

BLACK WOMEN ARE LEADERS IN THE MOVEMENT TO END SEXUAL & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Ida B. Wells

Wells, a suffragist and temperance activist, famously and fearlessly spoke against lynchings, and also worked to end sexual violence against black women. Radically, Wells identified scapegoating of black men as rapists as a projection of white men's own history of sexual violence, often enacted against black women.

The Combahee River Collective

This Boston-based collective of black feminist lesbians wrote the seminal essay *The Combahee River Collective Statement*, centering black feminist issues and identifying white feminism as an entity that often excludes or sidelines black women. They campaigned against sexual assault in their communities and raised awareness of the racialized sexual violence that black women face.



Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw

A legal scholar, writer, and activist, Crenshaw famously coined the term "intersectionality," forever impacting the way we think about social identity. Crenshaw's work draws attention to the fact that black women exist at the intersection of multiple oppressions and experience the dual violence of both racism and misogyny.



Loretta Ross

An academic, activist, and writer, Ross has written extensively on the topic of reproductive justice and is a pioneer of reproductive justice theory. Her work has brought attention to the ways reproductive coercion, racism, and sexual violence intersect.



Harriet Jacobs

Jacobs was born into slavery and sexually assaulted by her owner, and eventually escaped by hiding undetected in an attic for seven years.

Writing the classic narrative *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, she drew attention to the gender-based violence that enslaved women faced, widening the abolitionist conversation to include a broader range of issues.



Tarana Burke

An activist and public speaker, Burke founded the wildly successful #MeToo movement. Specifically created to highlight violence experienced by marginalized women, the hashtag brought international attention to the issue of widespread sexual violence.



Rosa Parks

Known for her leadership in the Montgomery bus protests, Parks led the NAACP's investigation into the sexual assault of Recy Taylor, a black woman who was abducted and assaulted by seven white men. Forming the Committee for Equal Justice for Recy Taylor, Parks raised national awareness of the unique challenges black women experiencing violence face.



WITHOUT BLACK WOMEN THERE IS NO MOVEMENT



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