**File Name: I5R Claudette**

*Note: The student's original report was done using a publishing application. This version does not include all of the illustrations and text features in the original.*

**Informative/Explanatory**

**Grade 5**

**Range of Writing**

**What Claudette Colvin Did**

*Learn about how Claudette Colvin helped the Civil Rights Movement*

**Introduces the topic clearly** by providing historical context

Though most people don’t know it, Rosa Parks was not the first black person to refuse to give up her seat. Claudette Colvin refused nine months before Rosa, in 1955. It was during segregation and you would get arrested if you didn't let a white person sit down on a crowded bus while you stood. Segregation happened in lunch counters, schools, almost everywhere down south... Claudette Colvin was important because she stood up for what she knew was right and she motivated others.

**Provides a general observation and focus**

**Who was Claudette?**

She was a fifteen year old black girl. She went to Booker T. Washington high in Montgomery, Alabama. Her family was very poor and her parents tried not to be noticed by white people because they didn’t want to be arrested- the almost opposite of Martin Luther King Jr. She was a smart girl and hated **segregation**, especially the bus laws because her family had no car and she had to sit in the back. She really wanted to be able to sit in the front– or anywhere– of the bus. You can tell that Claudette wanted to do something about the bus laws.

**Groups related information logically** in

sections

**Includes formatting** (**headings**, boldface) **to aid comprehension**



Whites sat in the front of the bus while blacks sat squashed in the other seats.

 Whites seats Blacks seats

**What did she do?**

**Includes formatting** (captions) **and illustrations** **to aid comprehension**

One thing she did was she refused to give up her seat. The law in Montgomery was that you had to give your seat up to a white person if there was no space for them. Claudette was still fifteen. One day, she was tired of having to get up, so she just stayed in her seat. The bus driver yelled at her and soon police came and arrested her kicking and screaming. She was very brave to stand up to a police. An NAACP lawyer named Fred Grey decided to go to the city’s federal court to say that **segregation** laws were **unconstitutional**. He tried to find people who would go and talk about how the bus laws were unfair. Most people who had been mistreated were too scared of what might happen to their families. Only four blacks came to the hearing; Claudette and three older women. She was very brave to go to court even though she knew the consequences.

**Develops the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic**

**Uses precise language and domain-specific**

**vocabulary to inform about the topic**

***Word box:***

***Segregation:*** *the act of separation.*

***Unconstitutional:*** *something against the constitution.*

**Who did she motivate?**

Nine months after Claudette’s arrest Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat as well. On Monday, December fifth, Martin Luther king and other black leaders had black elementary and high schools pass out thirty– five thousand fliers saying stay off the buses. That was the beginning of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Though Claudette was not the reason for the bus boycott, she made black leaders realize that they needed to do the same thing only using someone more experienced.

Anticipates the reader's question and provides a section to address the reader’s needs

**Why didn’t black leaders use her?**

**ag**

Though Claudette did refuse before Mrs. Parks, black leaders didn’t want to start a bus boycott just because of a teenager. Also, she was hard to deal with because she swore a lot when the police took her off the bus, so they didn’t want that to happen in court or anything. Being poor didn’t help either, and Claudette thought they didn’t use her because she and her parents weren’t part of the inner circle, a group of more wealthy. The court case she went to is not very well known so she is not recognized that way. Big history books don’t even have a caption about her. While she is not well known, she was still important to the civil rights movement. **e**

**Links ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses**

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In conclusion, Claudette Colvin did what was right and motivated people. She was a big help to the civil rights movement because she motivated Rosa Parks and the black leaders to start the bus boycott. She helped when she went to the hearing because it ended segregation on buses. As Claudette said ,“Enough is enough” and at the time that was very true.

**Provides a concluding section related to the information presented** that restates the focus and reflects on the significance of the information

**Sources**

Information:

We Were There Too!: Philip Hoose: Melanie Kroupa books Farrar Straus Giroux– New York.

