



## [Civil Rights Movement: Struggle for Integration](#)

### **In A Nutshell**

The Civil Rights Movement is sometimes defined as a struggle against racial segregation that began in 1955 when Rosa Parks, the "seamstress with tired feet," refused to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Alabama. *Brown v. Board of Education*, the 1954 Supreme Court case that attacked the notion of "separate but equal," has also been identified as the catalyst for this extraordinary period of organized boycotts, student protests, and mass marches.

These legendary events, however, did not cause the modern Civil Rights Movement, but were instead important moments in a campaign of direct action that began two decades before the first sit-in demonstration.

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### **Brain Snacks - Trivia**

First major conflict on American soil in which blacks served as soldiers: King William's War, 1689-1697  
Last major conflict, prior to 1948, in which blacks and whites fought in integrated

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units: American Revolution, 1775-1783 First major conflict, since the American Revolution, in which blacks and whites fought in integrated units: Korean War, 1950-1953 Length of jury deliberation in the Emmett Till murder trial in September 1955: 65 minutes In a post-trial interview, one juror told a reporter that they would have delivered the verdict earlier had they not taken a break to drink soda-pop.

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