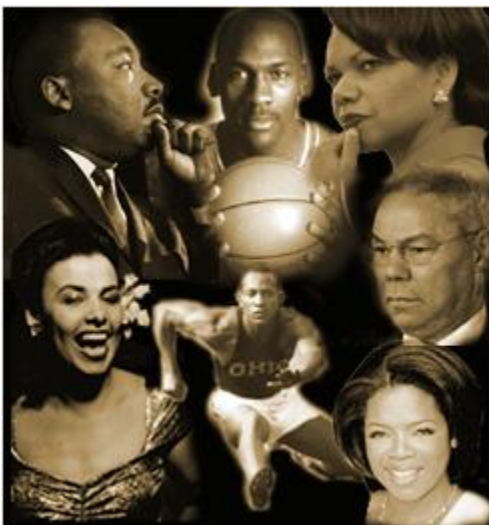


# LAUGH AND LEARN BLACK HISTORY MONTH...FEATURING ROSA PARKS



**WITH VALENTINE HUMOR AND CARTOONS**

**February is Black History Month in the U.S.A.**

During Black History Month the American people remember special historical moments in the struggle for racial equality, and honor black men and women of achievement in education, science, sports, politics, religion, entertainment, literature, etc.

This Laugh and Learn will honor Rosa Parks...

**THE WOMAN WHO CHANGED A NATION**

Rosa Parks was an African American civil rights activist. The United States Congress called her the Mother of the Modern Civil Rights Movement.

Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama.

She is famous for not giving up her seat on a bus to a white man.

Quote from Montgomery Police Department Report: "We received a call upon the arrival the bus operator said he had a colored female sitting in the white section of the bus, and would not move back. We (Day & Nixon) also saw her."

Parks's action led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which lasted for over a year. During the Montgomery Bus Boycott, African Americans refused to ride the city buses. This caused the bus system to lose money.

In the end, the Supreme Court ruled that Alabama and Montgomery's bus segregation laws were unconstitutional.

Rosa Parks and her husband Raymond were members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP]. Rosa was a secretary and a youth leader in the organization.



Congressman John Conyers of Michigan employed Mrs. Parks from 1965 to 1988.

In February, 1987, she co-founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development.

Rosa Parks died on October 25, 2005. She was the first woman to lie in honor in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

Her response to being called "the Mother of the Civil Rights Movement" is modest. "If people think of me in that way, I just accept the honor and appreciate it," she says. In her autobiographical book "*Quiet Strength*," however, Parks is careful to explain that she did not change things alone. "Four decades later I am still uncomfortable with the credit given to me for starting the bus boycott. I would like [people] to know I was not the only person involved. I was just one of many who fought for freedom."



Biographer Douglas Brinkley Burkley wrote, "Faith in God was never the question for Rosa Parks; it was the answer. Parks' belief in God and her Christian religious principles were at the core of everything she did. It is the main theme in her book [Quiet Strength] and the message she hopes to impart: "I'd like for [readers] to know that I had a very spiritual background and that I believe in church and my faith and that has helped to give me the strength and courage to live as I did."

And the act that made her world-famous was uttering a single syllable -- No" -- when a bus driver named James F. Blake demanded that she, as a black woman, surrender her seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955. Her explanation was a declaration of human dignity: "I just wanted to be free like everybody else. I did not want to be continually humiliated over something I had no control over: the color of my skin."

### **How much do you remember?**

1. Who was Rosa Parks?
2. Why was she arrested?
3. How long did the Montgomery Bus Boycott last?
4. Rosa explained, "I did not want to be continually humiliated over something I had no control over. What was it she couldn't control?"
5. What organization did Rosa Parks co-found in 1995?

## **THE LINKS:**

Read more about Rosa Parks

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa\\_Parks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks)

Rosa tells her story briefly in an interview

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWDEUvcg8bk>

Rosa Parks on a TV game show

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZ0B-AyDJUQ&feature=Playlist&p=8015A55504B41C88&playnext=1&playnext\\_from=PL&index=21](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZ0B-AyDJUQ&feature=Playlist&p=8015A55504B41C88&playnext=1&playnext_from=PL&index=21)

Interview with the bus driver who arrested Rosa Parks [fake and funny]

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d\\_Dcx3Eb6Rs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_Dcx3Eb6Rs)

Song and pictures of Rosa Parks

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AFqbH-cCR8k>

Martin Luther King Jr - I Have a Dream

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZLvSnr6s50>

### Check your answers here:

1. Who was Rosa Parks?

She was an African American activist and civil rights worker. Congress called her the Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.

