

We Shall Overcome

We're taught in school that the civil rights movement ended in 1968  
But I believe that this movement continues

Because us people of color endure violence from the people who serve to  
protect us

From Emmitt Till to Mike Brown

Who rest in peace but died in police hands

Who can we trust?

Because Dr. King had a dream

A dream to end racism

But here we are in 2016

Where the KKK is legal and college frat homes and sororities use us as a  
joke

Here we are in 2016

Where reverse racism is thought to be real and white people get offended  
when we say

"Black Lives Matter"

Because many, many people of color marched for miles and sang songs to  
keep from quitting

They looked past their swollen feet and various beatings

To get the equality deserved as human beings

They endured hatred from whites, and to this day we still do

Because the white community dislikes us for our differences yet they've built their culture on ours

From the big hair of the 80's,

The "gangster" image of the 90's and early 2000's

To the big lips and thick eyebrows

That many people of color were made fun of but is now a fashion and beauty must

Because even if colored people represent us in the courtrooms as judges, in big corporate offices as CEO's and supporting characters on television

We face slurs and discrimination

Racism and violence are still prominent issues

But if we were able to stand together in the 60's,

We will and can stand together now

Because as Dr. King said

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"

-Angelina Chavez

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