

Chapter 1 : Black feminism - Wikipedia

The contributions of Black women to shaping and changing the world for the better are often minimized. At every moment in history, Black women have worked alongside their more famous male counterparts. We've assembled a list of just a few of the women for whom we are grateful. Ella Baker began her.

These people were great. Their courage surpassed their fear and they held steadfast in their fight for justice and equality for the human race. Martin Luther Kings, Harriet Tubmans, Malcolms, and Rosa Parks of the past, there are many other black leaders that often go unrecognized. Their paths were just as difficult and their fights just as courageous. So as Black History Month gets ready to come to a close, we would like to acknowledge seven of the least recognized women in black history. Some you may be familiar with by name, but not aware of their stories. Others you will be introduced to for the first time. These women paved the way for other women and blacks in general. Check out our list of influential black women who may have missed the mainstream recognition, but nevertheless played a pivotal role in our history. Ella Baker is one of those people. An active civil rights leader in the s, Ms. Baker fought for civil rights for five decades, working alongside W. She even mentored well-known civil rights activist, Rosa Parks. The kind of role that I tried to play was to pick up pieces or put together pieces out of which I hoped organization might come. Raised in Chicago, Nash initially wanted to become a nun as a result of her Catholic upbringing. Also known for her beauty, she would later become runner-up for Miss Illinois. It was there that she would witness segregation first hand, since coming from a desegregated northern city. Her experiences in the South resulted in her ambition to fight against segregation. In , while serving as an educator in Charleston, Clark worked with the NAACP to gather petitions allowing blacks to serve as principals in Charleston schools. Their signed petitions resulted in the first black principal in Charleston. Clark also worked tirelessly to teach literacy to black adults. Her second autobiography, *Ready from Within*: Hamer stood firm in her religious beliefs, often quoting them in her fight for civil rights. Hamer died of breast cancer in at the age of Buried in her hometown of Ruleville, Miss. Before that, Bates and her husband started their own newspaper in called the Arkansas State Press. The paper became a voice for civil rights even before the nationally recognized movement. Bates worked tirelessly until her death in After moving to Washington, D. Johnson, working her magic on anti-poverty programs. After college she became a teacher. Hedgemen, who died in , is the author of *The Trumpet Sounds* , *The Gift of Chaos* and many more articles for numerous organizations. Dorothy Height While the name Dorothy Height is recognizable, many of her accomplishments are not. Height, who died recently in at the age of 98, was a social rights activist, administrator, and educator.

Chapter 2 : The Top 15 Civil Rights Leaders Of The 21st Century | News One

"Black women have had to develop a larger vision of our society than perhaps any other group. They have had to understand white men, white women, and black men. And they have had to understand themselves. When black women win victories, it is a boost for virtually every segment of society." - Angela.

By Joe McCarthy Feb. But there are thousands and thousands of brave men and women who have fought against racial oppression in US history. Today, the field of black activism is more robust and powerful than ever, spanning all facets of society, driven by the understanding that the US remains a deeply unjust and unequal place, but sustained, ultimately, by the hope that change can be made. Here are 9 black activists that you should know about: Bryan Stevenson Bryan Stevenson is the founder and executive director of The Equal Justice Initiative , an organization dedicated to fighting injustice in the criminal justice system. EJI seeks to end mass incarceration, excessive punishments, and the profound racial disparities in how justice is deployed in the US. The EJI has tried hundreds of capital punishment cases. During her time at Dream Defenders, Taylor was the political director and then the director of political consciousness. She is well-versed in the structures of power that sustain inequality throughout the country and the world and she works to show regular people how they can make a meaningful differences within their communities. She now works with Code Pink to raise awareness of the many consequences of the US invasion of Iraq and campaign to end war around the world. She focuses on the intersection of race, sexuality, poverty, and other factors that lead to the marginalization of people in society and she has been instrumental in advancing the cause of same-sex in the state. She eventually went on to form the Center for Social Inclusion , which aims to dismantle the structural barriers to racial equality in society. The institute focuses on achieving clean energy independence, food equity, and advancing opportunities for people of color. She has worked with farmers in South Carolina to build worker collectives and marketplaces and has influenced funding decisions for education in Mississippi. She also oversees the Maya Wiley Fellowship Program, which identifies and fosters community activists and budding politicians. Now more than ever: Martin Luther King, Jr. She fiercely advocates for a more just society as an acclaimed civil rights lawyer, legal scholar, and regular contributor of national news programs. King regularly exposes and directs his enormous following to the injustices of the criminal justice system and police violence in particular. But he boldly fights for everything from trans rights to Standing Rock protests to government corruption. Today, she focuses on increasing voter participation among black youth and fighting voter suppression efforts around the country through the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation. Center for Law and Social Justice Esmeralda Simmons has been engaged in the political struggle for equal rights for more than 35 years. As a civil rights lawyer, she has worked in the department of education, for a federal judge, and throughout New York state and local government. Today, she runs the Center for Law and Social Justice at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, which offers free legal services to people facing voter suppression, police brutality, discrimination, and other issues. Today, she heads the Akonadi Foundation, an organization that goes after the structural inequalities at the heart of US society. There, she works to expand opportunities for communities of color, improve media representation of people of color, and foster intersectionality. The Foundation actively supports groups and leaders who are explicit about the need to transform unjust systems and structures that perpetuate harm to people of color. This is where I want to be.

