

## **Six Steps of Kingian Nonviolence**

*Dr. King's legacy includes a six-step strategy for developing a nonviolent campaign. These steps are not necessarily linear in their application but coterminous; each continues throughout the campaign.*

*We often view the Six Steps as phases or cycles of a campaign rather than steps because each of them embodies a cluster or series of activities related to each of the other five elements.*

*Each of the steps is present in every aspect of the nonviolent campaign. They are presented separately here for better understanding.*

### **STEP 1: INFORMATION GATHERING**

*The way you determine the facts, the options for change and the timing of pressure for raising the issue is a collective process.*

### **STEP 2: EDUCATION**

*Is the process of developing articulate leaders, who are knowledgeable about the issue.*

### **STEP 3: PERSONAL COMMITMENT**

*Means looking at your internal and external involvement in the nonviolent campaign and preparing yourself for long-term as well as short term action.*

### **STEP 4: NEGOTIATION**

*Is the art of bringing together your views and those of your opponent to arrive at a just conclusion or clarify the unresolved issues, at which point, the conflict is formalized.*

### **STEP 5: DIRECT ACTION**

*Occurs when negotiations have broken down or failed to produce a just response to the contested issues and conditions.*

### **STEP 6: RECONCILIATION**

*Is the mandatory closing step of a campaign, when the opponents and proponents celebrate the victory and provide joint leadership to implement the change.*