

# Newsletter Against Drugs and Violence

FOR A NON-VIOLENT & HEALTHY COMMUNITY

## Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhi is known throughout the world. He is known as the preeminent figure in nonviolence. Influencing Dr. Howard Thurman and Martin Luther King Jr., as well as many others, including Nelson Mandela, Doris Day, and Fr. John Deer. Drawing on his deep belief in the ultimate truth, Gandhi led many movements across the globe for justice, employing nonviolence as the ultimate tool for change. His method is called Satyagraha and is translated as "truth force." Gandhi's belief was that if someone is willing to undertake suffering in the name of truth, that person has the power to overturn even the most radical of overpowering forces. Gandhi's understanding of this comes from many places. Influenced by his Hindu faith, he later worked as a lawyer in Africa, where he was influenced by freedom movements, and by Leo Tolstoy and his book *The Kingdom of God is Within You*, which makes the nonviolent case for Jesus of Nazareth. It is in this book that Gandhi



MAHATMA  
GANDHI

## Who is the March Against Drugs and Violence

We are a community-driven movement dedicated to raising awareness and fostering collective action against the destructive impact of drugs and violence in our neighborhoods.



sees that the ideal of suffering in order to turn the tables on the oppressor was the only way to instill lasting change both the sufferer and those who inflicted the suffering.

The lesser-known accomplishments of Gandhi's accomplishments lay bare the true struggle that he went through to bring compassion and power to those around him. In South Africa he took on the colonizing British forces to bring about change that provided security through non-violent action. His work in India is his best-known, in which he helped forge the freedom of India from the Colonizing British forces. He had many tactics that he took during this timeframe, but one of his less known to a broader audience is his Salt March.

Salt in India circa 1930 was a commodity that was taxed by the British and could only be sold by British companies

Because this monopoly was a strong symbol of Britain's control over the Indian population Gandhi felt that this was a great way to show the impotence of the British monarchy against a non-violent opponent. Starting in Ahmedabad in March of 1930 and ending in Dandi in April the same year Gandhi marched for 240 miles. His goal was to bring attention to the 1882 Salt Act that made it illegal for Indians to harvest and sell salt. Along the way he had thousands join him making international news for his efforts. When he arrived in Dandi he began to harvest salt with those who marched with him ending up in the incarceration of over 60,000 people. In the end this action did not up end the British control of India, but it did show that the monarchy was fallible and could be taken on by common citizens through non-violent actions that turn the social order on it's head.



CONNECT WITH US  
ON FACEBOOK

**MADV**

JOIN OUR  
EMAIL LIST