Chapter 3 : 9 Black Activists Who Are Fighting Injustice And Fixing America

These black female activists deserve some recognition for their contributions.

A post shared by The Lipstick Union thelipstickunion on Jan 4, at 9: Hip-Hop political action groups have served as a catalyst of youth political involvement in electoral politics culminating in expanding the youth vote from 40 percent participation in to 52 percent in . Clemente emerged in among a number of young activists who took the model of local hip-hop political activism to the national level and made political participation, as well as good old fashion grassroots activism, made sexy for a new generation. In June , over young people from 30 states attend The National Hip-Hop Political Convention which Clemente co-founded in Newark, New Jersey, to create and endorse a political agenda for the hip-hop generation. Hip-Hop Caucus, headed by Reverend Lennox Yearwood, would follow with a grassroots appeal to youth poor and working class youth in . Public intellectualism has been seen as a gift and a curse. They are the talking heads that weigh in as experts reading the tea leaves of Black America for national media. They may not always consult us, but given the dearth of Black-controlled television media outlets, more often than not they provide voice to human rights and social justice issues of our time. Muslim Advocates came into existence after and the now infamous Patriot Act, which instantaneously curtailed many of the freedoms we take for granted. Immigration reform is still a major legislation issue in the U. The Dream Act, a legislative proposal that has been a political football since , would grant permanent citizenship rights to eligible undocumented students. On March 21, , thousands of immigrants and their allies marched in Washington, D. Similar demonstrations were held in cities throughout the nation. His frank talk about the critical issue of Israel as it relates to the Palestinian question is exemplified in his book Palestine: Carter has also been at the forefront of the need for election oversight in any democracy, including the U. Randall Robinson is the founder of TransAfrica Forum. He has been one of the singular voices and critiques of American foreign policy at the height of apartheid in South Africa, the overthrow of Jean Bertrand-Aristide in Haiti, and the economic policies that thwarted the growth of economies in the Caribbean. What America Owes to Blacks brought the question of reparations to African Americans for slavery to the fore of national discussion. Cynthia McKinney is a former six-term member of Congress from Georgia. She was the presidential candidate for the Green Party. Likewise, as legislators more and more seem focused on issues beyond traditional civil rights concerns, Maxine Waters, who voted against the Iraq War Resolution , former Senator Russ Feingold the only senator to vote against the Patriot Act. For those nostalgic about the civil rights era mass mobilizations, the community wave of resistance to the Jena Six trial in Jena, Louisiana was notable. In , famed civil rights leaders, Rev. Al Sharpton, and Rev. Jesse Jackson, led an estimated 50, people who came from all over the nation to protest inequality in the criminal system in Louisiana. The charge highlighted the acute racism in the justice system. Days before the protest march in Jena, the charges against the teenagers were dropped. Al Sharpton, founder of the National Action Network , has evolved into sharing a role once dominated solely by Jesse Jackson, that of national civil rights spokesperson. Has been outspoken on issue of police brutality, and in led a series of protests in New York City in response to the acquittal of officers in the police shooting death of Sean Bell. In he was jailed for his participation in protests of US military bombing exercises on Puerto Rican island of Vieques. In he organized the Redeem the Dream March on the anniversary of the March on Washington to protest police brutality, drawing an estimated crowd of , The election of Barack Obama represents in some ways the culmination of the civil rights dream, described by Dr. Can Black people be embraced for the content of their character rather than the color of their skin? James Clyburn and the right Bill Bennett. Forty-three percent of white Americans voted for Obama not quite a majority. But his tendency to cave in to a moneyed elite concerns leaves his critics unconvinced.

