

Celebrating Dolores Huerta Day!

Civic Engagement: Women of Color Activists

Thanks to support from:





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One-Day Lesson Goals

- Students will be introduced to Dolores Huerta's activism and Dolores Huerta Day
- Students will examine the power of civic engagement through Dolores Huerta's activism work
- Students will understand policy context that led to organizing actions and the resulting laws
- Students be introduced to the concept of intersectionality
- Students will identify women of color activists and their contributions throughout civil rights history
- Students will identify local women of color community leaders and devise methods of contributing to their causes

Introduction to Dolores Huerta

And Dolores Huerta Day on April 10th

Are you familiar with Dolores Huerta?

Write down anything and everything that you know about Dolores Huerta

Who is Dolores Huerta?

Brief Background:

- Born in April 10, 1930 in Dawson, New Mexico
- Active in numerous school clubs
- Was a majorette
- Dedicated member of the Girl Scouts until the age of 18.
- Continued her education at the University of Pacific's Delta College in Stockton earning a provisional teaching credential.
- While teaching she could no longer bear to see her students come to school with empty stomachs and bare feet, and thus began her lifelong journey of working to correct economic injustice.
- Dolores left for delano from stockton in 1962
- Mother of 11



Photo credit: Kathy Murphy, used with permission.

Who is Dolores Huerta?

What She Saw

- Segregation
- Discrimination
- Poor Social conditions of Farmworkers
- Poor economic conditions of farm workers

What She Did

- Quit teaching to fight farmworker oppression
- 1955 stockton chapter of Community Service Organization (CSO) with Fred Ross
- 1960 Started Agricultural Workers of America (AWA)
- Voter registration Drives
- Lobbied politicians to allow non-US citizens to receive public assistance, pensions, and Spanish ballots, Spanish driving tests



Photo Credit: Dolores Huerta Foundation, photographer Angela Torres.

notes Photo Credit Angela Torres



Who is Dolores Huerta?

Choose 1-2 videos to share:

- Hispanic Heritage: Who is Labor Activist Dolores Huerta?
- o Portrait in Minute: Dolores Huerta
- o Chicago Tonight: Latino Voices

Celebrating Dolores Huerta Day!

- April 10th (Dolores Huerta's birthday)
- Established in 2019 in California
- Recognition of lifelong pursuit of justice



About image: used by the State of California to recognize the day. Graphic designer unknown.



Read proclamation: https://www.gov.ca.gov/2019/04/10/dolores-huerta-day/

What is Civic Engagement?



Image by Stockcake: Community Rising Together (public domain).

Civic engagement means working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivations to make that difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes (Civic Responsibility in Higher Education, Ehrlich, 2000, p.vi).



Operating with unwavering hope, we believe in achieving the seemingly unattainable. "Si se puede" embodies a collective awakening to individual and communal power. Our civic engagement department is dedicated to equipping grassroots leaders with the tools and knowledge essential for guiding their communities toward enduring transformative solutions. We aim to create a Central Valley of informed and engaged citizens and voters ready to advocate, educate, vote, and use our political system to create a more just and equitable Central Valley (Dolores Huerta Foundation website).

A Woman's Role...



Photo courtesy © George Ballis, used with permission.



Photo courtesy © Lori de León, used with permission.

- Discuss the expectations of a woman; of the expectations placed on a woman like Dolores
- Questions to consider: What is a feminist from a critical race theory perspective? Who are other models?

Dolores Huerta: 58 Sexist Comments in the United Farm Workers Meeting



Some of her recognitions and where she is at now

- 4 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN CALIFORNIA
- 1 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS
- 1 HIGH SCHOOL IN PUEBLO, COLORADO
- INDUCTED INTO THE CALIFORNIA HALL OF FAME IN MARCH OF 2013
- In 2012 President Obama Bestowed Dolores with The Presidential Medal of Freedom

Right: President Barack Obama talks to attendees during the Presidential Medal of Freedom ceremony, held on Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at the White House in Washington, Photo Credit: (NASA/Bill









Above Source: Rafa213, <u>CC BY-SA</u> 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons

RECEIVED NUMEROUS AWARDS

- THE ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMANS RIGHTS AWARD
- Ms. Magazine's One of the Three Most Important Women of 1997
- LADIES HOME JOURNAL'S 100 MOST IMPORTANT WOMAN OF THE 20TH CENTURY
 - THE PUFFIN FOUNDATION'S AWARD FOR CREATIVE CITIZENSHIP \$100,000
- Labor Leader Award 1984,
- THE KERN COUNTY WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE
- THE OHTLI AWARD FROM THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
- THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION JAMES SMITHSON AWARD,
- 9 Honorary Doctorates from Universities throughout the United States.
- This list was last updated in April of 2019.
- Point out that the Puffin Foundation's award is highlighted because it was with that monetary award that Dolores founded the Dolores Huerta Foundation in 2002 where she continues to fight for civil and human rights. More information here.

Women of Color Activists



Rosa Parks

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Angela Davis Credit: Oregon State University, <u>CC BY-SA 2.0</u>, via Wikimedia Commons.

Rosa Parks Photo: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rosaparks.jpg Credit: USIA / National Archives and Records Administration Records of the U.S. Information Agency Record Group 306, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Women of the Black Panther Party



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Women of the Black Panther Party
Black Panthers at 50: What was the role of women in the Black Panther Party?

Discussion Question

How do you think the experiences of women and women of color differ from men or white women in activist movements?

The Urgency of Intersectionality: Kimberlé Crenshaw

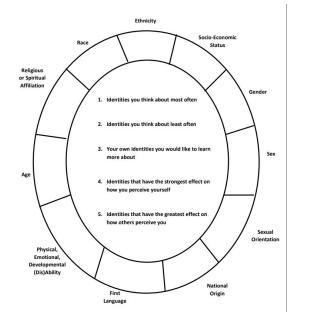


Who am I? Activity

- Pass out notecards
- On one side, write down words that they would use to describe themselves
- On the other side, write down words that others might use to describe them
- Reflect on the differences between these two sides and what is lost when you only use words that others would use
- Discuss as a class

Social Identity Wheel

- Review social identity handout
- Fill in the wheel and then write answers to each question
- Pair/share and then with the whole class as comfortable



Adapted for use by the Program on Intergroup Relations and the Spectrum Center, University of Michigan.
Resource hosted by LSA Inclusive Teaching Initiative, University of Michigan (http://sites.lsa.umich.edu/inclusive-teaching/).

Community Engagement: ¡Sí Se Puede!

How can you be involved??

- Research women of color activist issues and consider ways to participate
 - Boycotting
 - o Protesting
 - Calling/writing letters of support to elected officials
 - o More!



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<u>Five calls app</u> - Identifies local representatives, provides scripts for calling reps and bringing attention to relevant current issues <u>Find your Congress members</u>