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

Raymond Parks Spouse(s)

(m. 1932; died 1977)

Signature

PosaParks

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks (February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005) was an American <u>activist</u> in the <u>civil rights movement</u>best known for her pivotal role in the <u>Montgomery bus boycott</u>. The <u>United States Congress</u> 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. 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.

Parks' act of defiance and the Montgomery bus boycott became important symbols of the movement. She became an international icon of resistance to <u>racial</u> <u>segregation</u>, and organized and collaborated with civil rights leaders, including <u>Edgar Nixon</u> and <u>Martin Luther King Jr.</u>. 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 <u>Highlander Folk School</u>, a <u>Tennessee</u> 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. Shortly after the boycott, she moved to <u>Detroit</u>, where she briefly found similar work. From 1965 to 1988, she served as secretary and receptionist to <u>John Conyers</u>, an African-American <u>US Representative</u>. She was

also active in the <u>Black Power</u> movement and the support of <u>political prisoners</u> 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. 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.