Chapter 4 : 9 Influential Women in Black History You Won't Hear About in School

10 of America's Most Daring Young Black Activists Ugochukwu has been named one of Glamour's 20 Amazing Young Women and won an award for her activism from Campus Progress in 4. Bryant.

History[edit] Black feminism has been around since the time of slavery. Truth addressed how the issues being discussed at the convention issues that primarily impacted white women. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. May Learn how and when to remove this template message In the post slavery period, black female intellectuals including, Anna Julia Cooper, Ida B. Wells, Mary Church Terrell, and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, set in motion the principles that would become the basis for black feminism. Suffrage was early evidence of schisms between white and black feminism. According to Harper, white women needed suffrage for education; however, "black women need the vote, not as a form of education, but as a form of protection". Although they did not all identify as feminists, their theorizing included important works that are the foundation for theories of intersectionality –integrating race, gender, and class. In , for example, Esther V. Cooper married name Esther Cooper Jackson , for example, wrote a M. In , Taylor was the victim of a gang rape; Parks and Cooper attempted to bring the culprits to justice. Defenders of Ingram included the famous black feminist Mary Church Terrell , who was an octogenarian at the time. A Journal of Female Liberation. This means that we can begin to talk to other women with this common factor and start building links with them and thereby build and transform the revolutionary force we are now beginning to amass. Within the Civil Rights Movement, men dominated the powerful positions. For Instance, some Black women resisted the Feminist Movement because they felt like it could damage their household structures and felt like the feminist movement favored White women [24]. Between , the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was highly active, and focused on achieving social justice through peaceful tactics [25]. Baker was tired of the sexism found within both the NAACP and the SCLC, so she wanted to start her own organization that had an emphasis on an egalitarian structure and that allowed women to be a part of the movement and voice their needs [25]. In at a SNCC retreat in Waveland, Mississippi , the members discussed the role of women and addressed sexism that occurred within the group [25]. According to the paper, women in SNCC did not have a chance to become the face of the organization, the top leaders, because they were assigned to clerical and housekeeping duties, whereas men were involved in decision-making. By the later half of the s, more women were in charge of SNCC projects than during the first half. Ideals were shared, such as a "critique on racial capitalism, starting with slavery". Despite this, black feminism had reasons to become independent of Black Nationalism. Black feminism had been cast "as a negotiation of the sexism and masculinism and sometimes heterosexism of Black Nationalism". Even within the Black community, Black women were seen as lesser. If women were given the right to be leaders in the church, they would be much more likely to be leaders at the forefront of the movement, like Dr. Martin Luther King JR. Women were also inhibited by their family roles and jobs— school superintendents were legally able to fire Black female teachers known to be helping the movement, as well as White people employing Black women in their homes to do domestic work. They could even be denied entry or removed from public buildings in some circumstances. Despite these repercussions, Black women continued to fight. Jo Ann Robinson was forced to resign from her position as a professor for using school mimeograph machines to print off pamphlets about the Montgomery bus boycott. McCree Harris , a public school teacher, organized voter registration marches for Black high school and college students in Albany. Beside their teachers, Black women in college such as Dianne Nash risked their future livelihoods to lead protest campaigns. There are three major biases against Black women that research shows that makes it more difficult for their voice to be heard and taken seriously. The second is the middle class—members of the middle class tend to look down on the perspectives and experiences of working class women, many of whom are Black. This was because they were seen as bad mothers— in the era of the Civil Rights Movement , women were expected to be stay-at-home mothers, which was impossible due to the lack of money in poor Black households. These three factors made White people of the time look down upon Black women and not

