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MLK Essay

In today's society, flash mobs are a current trend. The definition of a flash mob is a group of people who gather for a purpose and do something spontaneous. In cities like New York, flash mobs consist of dancing randomly in the streets for fun. These events are usually seen as entertaining, surprising, and non-threatening. In Philadelphia, flash mobs have become more about fighting on the streets, stealing and causing havoc throughout the city. African-American teens are mainly involved and responsible for this form of outrage or flash disturbances, causing all teens within the city to have a bad reputation. Many to people think that these youth are contaminated, have no purpose in life, and are destined to go to jail, but this is not true.

These youth do not get the attention they need and want. When they come home they want to be loved and cared for but their cries for attention go largely unrecognized. Who praises them when they get an A on a test or when they help out in their communities? When they do something bad it is all over the news. When they get this type of attention they feel accomplished in their doings. It seems because they can't get good publicity they settle for the bad. This need for attention kind of relates to Martin Luther King Jr.'s call for awareness and action during the Civil Rights Movement.

When Martin Luther King and others in the movement wanted to make a difference and call attention to race relations within the country, they do so with non-violent actions. The teens involved in flash mobs are using violence and although they are getting attention, it's negative. I believe that Martin Luther King would be proud that they want to be noticed but would tell young people to stay patient and do right, not wrong. Perhaps then society will take notice to the injustices and hardships that Philadelphia youth face.