Johnson says that he will be drafting a bill to allow for equal voting rights for everyone; says that
- August 6th, 1965 Johnson signs Voting Rights Act which made it illegal to impose restrictions on federal, state and local elections that were designed to deny the vote to black people.



Lynden Johnson Signing Voting Rights Act

August 6th, 1965

Fast-forward 55 years later...

Today in 2020 we still see the affects of slavery, segregation, and racial prejudice plague our culture.

The question remains:

How can we in human services help these people who feel marginalized and are mistreated in our society?

“

For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith
apart from works is dead.

”

James 2:26

Especially as Christians we have been called to serve those around us; it's not enough to simply
profess our faith but we must live it out in our deeds.

“

If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

”

James 2:15-16

So what now? How can we help bring healing to our communities?

Addressing issues:

- Today there are a wide variety of issues plaguing our communities including poverty, basic human rights, and mental & emotional well-being.
- Depending on the agency we work with, conducting home visits, building trust in that context and moving from there and seeing what the family/person needs; where are their greatest needs?
- When working with other cultures it's important to understand how we have been influenced in our family of origin – countertransference.

Addressing issues:

- Racism and prejudice: It's important as people who work in human services to listen; not just hear but actively engage in the concerns of others in these communities.



Mark Warren: Rebuilding relationships technique

1. Separate fact from story
2. Watch for three clever stories:
 1. Victim Story: Innocent Sufferers
 2. Villain Story: Emphasize others nasty qualities and typically rely on ugly labels.
 3. Helpless story: Convince us that we have no healthy options for taking action
3. Tell the rest of the story
 1. What am I pretending not to notice about my role in the problem?
 2. Why would a reasonable, rational, and decent person do this?
 3. What should I do right now to move towards what I really want?

Evangelicals are missing a greater point. If you're not careful, the political activism overwhelms the primary message, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ, the only thing that is able to truly change a life and by extension change a nation and no politician can fill that role.

- Cal Thomas

