

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Glossary of Non-Violence



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Change is a library, museum, and archive of primary sources on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement. Located in the southern city of Atlanta, Georgia, the King Center's goals are to help people remember the past, and to provide people with ideas, information, and inspiration that will allow them to solve problems without violence. The glossary below will help you understand some of the words and phrases that are used when discussing the civil rights movement.

AGAPE (noun)	Unconditional love for all, even people who don't like you. Dr. King called it "love in action".
AHISMA (noun)	A Hindi word which means non-violence. This was a central idea of Gandhi's beliefs. Dr. King modeled his participation in the civil rights movement after Gandhi's peaceful protest techniques.
ARBITRATION (noun)	A hearing at which someone who is not personally involved in a problem listens to the people who disagree with each other to try to help them solve the problem without violence.
BOYCOTT (noun)	An act of withdrawing support from a government or company which is doing something unjust.
CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE (noun)	An act of openly refusing to obey a law because of a personal belief that the law is unjust, unethical, or unconstitutional. Someone who commits an act of civil disobedience must also be prepared to accept punishment for his actions, such as being arrested and taken to jail.
CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION (noun)	An act of refusing to serve in the military because of religious or moral beliefs.
DEMONSTRATIONS (noun)	Gatherings of people to protest acts of injustice, or to get the support of the people to change something that needs to be changed in the law or society.
FASTING (verb)	Refusing to eat because of a protest, or for developing spiritual strength to find non-violent solutions.
MASS MARCH (noun)	A large number of people walking together, usually in a government place or someplace where an important historical event happened, to protest an act of injustice.
NEGOTIATING (verb)	Meeting together to discuss a problem, with both sides willing to compromise so an agreement can be reached peacefully.
PACIFISM (noun)	A belief and way of life based on absolutely refusing to participate in violence, which is believed to be morally wrong.
PASSIVE RESISTANCE (noun)	An act of refusal to support an unjust law in order to challenge it. Passive resistance includes non-violent marches, protests, and boycotts.
PETITION CAMPAIGNS (noun)	The gathering of as many signatures as possible in order to oppose or support a specific law or policy.
PICKETING (verb)	Walking with protest signs in front of a place where an injustice is being, or has been, committed.
RECONCILIATION (noun)	The goal of non-violent protest, reconciliation is people who used to disagree joining back together after a problem has been peacefully solved.
SAVING FACE (verb)	Giving someone with whom you are having a disagreement an opportunity to get out of the disagreement without having to be embarrassed in front of others.
SIT-INS (noun)	Non-violent protests in which people who disagree with something sit down at a place where the injustice is being committed, and refuse to move for a specific period of time, or until the injustice stops.
STRIKE (verb)	An organized time during which employees stop working until an injustice in their company or business is corrected.
VIGILS (noun)	Non-violent protests in which people pray, stand, walk, or sit at a specific place where they want an injustice to be corrected or explained.