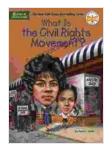
# What Is The Civil Rights Movement? What Was The Civil Rights Movement?

#### What Is the Civil Rights Movement? (What Was?)



by Sherri L. Smith

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The Civil Rights Movement was a period of social activism and protest that aimed to end racial discrimination and segregation in the United States. It began in the 1950s and lasted until the 1960s, and was led by a number of prominent figures, including Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, and Malcolm X.

The Civil Rights Movement was successful in achieving a number of important goals, including the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. These laws outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, and they helped to bring about a more just and equitable society for all Americans.

#### The Roots Of The Civil Rights Movement

The roots of the Civil Rights Movement can be traced back to the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery in 1865. Although the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution abolished slavery, it did not end discrimination against African Americans. In the years after the Civil War, Jim Crow laws were passed in the South that segregated African Americans from whites in all aspects of life, from education to transportation to housing.

Jim Crow laws were enforced by violence and intimidation, and they created a system of second-class citizenship for African Americans. This system was maintained for decades, and it was not until the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s that it was finally overturned.

#### The Leaders Of The Civil Rights Movement

The Civil Rights Movement was led by a number of prominent figures, including Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, and Malcolm X.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a Baptist minister and civil rights activist who became one of the most influential leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. He advocated for nonviolent resistance to racism and segregation, and he led a number of successful protests and campaigns. In 1964, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work.

Rosa Parks was an African American woman who became a symbol of the Civil Rights Movement when she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955. Her act of defiance sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which lasted for over a year and helped to desegregate the city's buses. Malcolm X was an African American activist and leader who advocated for black nationalism and self-defense. He was a controversial figure, but he was also a powerful voice for the rights of African Americans. He was assassinated in 1965.

#### The Goals Of The Civil Rights Movement

The goals of the Civil Rights Movement were to end racial discrimination and segregation in the United States. These goals were achieved through a combination of nonviolent protest, legal challenges, and political activism.

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#### The Legacy Of The Civil Rights Movement

The legacy of the Civil Rights Movement is a complex one. The movement achieved a number of important goals, but it also exposed the deep racism that still exists in American society. The Civil Rights Movement continues to inspire people around the world to fight for justice and equality.

The Civil Rights Movement is a reminder that change is possible, but it also requires courage, determination, and sacrifice. The legacy of the Civil Rights Movement is one of hope and inspiration, and it is a reminder that we must never give up on the fight for justice and equality.

The Civil Rights Movement was a period of great social and political change in the United States. The movement achieved a number of

important goals, but it also exposed the deep racism that still exists in American society. The Civil Rights Movement continues to inspire people around the world to fight for justice and equality, and it is a reminder that change is possible, but it requires courage, determination, and sacrifice.



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