

Georgette Norman

On the Road to Human



The issues and personalities that challenged America's commitment to equality and opportunity, and the fundamental concerns of this movement they spawned remain relevant to the contemporary political landscape.

What role does race play within our society?

What are the prerequisites for personal and group empowerment and self-determination?

How do gender, class, and regional location influence social movements?

How do international events influence domestic policy and political priorities?

Does the elimination of discrimination and social inequities strengthen our nation and protect the rights of all people?

These and other important questions continue to challenge America.

Much attention has been paid to the historical development of the modern Civil Rights Movement, the role of articulate elites, the participation of working-class Blacks and good intentioned whites, the role of gender and women, the structure and internal tensions within community organizations, the response of local and national government, and the emergence of new ideas and competing intellectual paradigms. In all, it is about the Human struggle, with most of the emphasis on civil rights.

It is my conviction that the emphasis should be first and foremost on human rights.

If we talked about and put as much energy into the issue of human rights there would be no need for civil rights.

The paper I propose will focus on an examination of privilege and how it has bred racism, prejudice, and hierarchal differences in an attempt to promote a more humane and informed way to look at moral choices we confront in our daily lives which will hopefully lead to solutions to current social/political problems that are today seem so bewilderingly evasive.

Montgomery Bus Boycott is a case study on the beginnings of the Modern Civil Rights Movement: What it was, what it did and lessons learned