

From: Hope Gilchrist <hopegilchrist@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Friday, November 29, 2019 11:32 AM

To: Aldermen <Aldermen@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Council members,

Council members,

I have been following the MLK issue in the paper and through friends and have decided to put my opinion in. I do not understand why this city can't come to an agreement about this. Dr Martin Luther King, Jr helped humans evolve to a higher state of consciousness.

I do not believe this is just about naming a street. We brought a race of people to this country and enslaved them against their will for our own financial gain for generations. We, as a country, state and city, have a responsibility to this race for our ancestor's crimes. I certainly feel guilt!! My spirit still carries that. Me and my family benefited monetarily from that system which placed us in a position to have access to higher education and just about anything we wanted within reason. Yet these crimes continue to resonate within the African American community on all levels; financially, emotionally, educationally, spiritually, and numerous other ways we cannot count.

There is no way our country can right the wrongs we committed against this race but we can make the feeble symbolic gesture of naming a street after Martin Luther King, who fought for equal rights!!

When I speak of this to people in other cities and states they are amazed we do not have a street named after this man who stands for so much. Could Jonesboro please raise our consciousness to honor this amazing man.

Sincerely, Dr. Hope M. Gilchrist

Sent from my iPhone