

Civil rights movement assignment



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The American Civil rights Movement, a mass protest movement against racial segregation and discrimination in the southern United States, came to national prominence during the mid-1950s. The start of the Civil Rights Movement began in 1954. In this year the Supreme Court said, in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education*, that separating students by race created educational facilities that were unequal. It was declared that this violated the Fourteenth Amendment, which was aimed at protecting the citizenship rights and equal protection of all Americans but primarily former slaves.

The ruling had the effect of desegregating public schools in the United States. The biggest act of bravery came from a little, yet determined girl. On November 14, 1960, six-year-old Ruby Bridges started first grade at William Franz Public School in New Orleans. Ruby was the only African American student who went to William Franz Public School. Martin Luther King was a great American who worked and fought for civil rights in the United States in the 1950s and 60s. He fought for the rights of African Americans and many people, blacks as well as whites, supported him.

In 1964 he received the Nobel Peace Prize. Martin Luther King saw how badly black people were treated and during the 1950s he became involved in the Civil Rights Movement. In 1955 a black woman, Rosa Parks, was arrested because she didn't give up her seat to a white person on a bus. This incident made many blacks angry. They protested and decided to boycott the city's buses. Martin Luther King became the president of this boycott. In 1964, the Civil Rights Act was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson.

This act outlawed segregation and the Jim Crow laws of the south. It also outlawed discrimination based on race, national background, and gender. In 1965, another law was passed called the Voting Rights Act. This law said that citizens could not be denied the right to vote based on their race. It outlawed literacy tests (a requirement that people be able to read) and poll taxes (a fee that people had to pay to vote). The Civil Rights Movement had come to an end, but just the beginning to a free life for the Africans.