

*Transcript of Excerpt from Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Acceptance Speech of the
Pacem in Terris Peace and Freedom Award, presented to him by Charles Toney, President of the
Davenport Catholic Interracial Council on April 28, 1965.*

“I need not pause to say how very delighted and honored I am to be here tonight and to be a part of this auspicious occasion. I certainly want to express my deep and sincere gratitude to the Catholic Interracial Council of this community for bestowing upon me such a great honor, and I can assure you that this award is of inestimable value for the continuance of my humble efforts.

I want to join tonight with my fellow recipients of awards by saying that I consider this far more than an honor to me personally. I think in a real sense that in presenting this award you honor the hundreds and thousands, yea, even millions of people who are engaged in this mighty struggle for freedom and human dignity in this country.

Many of them you don't know; they are those anonymous, faceless individuals who are working tirelessly and unrelentingly to make the American dream a reality.”