2. Why was she arrested?

She was arrested because she refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus to a white man.

3. How long did the Montgomery Bus Boycott last?

It lasted for a little over one year.

4. Rosa explained, "I did not want to be continually humiliated over something I had no control over. What was it she couldn't control?"

The color of her skin.

5. What organization did Rosa Parks co-found in 1995?

She founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development.

## THE LAUGH:



### My One And Only

Roger, who was 19 years old, was buying an expensive bracelet, to surprise his girlfriend on Valentine's Day, at a very smart jeweller's shop in Hatton Garden, London.

The jeweller inquired, 'Would you like your girlfriend's name engraved on it?'

Roger thought for a moment, grinned, then answered, 'No, instead engrave "To my one and only love".'

The jeweller smiled and said, 'Yes, sir; how very romantic of you.'

Roger retorted with a glint in his eye, 'Not exactly romantic, but very practical. This way, if we break up, I can use it again.'

### Conclusion

When a man opens the door of his car for his wife, you can be sure of one thing: either the car is new or the wife is new.



**Question and Answer Valentine Jokes**

Q: What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day?

A: Forget-me-nuts.

Q: What did the valentine card say to the stamp?

A: Stick with me and we'll go places!

Q: What did the light bulb say to the switch?

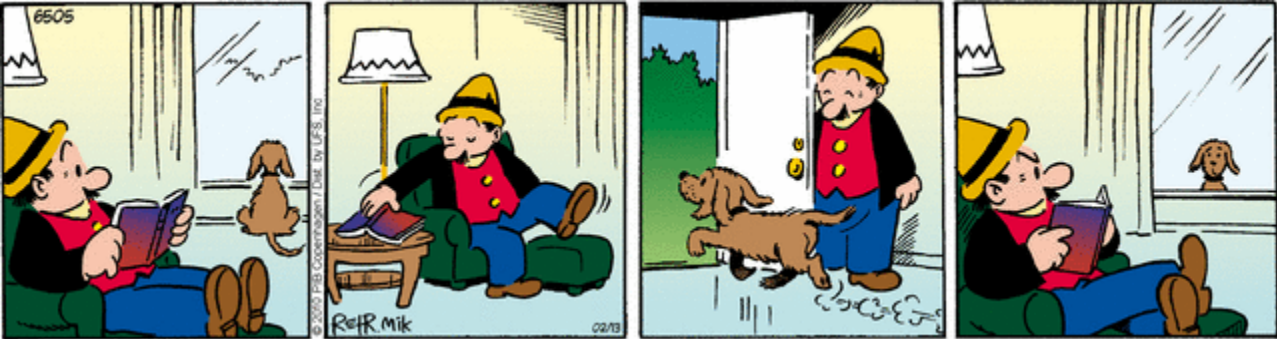
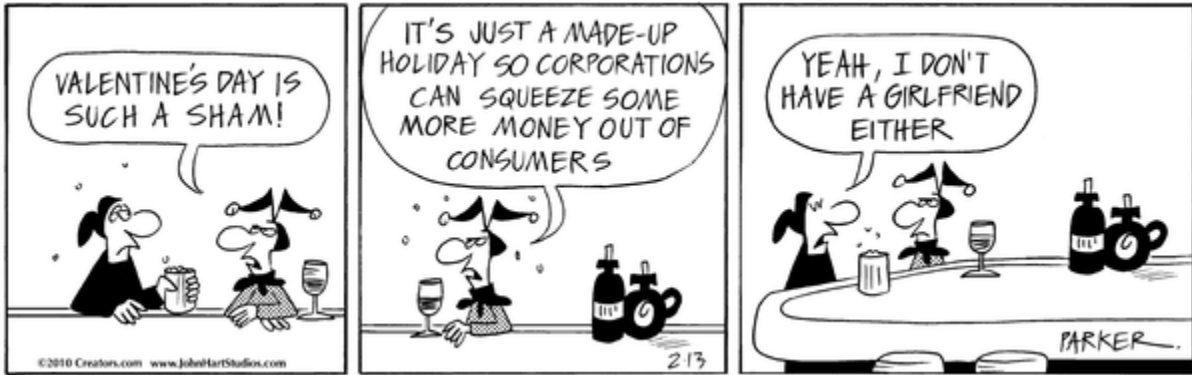
A: You turn me on.

Q: What did the boy octopus say to the girl octopus?

A: Can I hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand?

Q: What did the paper clip say to the magnet?

A: I find you very attractive.



Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.