

Who am I without my voice?
Staying silent as I become a victim of the choices of others
That's the value of my choice
To understand the events in my environment
Notice and acknowledge the silent violence occurring
But, the fear of being powerless
Feeling aimless as my actions bring no fruits of my labor
Nonetheless, feelings encouraged by other voices
Through the face of ridicule stood their ground

Ridiculed for his aspiration of being a lawyer by his white teacher
Malcolm X, through his transformation from suffering to activism and faith
Spreading his beliefs allowing for African Americans to have a different perception of
themselves
Bringing the impact of Black Power to the forefront
Leaving their position of being powerless to the past

Powerless in a place where change seems impossible
MLK brings the perception of how there is a lack of quality
In the means of education, housing, and means to support oneself
Where one's identity is stigmatized as degrading
Ridiculed to a feeling of "nobodiness"
Through spreading the message within the community from Montgomery to Harlem to the
videos preserved

Both fought for equality and justice for the African Americans
In their position as advocates played a vital role in bringing the community
Through the efforts of one independently gets concerned
Through the advocacy fatigue with isolation and no dependency
The community plays a role in comfort and understanding
Where breaks are needed, and to come back stronger

Staying grounded as I take a step forward
Surrounded with words of strength
Knowing that I am not powerless
Face the injustices that are occurring in my community
Learn from others and be part of the change
My choice to go against ridicule
The violence of silence won't be present
I am powerful with my voice