take them seriously, even if these biases did not apply to them. Historians and scholars focus on three groups of Black activists—the organizational heads-positional leaders, the Young Turks, and the revolutionaries-separatists. The Young Turks - shock troops were a group of educated, motivated Black college students who wanted to see change come about quickly. Male students in this group, including John Lewis and Bob Moses got a sizable parts of the credit while women leaders of the group including Diane Nash, who was elected as the head of the central committee of the Nashville Student Movement, and Bernice Johnson Raegon, who wrote songs that were chanted by members of the Albany Movement in Georgia, did not. The last group of Black activists is the Revolutionaries-separatists. They promoted revolution and armed defense as a way to induce change rather than the peaceful protests of the organizational heads-positional leaders. Members of this group that receive recognition are once again all male, including Malcolm X and Huey Newton while women of the group, including officer Kathleen Cleaver and Angela Davis are not nearly as celebrated. They generate protest and activism, worked behind the scenes and even risked their well-being to be at the forefront at times. They also empowered other outcast groups at the time including farm workers, members of the LGBTQ community, handicapped people, and welfare rights activists by displaying that groups seen as lesser in society can rise up and make a difference as well. As a child, she witnessed both of her parents work numerous hours to support their family as they lived in poverty [36]. When her mother would work for White families, Anne noticed how poorly the White families treated her mother. Unlike White women who were stuck in the household, Black women usually worked in low level jobs outside of the household, so Black Feminism had a different meaning to Anne [36]. Along with Martin Luther King Jr. Height shared the stage with MLK, but she was denied the right to speak at the event. If a woman was on the stage, she was there to sing, not to give a speech. Lewis remembers asking why Height was denied the right to speak at the march, and King and his fellow leaders responded that they felt the leader of National Council of Negro Women was not qualified to speak at the event [37]. Although Height was denied the ability to speak at the March on Washington, she still had an outstanding impact on the movement. Fannie Lou Hamer, the youngest of 20 children, was born and raised in Mississippi Hamlet. As an adult, Hamer worked as a sharecropper on a Mississippi plantation [38]. In 1962, Hamer was 45 years old when civil rights workers came to her town to encourage Black Americans to vote [38]. Hamer was unaware that Blacks had the right to vote in other places of the nation. Hamer then joined the Civil Rights Movement and worked relentlessly to achieve freedom for her race [38]. Hamer wanted Black Americans to be counted in the political process. On August 31st, 1964, Hamer and other members of her town went to the Indianola Courthouse to register to vote [38]. At the courthouse, everyone had to take a literacy test because they were Black. On the bus ride back, the local authorities pulled of the bus driver for driving a group of colored people Hamlet. Many were frightened on the bus, so Hamer used her voice to soothe those that were anxious [38]. This was the first time Hamer used her voice in the movement. Hamer is well known for her rhetorical style that focused on Ethos [38]. Hamer would focus on stories that would relate to her audience. The goal of the movement was to include Black Americans in the political system. Furthermore, as Hamer tried to change the political structure in Mississippi, she ran for a seat in Congress, but was unsuccessful [38]. Although Hamer did not actively work alongside Black Feminist, her strength and perseverance was a symbol for the Black Feminist Movement. YNCL was a way for Black youth to learn about consumer education [39]. The conference was held at Shaw University, and students from 40 southern universities and 19 northern universities attended to hear Dr. Martin Luther King [40]. Baker was a key component of the Civil Right Movement. Although her primary focus was on the Black youth, her strength inspired Black Feminist. Second-wave feminism The second-wave feminist movement emerged in the 1960s, led by Betty Friedan. For example, earning the power to work outside the home was not seen as an accomplishment by black women since many black women had to work both inside and outside the home for generations due to poverty. These women "tried to show the connections between racism and male dominance" in society. It retained historical principles, while being influenced by new thinkers such as Alice Walker. Walker created a whole new subsect of black feminism, called Womanism, which emphasizes the degree of the oppression black women faced when compared to white women and "addressed the solidarity of humanity". Black lesbian feminism[edit] Black lesbian feminism is a political identity and movement that

incorporates perspectives, experiences, and politics around race, gender, class, and sexual orientation. Hence, this form of lesbian feminism emphasizes its focus on expanding lesbian feminism to incorporate solidarity. Lesbian feminism created a radical agenda focused on challenging homophobia; finding a place in feminism; and, for some, separatist notions. Additionally, some lesbian feminists were involved in black power movements, and vocalized the need for the inclusion of people of color. However, these perspectives on race and sexuality were not accepted by the mainstream, lesbian feminism; and, black lesbian feminists felt excluded from this movement. Several black lesbian feminists confronted a group of white, lesbian feminists about their racially, exclusive agenda. Following this event, several groups began to include and organize around black lesbian politics. For example, in the National Black Feminist Organization was founded and included lesbian agenda. Fighting Oppression and Building Unity. A Legacy to be Transformed". It featured plenary sessions, "Sexual Harassment: Race, Gender and Power" and was held in a much larger theater that year. Black women were a central focus and not an aside as they were prior. Third wave feminism claimed the need for more intersectionality in feminist activism and the inclusion of black and other ethnic minority women. Moreover, the advancement of technology has fostered the development of a new digital feminism. This online activism involves the use of " Facebook , Twitter , Instagram , YouTube , Tumblr , and other forms of social media to discuss gender equality and social justice. According to NOW Toronto, the internet has created a "call-out" culture, in which sexism or misogyny can be called out and challenged immediately with relative ease. As more and more influential figures began to identify themselves as feminist, social media saw a rise in young black feminists willing to "push the conversation forward" and bring racist and sexist situations to light. Black feminists on social media showed support for the Natural hair movement using the hashtags melanin and blackgirlmagic.

