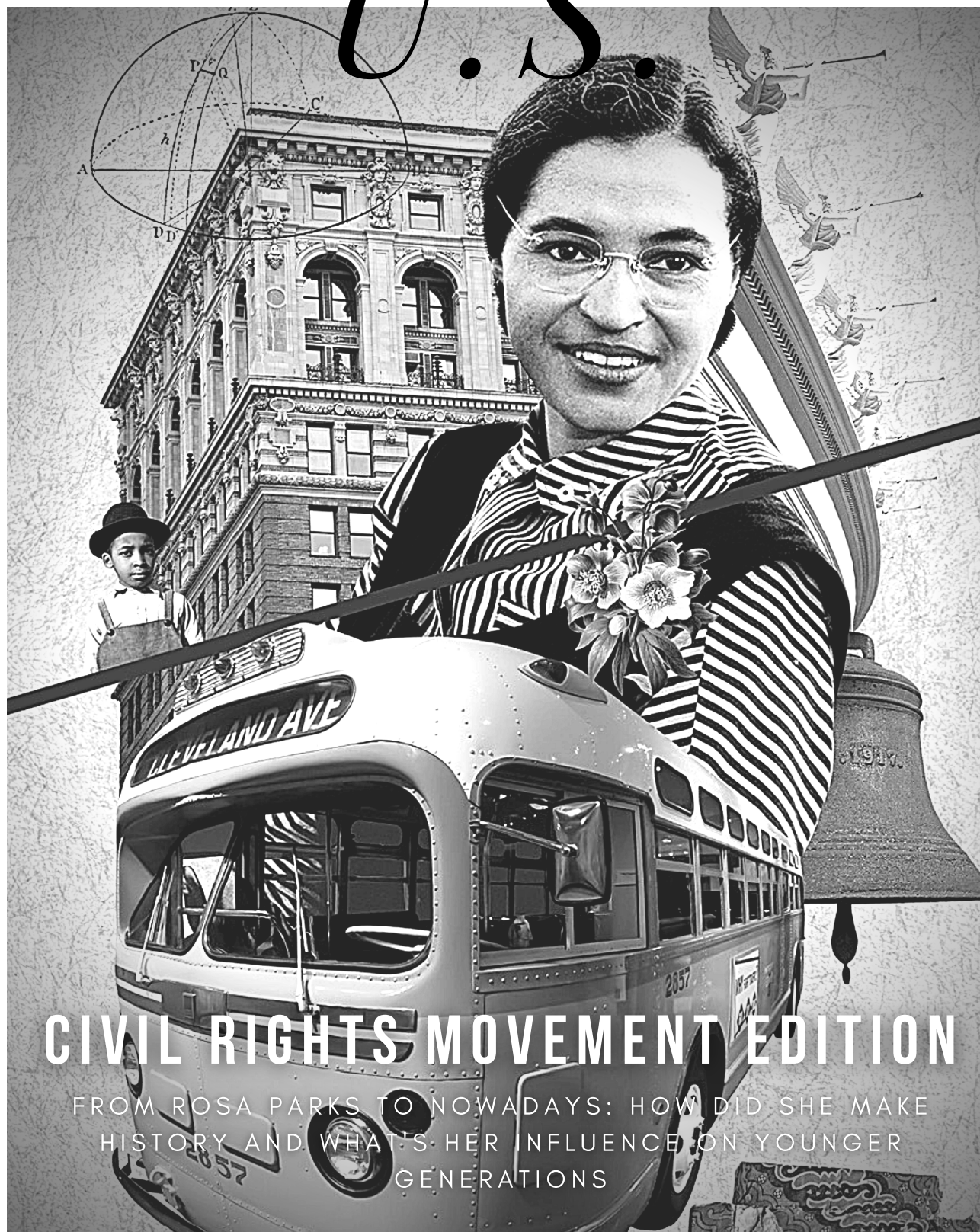


WINTER 2020 | ISSUE NO. 1 | \$4.99

U.S.



CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT EDITION

FROM ROSA PARKS TO NOWADAYS: HOW DID SHE MAKE
HISTORY AND WHAT'S HER INFLUENCE ON YOUNGER
GENERATIONS

PLUS, A CLOSER LOOK ON THE 1967 RIOTS AND ON MLK'S ACTIVISM



Dreams

HOW MLK
CHANGED HISTORY

By Maria Clara Mendonça

Born January 15, Martin Luther King, Jr. defined himself as a Baptist minister and social activist. King led the civil rights movement in the United States from the mid-1950s until his death by assassination in 1968. His leadership was fundamental to that movement's success in ending the legal segregation of African Americans in the South and other parts of the United States.

Since the beginning, MLK promoted nonviolent tactics, such as the massive March on Washington (1963), to achieve civil rights. For his impact on the north american black community and his pacifist tone, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Even though MLK advocated and staged for innumerable marches and boycotts, his most famous work is his "I Have a Dream" (1963) speech, in which he spoke of his dream of a United States that is void of segregation and racism.

Furthermore, MLK's influence is so big that his name is in the mouth of almost everyone nowadays, such as in the BLM movement. Surprisingly, King has not always been a well respected activist: In a natural way, King's life has been and still is interpreted in new ways by successive generations of scholars. However, there is one thing they all agree: Martin Luther King changed history.

Behind the 1967 riots

By Maria Clara Mendonça

High unemployment, police brutality, deteriorating housing, lack of political and extreme segregation. This was the context that people of color were surviving in The United States of 1967, especially in Detroit and Newark. Those citizens had had enough, it was time for a change. Years of abuse and prejudice led them to the streets to fight for their rights as Americans.

The Detroit riots were sparked by the raid of one of the so-called “blind pigs”, unlicensed bars located in mostly poor and black neighborhoods. The extreme violence from the police together with years of downgraded lives were more than enough to provoke a revolution in their way of life.

Even though police brutality was recurrent there, the sparking factors of the Newark riots were the disapproval of the selection of the school board’s secretary and the city plans. Those deeply and negatively affected POC’s everyday lives.

In the end, there were lives lost from both sides and millions were lost in property damage. However, what really marks history and influences today’s society were the way their voices were loud and clear. Even though the effects could not be seen at that moment, the riots helped to form America as we see today and were a big step for the end of segregation and naturalized injustice.





THE ULTIMATE IMPACTS OF

Rosa Parks

By Maria Clara Mendonça



Rosa Louise McCauley was born in Tuskegee, Alabama, on February 4, 1913. Rosa's mother was a teacher, and the family valued education. Rosa moved to Montgomery, Alabama, at age 11 and eventually attended high school there, a laboratory school at the Alabama State Teachers' College for Negroes.

Rosa, who worked as a seamstress, became respected members of Montgomery's large African American community. Co-existing with white people in a city governed by "Jim Crow" (segregation) laws, however, was fraught with daily frustrations: Blacks could attend only certain (inferior) schools, could drink only from specified water fountains and could borrow books only from the "black" library, among other restrictions.

On December first, 1955, Rosa Louise McCauley Parks changed the course of the history from The United States simply by sitting on a bus seat.

It all started when there were no more spaces for a white man to sit, so the driver ordered her to stand up and let him sit there. Nevertheless, Rosa Parks did not obey his request by quietly and pacifically protesting on her own against segregationist bus laws.

Eventually, they arrested her but what they did not expect was that her imprisonment, just a few days later, sparked one of the most remarkable moments in the history of the civil rights movement.

Her actions inspired the leaders of the local black community to organized the Montgomery Bus Boycott began the day Parks was convicted of violating the segregation laws.

Called "the mother of the civil rights movement," Rosa Parks invigorated the struggle for racial equality, inspiring generations until today.



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