



MORE THAN A BUS RIDE[©]

AN EXCITING AND NEW CROSS CURRICULUM FOR SECONDARY HISTORY, SOCIAL STUDIES, CIVIC AND ENGLISH TEACHERS.

This well-appointed, teacher-friendly guide empowers educators to help their students construct a more accurate and balanced understanding regarding pertinent issues of Constitutional History, Civics, and Citizenship (14th Amendment) and the true role of women in the struggle for constitutional rights for all Americans. Appropriate for grades 4-12 with teacher modification.

Curriculum Developers:

The curriculum guide was designed by Martha V. Jones Bouyer, a national trainer for About Learning, the developer of the 4MAT instructional model, and COMP, Classroom Organization and Management Program. Technical Assistance was provided by Greg Burden, Jacqueline Lampley. The 4MAT model was developed by Dr. Berniece McCarthy. Consultation provided by William Dickerson-Waheed, producer of the documentary, *Rivers of Change*.

"More Than a Bus Ride*[©]*"

- ▶ is a comprehensive, interactive, multi-media curriculum guide
- ▶ multi-leveled, multi-perspective approach to teaching and learning takes a cross curricular approach to connect traditional American history to economics, language arts, math and fine arts
- ▶ developed using national standards of History, Geography, Civics, and English making it usable in school districts across the nation
- ▶ plethora of primary source documents, the wealth of activities and rubric and the comprehensive documentary that supports the curriculum guide will motivate and inspire young people to take active roles in their local communities
- ▶ using a variety of instructional strategies aimed at developing critical thinking skills, improving research skills, enhancing reading and writing skills, students will examine foundational documents of our government

Jim Loewen, *The Lies My Teacher Told Me* ..."Products of successful American history courses know basic social facts about the United States and understand the historical processes that have shaped these facts. They can locate themselves in the social structure, and they know some of the societal and ideological forces that have influenced their lives. Such Americans are ready to become citizens, because they understand how to effect change in our society...they realize ways that the past influences the present, including their own present."

Rivers of Change

For the first time, five un-sung heroines will be heralded for their contributions in making the promises of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution a reality for all Americans regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, disability, station in life, or economic standing. Five women, five ordinary citizens who had the courage to challenge laws they viewed as unjust in order to give all people the right to be treated as first class citizens. Four of those women were named plaintiffs in a landmark federal class action law suit Browder vs. Gayle which challenged Jim Crow laws. **They won a ruling charging the State of Alabama with violating 14th Amendment Constitutional citizen rights to due process, equal justice, and fair treatment.** The ruling ended segregated seating on intra city buses, it ended the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and most importantly it reversed illegal Jim Crow laws approved by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1896.

The documentary features interviews with 1955 Montgomery Improvement Association attorneys Fred Gray, Sr., and Charles Langford; surviving plaintiffs of Browder vs. Gayle: Mary Louise Smith-Ware and Claudette Colvin; Alabama historians J. Mills Thornton III and Richard Bailey; Archivist Gwen Patton; University of Alabama Law Professor Bryan K. Fair, Montgomery female activists of 1950-56, and others.

In 1955-56, there was more at stake than a seat on the bus. The entire future of a race of people and the life of a nation were on the "bus-line." This social protest and the lawsuit that followed was about equal rights of citizenship for all who called the United States of America home.

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