Chapter 5 : Black Female Activists of the Black Power Movement | Research

Mary Church Terrell was an activist during the women's suffrage movement who often spoke out against the movement's exclusion of Black calendrierdelascience.com , she co-founded the National Association of.

By Francis Bencik Feb. Minutes later I was in my car at a red light. Suddenly, a couple of people dressed in all black passed by me as they skateboarded in the middle of one of the busiest streets of Oakland. Not until I found myself at another red light with a SWAT team to my right and a swarm of protesters to my left did I realise something different was going on. One protester shouts at me to run the red light and essentially get out of their way so they can march in protest against the killings of unarmed black men at the hands of police officers. The situation made me start to think and what I came up with was: The large scale protests have slowed down, but the dialogue and movement to re-examine and change the systematic discrimination of black people is still alive and well. At a time when a slew of protests across the US have rallied for the equal treatment of black people, a new light is being shined on the oppression of black lives today. This includes the glaring, but historically unaddressed statistics, on the incarceration, unemployment, and discrimination experienced by black people. And the question being asked is: Some of these people are prestigious academics, lawyers and civil rights activists and others are concerned citizens, who are getting involved and standing up for the equal treatment of black people in the USA. These three inspirational women are behind the BlackLivesMatter movement. BlackLivesMatter is most widely known as a grassroots movement protesting the killing of unarmed black men by police officers. However, Garza is quick to point out that the movement is about all black lives and not just black men. Change is often discussed as something outside of ourselves, our personal circles, and sometimes outside of our communities. But, progressive change cannot be made without willingness for self-reflection and honesty. She talks the talk and walks the walk. The documentary focuses on the difficulties and obstacles formerly incarcerated African-American men face as they try to reintegrate into society and how prevailing racial profiling and police brutality are affecting black communities. It then expands its focus to examine how black communities are impacted by mass incarcerations and racially motivated tactics by police. The documentary culminates with a look at the obstacles concerned citizens are facing in challenging the system and promoting change. At the end of *The Throwaways*, McKinley states: You thought I was a throwaway. However, as co-director and co-producer Bhawin Suchak has pointed out, we should use caution before idolizing the success of one person, as this can detract from the very nature of a systemic problem. He adds that, most importantly, black communities need our support and participation. The group invests in companies that look to provide more opportunities for underserved communities or involve the disruptive democratization of a sector. Jimmie Briggs LinkedIn profile photo Jimmie Briggs is a human rights activist most widely known for his investigative journalism on war-affected children, child soldiers and victims of sexual violence in Africa. I first learned about Briggs and his work as a UN Special Rapporteur on Children and Conflict basically, an expert for the experts , while researching for my thesis on child soldiers. Through the Man Up Campaign and speaking engagements at middle schools and high schools, Briggs inspires a global army of young people to stop violence against women and girls in their communities. If you would like more information on the event, go here. Passing away at the age of 74, Anne Moody, was most known for her memoir *Coming of Age in Mississippi*, which recounts her experience of racism and sexism during the s. The oldest of nine children, Moody felt the pains of racism at an early age. She attended segregated schools and cleaned houses as a child to help her family make ends meet. She once described herself as "a reluctant writer. Moody shunned public attention and never gave interviews, which is perhaps why, the most captivating image of her in my mind will always be picture above of the black student activist sitting at a white customer-only, Woolworth lunch counter in Jackson, Mississippi. Black Future Month should not be misconstrued as an argument against Black History Month, which has been celebrated for the past nine decades. For any community to evolve and grow, it must never forget where it comes from, but its future will always be defined by where it is going. While significant progress has been made since the US Civil Rights Movement, our future depends on the work being done right

now. Today there are many inspiring individuals who are fighting for social justice and the equality of black people. And while this list is comprised of impressive individuals, global citizens must keep in mind that behind a great person is a group of supporters. For progressive and sustainable change to happen personal reflection on our own thoughts, actions and interactions with our community are essential in realizing how we can contribute our support and effort for the equality of all black lives.

