
Cesar Chavez Essay

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The Cesar Chavez in All of Us

Were you to ask people to describe Cesar Chavez in one word, many would say: hero, leader, or peacekeeper. Chavez was all of these; he was a person who led the world to spread the importance of peace and equality. Through example rather than speech, Chavez took on the problems of his own community and eventually of the whole world, inspiring generations of young people with the determination to help those less fortunate. Focusing on laborers, especially the farm workers he interacted within his own community, Chavez fought with an aggressive but never violent attitude; always stating his uplifting slogan "Si, se puede", ("it can be done"). In no time at all, the once small union of Latino communities were joined by the nation, all fighting for peace and rights for every person. Chavez was a strong advocate who promoted peace everywhere and spoke up for voiceless communities. But without the help of many others, Chavez wouldn't be as famous as he is today. Today there are many people that follow in Chavez's footsteps. These people practice nonviolence in hopes to change the way people treat each other.

Cesar Chavez is known for how hard he fought for equality of those discriminated against, but Chavez didn't impact the world alone. He had and continues to have the support of people all over the world. Although these people may be encountering different obstacles, they choose to stand up for themselves as well as others. These are individuals who impact peace through unity and strength every day. Whether using words or action, these heroes continue daily to do their part in non-violently keeping peace in the world and equality. With the aide of Chavez's inspiring quote "Si, se puede", we can all be strong as these individuals have been and continue to be, and ensure that peace will prevail.

Though not as famous as Chavez, there are many "heroes" who support peace in their own way every day. These people aren't leaders or soldiers who give up their lives to keep peace between countries, but are instead found in all communities. They are ordinary people- they are family members, friends, even teachers. To make a difference in the world, we must put our differences aside and act as a community. As Chavez said, we can not improve individually if there are others in our community falling behind. We are stronger together than apart. We celebrate people like Chavez not just because of his fame, but because he started with small changes in his life. With these changes came effort and teamwork by Chavez and his community eventually becoming known globally. Change takes time, and like Chavez, peacekeepers realize the importance of a world where inequality and violence aren't great issues. We don't all have to be like Chavez and we shouldn't be, we should work together to make change happen. One person makes little difference, but together with other people, they can have a lasting effect. This is what peacekeepers do: they are ordinary people who do small things every day to change their world.

A peacekeeper is someone who preserves or keeps peace. This can simply mean doing small things to prevent violence. For example, police work every day to stop crimes and enforce rules to keep my community safe while security guards keep my school's community safe by guarding the school, but those aren't the only ways of keeping peace. Peacekeepers are those who practice peace daily; they are individuals who stop fights, stand up for equality without violence, and don't judge or criticize. Keeping peace can even start with a simple "hello" to a new neighbor, a small conversation with the "shy" kid in the class, or doing something when someone is being unfairly treated. We can all spread peace through example whether we are students or teachers and anyone. Whether by simply walking away from a fight, using speech rather than violence, or even silently supporting people's rights, we can become people who are peacekeepers in every sense of the word.

I would like to recognize and celebrate these individuals who, although not famous like Cesar Chavez, always do something to make sure that peace continues to be important. I am grateful for those who voice their opinions whether individually or in unity. These people are important in my community because of their influence on the younger generations especially. They are perfect role models whose actions play an even bigger part than their words. The peacekeepers are creating an environment that will empower the young people to stand up for their friends, families, as well as others. Most importantly, they lead by example. I believe that together peace can be maintained and we can all emulate the contribution of Cesar Chavez. "It is not enough to teach our young people to be successful...so they can realize their ambitions, so they can earn good livings, so they can accumulate the material things that this society bestows. Those are worthwhile goals. But it is not enough to progress as individuals while our friends and neighbors are left behind."