Claudette Colvin: http://en.wicipedia.org/wiki/claudette\_Colvin

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**What Claudette Colvin Did**

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**What Claudette Colvin Did**

This fifth-grade informative/explanatory social studies research paper was originally created in a publishing application; only a sample of the illustrations, formatting, and other text features the writer used are included here. This piece contains a wealth of information selected to support the main point: Claudette Colvin was important to the civil rights movement. The writer supports this focus with two specific subsidiary points: Claudette stood up for what she knew was right, and she motivated others to organize against segregation. Each of these points are well-developed with facts, definitions, concrete details, and examples. Domain-specific *(“segregation”, “civil rights”, “unconstitutional”)* and general academic vocabulary *(“recognized”, “federal”, “consequences”)* express ideas clearly. Linking words *(“so”, “though”)* clarify the relationship between and among ideas within the piece.

The report is well-organized, with an introduction, body paragraphs formatted in separate sections, and a conclusion. Subheadings posed as questions clarify the focus and purpose of each section. The last paragraph reestablishes the focus, summarizes the report’s main points, and adds some reflection *(“enough is enough”)*.

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**File Name: I5R Claudette Report**

**Informative/Explanatory**

**Grade 5**

**Revised and Edited for Student Use**

**What Claudette Colvin Did**

*Learn about how Claudette Colvin helped the civil rights movement.*

Though most people don’t know it, Rosa Parks was not the first black person to refuse to give up her seat. Claudette Colvin refused nine months before Rosa, in 1955. It was during segregation, and you would get arrested if you didn’t let a white person sit down on a crowded bus while you stood. Segregation happened at lunch counters, in schools—almost everywhere down south... Claudette Colvin was important because she stood up for what she knew was right, and she motivated others.

**Who was Claudette?**

She was a fifteen-year-old black girl. She went to Booker T. Washington High in Montgomery, Alabama. Her family was very poor, and her parents tried not to be noticed by white people because they didn’t want to be arrested—the almost opposite of Martin Luther King Jr. She was a smart girl and hated **segregation**, especially the bus laws, because her family had no car and she had to sit in the back. She really wanted to be able to sit in the front of—or anywhere in—the bus. You can tell that Claudette wanted to do something about the bus laws.



Whites sat in the front of the bus while blacks sat squashed in the other seats.

 Whites’ seats Blacks’ seats

**What did she do?**

One thing she did was she refused to give up her seat. The law in Montgomery was that you had to give your seat up to a white person if there was no space for him or her. Claudette was still fifteen. One day, she was tired of having to get up, so she just stayed in her seat. The bus driver yelled at her, and soon police came and arrested her as she was kicking and screaming. She was very brave to stand up to the police. An NAACP lawyer named Fred Grey decided to go to the city’s federal court to say that segregation laws were **unconstitutional**. He tried to find people who would go and talk about how the bus laws were unfair. Most people who had been mistreated were too scared of what might happen to their families. Only four blacks came to the hearing: Claudette and three older women. Claudette was very brave to go to court even though she knew the consequences.

***Word box:***

***Segregation:*** *the act of separation*

***Unconstitutional:*** *something against the constitution*

**Whom did she motivate?**

Nine months after Claudette’s arrest, Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat as well. On Monday, December fifth, Martin Luther King and other black leaders had black elementary and high schools pass out thirty-five thousand fliers saying “Stay off the buses!” That was the beginning of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Though Claudette was not the reason for the bus boycott, she made black leaders realize that they needed to do the same thing, only using someone more experienced.

**Why didn’t black leaders use her?**

**ag**

Though Claudette did refuse before Mrs. Parks, black leaders didn’t want to start a bus boycott just because of a teenager. Also, she was hard to deal with because she swore a lot when the police took her off the bus, and black leaders didn’t want that to happen in court or anything. The fact that she was poor didn’t help either, and Claudette thought they didn’t use her because she and her parents weren’t part of the inner circle, a group of more wealthy black people. The court case she went to is not very well known, so she is not recognized that way. Big history books don’t even have a footnote about her. While she is not well known, she was still important to the civil rights movement. **e**

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In conclusion, Claudette Colvin did what was right and motivated people. She was a big help to the civil rights movement because she motivated Rosa Parks and the black leaders to start the bus boycott. She helped when she went to the hearing because it ended segregation on buses. As Claudette said, “Enough is enough!” and at the time that was very true.

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