Chapter 6 : The Amazing Black Activists We're Thankful For in | HuffPost

Ashley Farmer was exasperated. She was tired of reading historical accounts of the postwar black freedom struggle in America that cast black female activists only as helpmates to male leaders. Just as men had overshadowed women at the time, so had the popular narrative of the era erased the.

She was tired of reading historical accounts of the postwar black freedom struggle in America that cast black female activists only as helpmates to male leaders. Just as men had overshadowed women at the time, so had the popular narrative of the era erased the contributions untold numbers of women made as strategists and theorists, thinkers and doers. Steeping herself in the work of scholars who were reexamining the postwar black freedom struggle and beginning to bring women out of the shadows, Farmer was intrigued to find, in a biography of the black nationalist leader Robert F. Williams, a couple sentences about a Harlem activist named Mae Mallory. Mallory and Williams were part of a nonviolent civil rights protest in Monroe, North Carolina, in August , that culminated with an attack by an angry white mob. Someone just has to look. In her forthcoming first book, *Remaking Black Power: How Black Women Transformed an Era* , which will be published by University of North Carolina Press in spring , Farmer reexamines the Black Power era through the intellectual history of those women, describing the things they achieved and the many things they put at risk: Edgar Hoover oversaw a massive program of illegal secret surveillance of civil rights activists across the United States, and Farmer says that Mallory and other female activists were closely watched. Because Mallory, like other black female activists, has been all but overlooked by most historians, Farmer had to figure out where and how to look for clues. She asked around about available oral histories and about people who might have known Mallory and where she could find them. She searched archives of local black newspapers and dug through grassroots organizing pamphlets and FBI records. For her forthcoming book, *Remaking Black Power: How Black Women Transformed an Era*, Ashley Farmer, an assistant professor of history and African American studies, has spent years piecing together the stories of some of the remarkable but largely unsung black radical and progressive female activists who helped shape the post-World War II battle against racial inequality. Photo by Jackie Ricciardi Farmer is a model of scholarly determination. The men and women graduated from historically black colleges from Fisk University, Howard University, and Morehouse College. Her mother, who died when Farmer was 16, earned an undergraduate degree in history from Fisk. At age 36, she went to Meharry Medical College, graduated four years later the year Farmer was born and became a psychiatrist. Growing up, Farmer says, some of her friends also had mothers who were doctors. Many of the older people among the audience members had known Mallory. They nodded approvingly as Farmer talked about her role in the early school desegregation battle. Later in the evening, when the panelists took questions from the audience, a ish woman in a black coat took the microphone at the back of the auditorium. She was grateful to Farmer for honoring her mother by telling her story, she said. From the stage, Farmer thanked Patricia Mallory. And she thanked her good fortune. She had been trying for years to track Patricia down. Mae Mallory was a radical activist who helped shape the Black Power era. She landed in a Cleveland jail fighting extradition to Monroe, N. Photo courtesy of Jet magazine It Starts with Schooling With Mae Mallory, Farmer uncovered the story of a courageous, radical-minded activist who spent decades fighting for black liberation. As a grassroots leader of one of the first school desegregation battles in New York City , in the late s, Mallory was one of a group of Harlem mothers hailed by the black media as heroines. Mallory was born in in Macon, Ga. She worked in a factory as a teenager, and then, like the majority of black women at the time, she became a domestic worker, cleaning the homes of white families for minimal wages. As a divorced single mother, she raised a son and a daughter. She plunged into grassroots organizing when she joined the fight for equal rights for blacks in factories in the s. It was a bold truth for a black woman to assert in , in New York City, given that school officials preferred to believe that racism and segregation were uniquely Southern afflictions. Mallory led the way as she and eight other Harlem mothers tried, unsuccessfully, to enroll their children in white junior high schools on the nearby Upper East Side that had better facilities, more rigorous academics, and more experienced teachers. In the s, Farmer says, about half of

all black women held the lowest paid factory jobs or did domestic work. In New York City, the only affordable apartments available to black women like Mallory were in Harlem or other minority neighborhoods. The Harlem Nine laid the groundwork for future desegregation battles in New York and other Northern cities. She was an organic intellectual and activist who shaped the modern black freedom movement. There, a white mob attacked the Freedom Riders, setting off a wave of racial violence. Facing the same charges, Mallory landed in a jail in Cleveland where she had gone underground and spent several years fighting extradition to Monroe. In a series of letters written to her supporters from the Cleveland jail that explored her views on black liberation, Mallory drew on her experience cleaning the homes of white families in New York City apartment buildings where, she wrote, signs at the front entrances warned:

