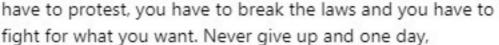


you think."





Rosa Louise McCauley, aka Rosa Parks, was born the 4th February 1913 in Alabama. She was the oldest daughter of a family with two kids. Her parents James and Leona McCauley were carpenter and teacher. She did school at home until she was 11 years old because her mother wanted a better education for her child. Then, she went in the Montgomery Industrial School (a school for

black children created by white people from the North of the

everybody will have the same rights. You are stronger than

USA). The school was burnt twice by the Ku Klux Klan which was a racist organisation. She was after a student at the school for black teachers in the state of Alabama. Every morning, she had to walk to her class because, based on the laws of a Jim Crow, the school bus was forbidden for black children in the South states of the USA: they had fewer rights than the white children. In 1932, Rosa married Raymond Parks who was employed hat the Montgomery branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Rosa Parks will become secretary and a leader in this association after she obtained her degree. For make money, she worked as a seamstress. She involed in the Civil Rights Movements from

1943 beacause in Alabama where the equality between the

whites and the blacks didn't exist, people still thought slavery was normal. Rosa wasn't the first woman who didn't follow the segregation laws but she was the first who served has a model for the struggle against the racial laws. The 1st December 1955, when she was 42 years old, after a day of work, Rosa took the bus to go at her home. She sat down in the center of the bus, in a place where reserved for white people: however, Rosa was black. With her, there were three other passengers also black. A white man went on the bus and the driver asked to Rosa and the other black

passengers to give their seats to the new traveler. According to the laws, black people could only travel in the back of the bus, in the area where reserved for them. The three other blacks obeyed to the orders of the driver, but Rosa Parks refused to give her seat. Finally, the driver called the police and she was arrested. As a result, she was judged and she had to pay 15\$ but she contested. If she had given her place, she certainly wouldn't and had to pay this and be judged. The day of the trial, the 5th December 1995, black people held a protest and movement of boycott against the bus. It aimed at having equal rights for black people and white people in the bus. One of the leader of the demonstration was Martin Luther King, a young pastor. During 380 days they refused to use the bus and went to work on foot, by car or by taxi. Later, the Supreme Court voted of the end of racial segregation on the municipal bus but racist violence didn't stop in Alabama. Jim Crow law were deleted by the Civil Rights Act, which banned all forms of segregation. The Parks family moved to Detroit. Rosa met the parliamentarian John Conyers (who is afro-american) with who she worked until her retirement in 1988. Rosa Parks participated in the Selma walk to Montgomery, in the Million Man March. She also held a demonstration against slavery in South Africa. In 1987, she created the Rosa

and Raymond Parks Institut For Self-Development which aims at encouraging the young black people to fight for their community. If they hadn't created this, we probably wouldn't had been here today. Perhaps poeple wouldn't have fought for their freedoms and segregation would still be relevant. In 1995, on the 40th birthday of her refusal in the bus, the president Bill Clinton rewarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She also received the Congressional Gold Medal. Rosa Parks is in the National Women's Hall of Fame. When

she died in October 2005, her body was exposed for todays under the Capitol for the population could to pay tribute to her. In conclusion, Rosa Parks was important because she participated to the abolition of slavery and segregration laws. She was a role model for people fought against racism. She was an intelligent and knowledgeable woman, that's why we chose to present her. Rosa was braver because she never gave up. If she had never been born, maybe slavery

would have still existed for a long time and people wouldn't

have as many rights as today.

... more

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