

Civil Rights Movement Heroes

The civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s challenged racism in America and made the passage a more fair and equal society for all. Below are some outstanding heroes.

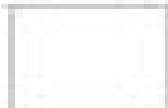
Reynolds



On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks, an African American seamstress, felt tired and decided to skip her normal bus ride to work. As the bus became crowded, the driver ordered passengers to give up their seats to a white passenger. Montgomery's buses were segregated, with the front for the white passengers and the back for the black passengers. But if the bus was crowded and white passengers were uncomfortable, black people were expected to give up their seats—a black person sitting while a white person remained seated for someone in the same class. Parks had had enough of such treatment, and decided to give up her seat. "I felt tired right at that moment I was," she said, "I wanted to get out of that bus and I was tired. I was tired because I was tired of being tired." Her act of defiance led to the Montgomery bus boycott.

Her act of defiance led to the Montgomery bus boycott, a series of protests and pickets that lasted for 385 days. The U.S. Supreme Court eventually ruled against segregation on buses, and the boycott ended the next year. Parks was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1956 for her role in the boycott.

Reynolds (Fig. 2)



It wasn't just that Martin Luther King became the leader of the civil rights movement that made him an icon. It was the way he led the movement. King was a powerful orator, a skilled negotiator, and a man of deep faith. He was a man who could inspire people to do what he asked of them. He was a man who could see the big picture and who could see the need for change. He was a man who could see the need for a new way of life. He was a man who could see the need for a new way of thinking. He was a man who could see the need for a new way of being.

There were other leaders of the movement, but King was the one who led the movement to its end. He was the one who saw the need for a new way of life. He was the one who saw the need for a new way of thinking. He was the one who saw the need for a new way of being. He was the one who saw the need for a new way of life. He was the one who saw the need for a new way of thinking. He was the one who saw the need for a new way of being.