

# How Photography Changed the Fight for Integration: Captured History

Photography has been a powerful tool for social change throughout history, and its role in the fight for integration in the United States is no exception. From the early days of photojournalism to the iconic images of the 1960s and beyond, photographs have helped to document the horrors of racism and discrimination, and have played a crucial role in galvanizing the movement for integration.

## The Early Days of Photojournalism

The first photographs of slavery in the United States were taken in the 1850s, and these images played a significant role in the abolitionist movement. Photographs of slaves being whipped, branded, and sold were widely circulated in the North, and helped to turn public opinion against slavery.



### Little Rock Girl 1957: How a Photograph Changed the Fight for Integration (Captured History) by Shelley Tougas

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported



After the Civil War, photojournalism continued to play an important role in the fight for civil rights. In the early 20th century, photographers such as Jacob Riis and Lewis Hine documented the appalling living conditions of African Americans in urban slums. These photographs helped to raise awareness of the plight of black Americans and led to reforms such as the establishment of public housing programs.

## **The Civil Rights Movement**

The civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s was a watershed moment in the fight for integration. Photographs played a crucial role in this movement, providing powerful evidence of the racism and discrimination that black Americans faced on a daily basis.

One of the most iconic photographs of the civil rights movement is Gordon Parks's 1956 photo of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old black boy who was brutally murdered in Mississippi after being accused of whistling at a white woman. Parks's photograph of Till's mutilated body helped to galvanize the civil rights movement and led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1957.

Other iconic photographs of the civil rights movement include Charles Moore's 1963 photo of Martin Luther King, Jr. delivering his "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, and James Karales's 1965 photo of a young black girl being escorted into a white school by a group of armed National Guardsmen.

## **The Legacy of Photography**

The photographs of the civil rights movement have left a lasting legacy. They have helped to change the way that Americans view race and racism, and have played a crucial role in the fight for integration. Today, these

photographs continue to inspire and educate new generations of activists and leaders.

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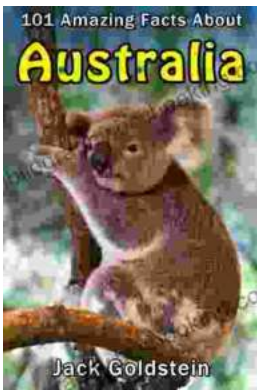
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