

The report aims to show the connection between Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" novel and Martin Luther King's 1963 Political speech, "I have a dream".

Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" Novel Link to Martin Luther King's 1963 Political Speech

Despite the fact that "The Bluest Eye" has been set in the post depression era of the 1940s, the thoughts behind the novel were centered on the Civil Rights Movement. This was waning in the late 1960s when Morrison was writing the book. A lot of the historians mark 1963 as the peak as the peak of the Civil Rights Movement owing to the fact that many pivotal events occurred in that year. The leader of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) association, Medgar Evers, was assassinated in the year. Other events that happened in the year included mass demonstrations led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Alabama, Birmingham, the Alabama Governor George Wallace attempt at stopping the integration of Alabama schools, and the March on Washington marked by Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

In a number of instances, Morrison has openly criticized various aspects of the 1960s Civil Rights Movement, stating that her primary drive for *The Bluest Eye* was the "Black is Beautiful" slogan of the movement. This was at its peak at the time while she wrote the novel. As stated earlier, the setting of *The Bluest Eye* is the 1940s. This does not deter Morrison from integrating the pressure felt by the Black community to live up to the standards of the white community. In the novel, this is especially felt by Pecola and her mother, Pauline, who are excessively obsessed with beauty, which in this case refers to being white and having blue eyes. They are both in trouble since they consider themselves as ugly human beings. As the title indicates, Pecola's primary desire is to have blue eyes which she believes would be the answer to