Chapter 7 : List of civil rights leaders - Wikipedia

However, Garza is quick to point out that the movement is about all black lives and not just black men. In her own words, Black Lives Matter, "affirms the lives of Black queer and trans folks, disabled folks, Black-undocumented folks, folks with records, women and all Black lives along the gender spectrum."

At every moment in history, Black women have worked alongside their more famous male counterparts. She worked as a field secretary and then served as director of branches from until She also ran a voter registration campaign called the Crusade for Citizenship. She wanted to assist the new student activists because she viewed young, emerging activists as a resource and an asset to the movement. Miss Baker organized a meeting at Shaw University for the student leaders of the sit-ins in April Josephine Baker Not only was Josephine Baker a beloved entertainer who rose to fame on the stages of Paris because racism held her back in the U. She even adopted children of different ethnicities and religions to create a multicultural family she called "The Rainbow Tribe. Bates became president of the Arkansas chapter of the NAACP and played a crucial role in the fight against segregation. She died in Her goal was to build the self-esteem of young women of color by offering mentorship and enrichment through arts programs. Brown assumed power from Huey Newton, founder and minister of defense, in , when Newton fled the country, appointing Brown as his successor. Brown maintained control until , when Newton returned from his self-imposed exile in Cuba to face the murder charges of which he was later acquitted. Source Majora Carter Carter received a MacArthur "genius grant" for creating green-collar job training and placement in urban areas. She also had the vision to see the Bronx River, near her blighted Hunts Point neighborhood in New York City, as a resource to revitalize her community and create green jobs. Today she heads an eponymous consulting firm focused on urban revitalization and green-collar jobs. Shirley Chisholm Shirley Chisholm was the first black woman to be elected to Congress, winning in New York in and retiring from office in She campaigned for the Democratic presidential nomination in , but is best known for her work on several Congressional committees throughout her career. A feisty politician, Chisholm has also been recognized in popular culture and in the political and academic worlds for her symbolic importance and career achievements. In South Carolina passed a statute that prohibited city and state employees from belonging to civil rights organizations. A distinguished scholar and educator, Cooper saw the status and agency of black women as central to the equality and progress of the nation. She joined the U. Communist Party and was jailed for charges related to a prison outbreak, though ultimately cleared. Ashwood was born in Port Antonio, Jamaica, and spent several years of her childhood in Panama. She returned to Jamaica to attend high school and met Marcus Garvey at a debating society program in July , when she was seventeen years old. Ashwood became the first secretary and a member of the board of management of the newly formed U. She worked with Garvey in organizing the inaugural meeting in Collegiate Hall in Kingston, the weekly Tuesday night elocution meetings, and the office that was soon established in a house on Charles Street rented by the Ashwood family. Her plain-spoken manner and fervent belief in the Biblical righteousness of her cause gained her a reputation as an electrifying speaker and constant activist of civil rights. She joined the national staff of the YWCA in and remained active there until ; her official affiliation with NCNW continued through the late s, including serving as its president in The diversity of her political affiliations clearly illustrated her multifaceted approach to the struggle for equal rights in the 20th century. For over 30 years she lived in New York and during this time became an active member of the American Communist party, an organisation in which her journalistic and community leadership skills were maximised. She founded and edited The West Indian Gazette which despite financial problems remained crucial in her fight for equal opportunities for black people. Flo Kennedy Flo Kennedy was one of only a handful of black, women students admitted to Columbia Law School in the first half of the 20th century. Flo became fierce defender of the rights of women known for her brash sense of humor and no holds barred conversation style. She was a founding member of the National Organization of Women, but soon left because of organization disagreements. She traveled the country speaking on feminist issues until her death in After Murray graduated from Howard University in she wanted to enroll at Harvard University to continue her law

