

Ooit tegen joden



Ooit tegen donkere mensen

Rosa Parks

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For other uses, see [Rosa Parks \(disambiguation\)](#).

Rosa Parks



Rosa Parks in 1955, with [Martin Luther King Jr.](#) in the background

Born Rosa Louise McCauley


February 4, 1913

[Tuskegee, Alabama](#), U.S.

Died October 24, 2005 (aged 92)

[Detroit, Michigan](#), U.S.

Resting place [Woodlawn Cemetery](#), Detroit, Michigan, U.S.

Occupation	Civil rights activist
Known for	Montgomery bus boycott
Movement	Civil Rights Movement
Spouse(s)	Raymond Parks (m. 1932; died 1977)
	Signature
	

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks (February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005) was an American [activist](#) in the [civil rights movement](#) best known for her pivotal role in the [Montgomery bus boycott](#). The [United States Congress](#) has called her "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the freedom movement".^[1]

On December 1, 1955, in [Montgomery, Alabama](#), Parks rejected bus driver [James F. Blake](#)'s order to vacate a row of four seats in the "[colored](#)" section in favor of a white passenger, once the "white" section was filled.^[2] Parks wasn't the first person to resist bus segregation, but the [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People](#) (NAACP) believed that she was the best candidate for seeing through a court challenge after her arrest for [civil disobedience](#) in violating Alabama segregation laws, and she helped inspire the black community to boycott the Montgomery buses for over a year. The case became bogged down in the state courts, but the federal Montgomery bus lawsuit [Browder v. Gayle](#) resulted in a November 1956 decision that bus segregation is unconstitutional under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.^{[3][4]}

Parks' act of defiance and the Montgomery bus boycott became important symbols of the movement. She became an international icon of resistance to [racial segregation](#), and organized and collaborated with civil rights leaders, including [Edgar Nixon](#) and [Martin Luther King Jr.](#). At the time, Parks was employed as a seamstress at a local department store and was secretary of the Montgomery chapter of the NAACP. She had recently attended the [Highlander Folk School](#), a [Tennessee](#) center for training activists for workers' rights and racial equality. Although widely honored in later years, she also suffered for her act; she was fired from her job, and received death threats for years afterwards.^[5] Shortly after the boycott, she moved to [Detroit](#), where she briefly found similar work. From 1965 to 1988, she served as secretary and receptionist to [John Conyers](#), an African-American [US Representative](#). She was

also active in the [Black Power](#) movement and the support of [political prisoners](#) in the US.

After retirement, Parks wrote her autobiography and continued to insist that there was more work to be done in the struggle for justice.^[6] Parks received national recognition, including the NAACP's 1979 [Spingarn Medal](#), the [Presidential Medal of Freedom](#), the [Congressional Gold Medal](#), and a posthumous statue in the United States Capitol's [National Statuary Hall](#). Upon her death in 2005, she was the first woman to [lie in honor](#) in the [Capitol Rotunda](#). [California](#) and [Missouri](#) commemorate [Rosa Parks Day](#) on her birthday, February 4, while [Ohio](#) and [Oregon](#) commemorate the anniversary of her arrest, December 1.