Name

HIS 200: Applied History

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**The Struggle for Civil Rights in the U.S**

The leading cause leading to the civil rights struggle in the United States was to end racial segregation. Specifically, the civil rights movement was sparked by Rosa Parks on a bus after refusing to offer her seat to a white. Her refusal and strong will to protect her civil rights as an American citizen momentarily sparked a cloud of cataclysm among other African Americans to boycott, giving their seats to White men. Such is a historically recalled significant event that led to the civil rights struggle. Underneath this story is African Americans, who had been marginalized from all angles. For instance, Lee (2002) informs that African Americans were allowed to be citizens of the United States, but were not allowed to participate in voting.

The African American population collected under the leadership of persons such as Martin Luther King Jr. King led both the “Birmingham Campaign” and the “Montgomery Bus Boycott” (Johnson, 2007). His inspiring speech led African Americans to engage in friendly riots to Washington to demand equal rights as all Americans, including the right to vote as legitimate Americans. Such was achieved by the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which prohibited the segregation of any American in public places, as well as equality in employment (Dwyer, 2000). Another civil rights leader, Malcolm X, who campaigned for the freedom and equality of all people regardless of color, race, religion, or nationality. X proposed that all African Americans should be allowed to return to Africa, and in the meantime, they ought to be given a country of their own (Rabaka 2002). The difference between these two resolutions was that, while King wanted an equal integration between blacks and whites, X was in favor of total separation, with each party having their administration. Altogether, the civil rights movement was a success for African Americans since it bore the fruits of freedom that necessitated equality among all Americans Andrews (1997).

**References**

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