studies. In her application for a Rosenwald Fellowship, she listed Harvard as her first choice. She was awarded the prestigious fellowship but after the award had been announced, Harvard Law School rejected her because of her gender. In Murray published *Proud Shoes: The Story of an American Family*, biography of her grandparents, and their struggle with racial prejudice and a poignant portrayal of her hometown of Durham. In Murray travelled to Ghana to explore her African cultural roots. When she returned President John F. Kennedy appointed her to his Committee on Civil and Political Rights. In the early s Murray worked closely with Philip Randolph, Bayard Rustin and Martin Luther King but was critical of the way that men dominated the leadership of these civil rights organizations. In Murray became the first African American woman to become a Episcopal priest. Pauli Murray died of cancer in Pittsburgh on 1st July, In SNCC began supporting 10 students in Rock Hill, South Carolina, who were involved in protest activities and refused to post bail after being arrested. Shortly after arriving in Rock Hill, Nash and three other activists were also jailed for requesting service at a segregated lunch counter. From her base in Nashville, she coordinated student efforts to continue the rides into Mississippi and served as a liaison between the press and the United States Department of Justice. She was an investigator for the brutal rape of Recy Taylor. Rosa was far more radical than she has been historically portrayed. She was a life long activist for the struggle for Civil Rights in the United States. After the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Late* that night, she, two students, and John Cannon, chairman of the Business Department at Alabama State, mimeographed and distributed approximately 52, leaflets calling for a boycott of the buses. In she established the Boston Kansas Relief Association, a charity organization that provided food and clothing to black Bostonians who were migrating to Kansas. Her philanthropic work brought her in contact with many eminent white and black leaders and her close friends included William Lloyd Garrison, Susan B. Ruffin died on March 13, Maria, who was largely self-taught, stressed the importance of morality and self-improvement to her audiences. In addition to religion, she insisted that blacks pursue education. When "knowledge would begin to flow," she wrote, "the chains of slavery and ignorance would melt like wax before flames. Her dedication to fighting black oppression through teaching, writing, and speaking was relentless. She was one of the first African American women to be awarded a college degree. She went on to teach at a black high school in Washington and then at Wilberforce College in Ohio. Terrell decided to leave the United States and went to study in Europe for two years. She became fluent in French, German, and Italian. Terrell was appointed to the District of Columbia Board of Education in She was the first black woman in the United States to hold such an honored position. She was a charter member of the National Association of Colored Women and became the first president of the organization in She founded the association with Josephine Ruffin in In , Terrell resigned as a French instructor from Howard University. She actively accepted a position for a special department under the Playground and Recreation Association of America. It was for the war and navy department commission on training camp activities. Truth was bought and sold four times and spent the first twenty-nine years of her life as a slave in New York, performing demanding physical labor. Truth joined the religious revivals occurring in New York State in the early 19th century and became a powerful and charismatic speaker. In , she had a spiritual breakthrough and declared that the Spirit called on her to preach the truth and gave her a new name, Sojourner Truth. Although she never learned to read or write, with the help of a friend she published her life and beliefs in in the *Narrative of Sojourner Truth*, which brought her national recognition. In , Truth went on a nation-wide lecture tour. When the Civil War started, Truth traveled through many states in support of the Union and encouraged many young men to join the Union cause. After the war ended, Truth met with Abraham Lincoln to thank him for helping to end slavery. While in Washington, D. She also worked in Virginia for a while, helping freed slaves find jobs. She advised them to use their freedom in responsible ways and prove their value to society through industrious work. Tubman was also a spy during her life. She died in New York in She traveled the country, speaking and writing about civil rights issues, unfair laws, and crimes against blacks. As more and more civil rights laws were ignored by society in the late s, she became increasingly involved in politics to stop the trend of social injustice. She was instrumental in the fight against lynching, proving that these acts were essentially murders of innocent black men, women, and children, and boldly demanded that their white murderers be held responsible for their crimes. Later in life, she also founded or was involved in the creation

of several organizations encouraging the advancement of women and other minorities. The organization, which works to dismantle structural racism and inequity, is currently collaborating with black farmers in South Carolina to help build farmers markets, as well as with education advocates in Mississippi to help shape funding decisions. Kimberly Foster is the founder and editor of For Harriet.

Chapter 8 : BET International | BETINTL

Pictures of Tubman and Truth have made their way into every elementary school history textbook. Far less well-known are the many other African-American women activists of the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries who fought for the rights of black Americans in education, at the voting booth, and everywhere else.

Chapter 9 : Black Women of Brazil | Brazilian Women of African Descent

There were many more black women abolitionist activists than will fit in this column. But there are some who should be mentioned for their outstanding courage and ability. Elizabeth Freeman () was born into slavery in Claverack, New York in