

Myths about the Civil Rights Movement (Myths 3 & 4)

Myth #3: Civil Rights was just about separate water fountains, bathrooms, and swimming pools.

- Dr. King believed that a central component to achieving racial justice was alleviating poverty for *all* people, in part by decreasing military spending.
 - **Read:** King's 1968 sermon "The Drum Major Instinct":
<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/documents/drum-major-instinct-sermon-delivered-ebenezer-baptist-church>

Reflect: How are racial justice and economic justice related to one another? Is it possible to achieve racial justice without economic justice, or vice versa?

Myth #4: The Civil Rights Movement was powered by men.

- **Read:** "Women Had Key Roles in the Civil Rights":
http://www.nbcnews.com/id/9862643/ns/us_news-life/t/women-had-key-roles-civil-rights-movement
- **Read:** "How History Got the Rosa Parks Story Wrong":
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/12/01/how-history-got-the-rosa-parks-story-wrong>

Note: Anne Moody's autobiography, [*Coming of Age in Mississippi*](#), is a shocking read about the Civil Rights Movement and the risks that many black women took for freedom.