

What Would You Sit Down For?

Rationale	Civil society demands courage from its members, and that includes the courage to take appropriate action. The range of action varies according to circumstance, but the example of Rosa Park's contribution to the Civil Rights movement illustrates well the possibility and responsibility of civil action.
Title	"What Would You Sit Down For?"
Aim	SENSING CHANGED QUALITY OF AWARENESS Pupils will have the opportunity to explore their understanding of the contribution required of them in society, with particular emphasis on the right to vote.
Objectives	Pupils will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand concepts such as freedom, responsibility, discrimination. • Identify feelings such as frustration, being the victims of discrimination • Reflect on issues of fairness and justice • Consider their role in promoting justice in society
Link with 5–14	PSD; History; Modern studies
Link with ACfE	Successful learner Effective contributor to society
Is this part of a series	Single Assembly
Introduction	This assembly outline is designed to be delivered to a school stage / single class. Enter assembly without any audio-visual stimuli. If appropriate, pupils could be segregated according to identifiable feature such as hair colour.
Stimulus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are instructed that those with blonde hair are not permitted to sit down; feelings of pupils are explored in general questioning • Introduction to civil rights movement in America and the role of Rosa Parks¹ • Video clip of civil rights movement, including Martin Luther King Jr speech, 'I have a dream.' • Christian Bible passage: Galatians 3:26-28
Guided Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monologue explaining the importance of participation in civil life • Indicate cost to Rosa Parkes of her decision not to stand up to give her seat to a white man • She had been involved in the civil rights movement and was informed about the issues. She was a Christian and her faith informed her view. Read Galatians 3:26-28 and remind that cultural context was one of racial segregation • The campaign was not violent but had significant effects • View video of Martin Luther King Jr and crowds at his speech

¹ Web Link http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided reflection focusing on opportunities for pupils to voice their concerns, especially by voting when able • Reflection on other possibilities for reform including campaigning, communication with local councils and parliaments and in school bodies
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create radio advert encouraging 18-19 year olds to vote • Discussion on reasons for lack of interest in political system
Evaluation (a)	Relevant staff should ask a sample of pupils to share their feelings and attitudes about the assembly. Notes should be taken to inform Evaluation (b) and for the preparation of future assemblies.
Evaluation (b)	Relevant staff should meet and engage a sample of staff teachers to discern how pupils have responded during the assembly and their recall and impression of the whole assembly experience.

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Running Order

Running time	Mins	Activity	Personnel	Resources	Action
Pre-event setup	—	Distinct seating areas created. Pupils directed to areas depending on obvious feature, for example hair colour	Someone to direct pupils as they arrive.		
0-4	4	Reflection on how it feels to be separated for hair colour	Facilitator		Discussion
5-9	5	Description of segregation and civil rights issues; role of Rosa Parks	Facilitator	Powerpoint presentation of images	Observation, factual learning
10-12	2	Introduction to and reading of Galatians 3:26-28 ²	Facilitator or pupil (prepared beforehand)	Bible	Listening, reflecting
13-15	4	Video of Martin Luther King Jr ³	Facilitator	DVD/Video Projector	Watching, factual learning, reflecting
16-18	3	Discussion: what issues would you stand up for? Does it always have to be as dramatic as this?	Facilitator		Discussion
19-20	2	Silent reflection on the part we may play in our society world	Facilitator		Reflecting
20-22	2	Commercial break: 'advertising' ways of influencing decisions	Facilitator	Powerpoint presentation	Watching, reflecting

² Web Link <http://tinyurl.com/2aeylw> [Bible Gateway]

³ Web Link <http://tinyurl.com/35xyfo> [Google Video]