

The Montgomery Bus Boycott

Part Four: Goals of the Boycott

Suggestions for the Facilitator of the Speakers Panel

Think of yourself as a talk show host. Your job is to draw information from your speakers for the benefit of the audience. The following is a list of questions. You can write these on index cards to carry with you as you work the crowd. Feel free to add your own questions during the activity.

1. Good morning and thanks for being with us today. Today we have citizens from Montgomery, Alabama who are here to tell us about their reactions to the bus boycott. I'd like to welcome the guests. Could you each introduce yourself and tell us a little about your background?
2. Please tell us a little about your experiences since the boycott has begun. Do you support the boycott? Why or why not?
3. Mr. Bagley, how many buses does the bus company have and how many are out of commission as a result of the boycott?
4. Mr. Bagley, why do the bus drivers enforce these seating arrangements?
5. Mrs. Morgan, I noticed in your letter to the editor of the Montgomery Advertiser that you compared the boycott to the Salt March in India led by Gandhi. Can you explain this idea to our audience?
6. Mrs. Morgan, what do you think should be done to resolve the situation?
7. Mrs. Charles, what was your reaction when you heard about the boycott?
8. Mrs. Charles, can you tell our audience a little more about the situation in Montgomery before the boycott?
9. Mrs. Edna King, you mentioned that the people did not go about this boycott in the right way. What do you suggest they should have done?
10. Commissioner Sellers, what is your opinion of the leadership of the boycott?
11. Mr. Crenshaw, as the attorney, can you tell us about the law concerning seating on buses? Can you tell us when the first case concerning seating came before the courts? Finally, what is your recommendation for solving the situation?
12. I'd like to ask any of our guests, what is the appropriate solution to the end of the boycott?
13. Does the audience have any questions?

14. Thank you for taking the time to share your opinions and experiences with us today.