

Exercise 4

Key Question: Were the courts a friend or a foe (or both) of the bus boycotters?

Examine the section called [“We Are Having a Difficult Time Here but We Are Not Discouraged”](#).

Discussion Questions:

- What was the response of black Montgomerians to Rosa Parks’s arrest?
- Why was a bus boycott called for rather than leaving Parks’s case to the courts?
- How did the City of Montgomery use laws and courts to squash the boycott?
 - Were these attempts legal? Were they just?
- How did black activists respond when bus segregation was ruled un-Constitutional?

Sources

- [“5000 at Meeting Outline Boycott; Bullet Clips Bus”](#), *Montgomery Advertiser*, 6 December 1955
- [Negro Ministers of Montgomery and Their Congregations, “To the Montgomery Public”](#), statement that references previous arrests like White’s, Brook’s, Colvin’s
- [“Integrated Bus Suggestions” from 19 December 1956](#)