We must be concerned not merely about who murdered them, but about the system they were a part of, the way of life in which they lived, the philosophy which produced the murderers.

(From Eulogy for the Martyred Children, 1963)

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter. For resources on discussing racism with your colleagues and children, please visit www.conspireforchange.org.

We must rapidly begin the shift from a thing-oriented society to a person-oriented society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, militarism, and economic exploitation are incapable of being conquered.

In 1966, Martin Luther King Jr. and others released the Freedom Budget, which included full employment, universal healthcare, and good housing for all. It was a blueprint for change, a vision of a world where everyone had what they needed to thrive.

You may well ask, "Why direct action? Why sit-ins, marches, etc.? Isn't negotiation a better path?"

Indeed, this is the purpose of direct action. Nonviolent direct action seeks to create such a crisis and establish such creative tension that a community that has constantly refused to negotiate is forced to confront the issue. And the time is always right to do right.