

## California Catholic Daily

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### "Without life, no other rights exist"

*African-American civil rights leaders to march in Oakland on Martin Luther King's Birthday to protest toll abortion has taken on their community*

On Friday, Jan. 18, the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the first "Standing Up For Life" walk will take place from noon to 2 p.m. in downtown Oakland. Dr. Alveda King, niece of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Dr. Clenard H. Childress, founder of Blackgenocide.org, will speak at the event and lead the march.

[[Alveda.jpg]]Ms. King is the founder of King for America Inc., a faith-based organization whose purpose is "to enrich the lives of people spiritually, socially, intellectually and economically." Unlike the majority of Martin Luther King's high-profile relatives, Alveda King is staunchly pro-life. She is the director of African American Outreach for Gospel of Life, headed by Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life. She also consults with the Africa Humanitarian Christian Fellowship, founded by her mentor, Pastor Allen McNair of Believers' Bible Christian Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

Ms. King has been jailed for her stand against segregation and support for civil rights, which led her to her pro-life position. "If the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King is to live, our babies must live. Our mothers must choose life. The greatest injustice we face is the denial of the right to life. Without life, no other rights exist."

[[Childress.jpg]]Dr. Childress is pastor of New Calvary Baptist Church in Montclair, New Jersey, and regional director of the Northeast Chapter of the Life Education and Resource Network. He is also the founder of Blackgenocide.org, a web site designed to "reach the Afro-American Community with the truth about abortion."

Blackgenocide's opening page provides these statistics:

*"Although black women constitute only 6% of the population, they comprise 36% of the abortion industry's clientele. The leading abortion providers have chosen to exploit blacks by locating 94% of their abortuaries in urban neighborhoods with high black populations."*

"Abortion is the greatest deception that has plagued the black church since Lucifer himself," Childress says.

Abortion, says Childress, is a huge obstacle to Martin Luther King's dream of equality. He quotes Martin Luther King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech to make his point: "I have a dream that one day the sons of former slaves and the son's of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood." Says Childress, "That vision was seemingly so futuristic at that time that many thought King was referring to the Great by and by... This certainly is not heaven. Everyone will be the same color and character will not be an issue. In heaven corruption will have put on incorruption and mortal will have put on immortality. Then what was it? It was a day in this nation. It was a vision of this US. It was America! The brutal treatment of African-Americans and existing laws of injustice outraged this nation 40 years ago. Yet there is nothing more discriminatory nor brutal than abortion. It was the children that saved the movement of the 60s and now the children need saving, and where are we? It's shameful that many a pastor and legislator turns a deaf ear to the cry of babies in the womb. If we as a nation had taken the journey to that Promised Land there would be no abortion -- 42,000,000 would not have been led to the slaughter."

The march is scheduled to begin at Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza in Oakland, between 14th and 15th streets at Clay Street.

The event agenda is as follows: The rally begins at noon sharp with a 5-minute introduction, followed by a 15-minute speech by Dr. Childress, then by a 15-minute speech by Dr. King. Participants will then be given walk instructions and the walk will begin at 1 p.m. and conclude an hour later. There will be an "Information Faire" at the end of the walk at Oakland City Hall.

**For more information about displaying at the Information Faire, send an email to [life@issues4life.org](mailto:life@issues4life.org).  
Contact: Walter B. Hoyer II at (510) 592-3011 or via email: [life@issues4life.org](mailto:life@issues4life.org).**

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