

HEROES

A Look at People, Organizations,
and Ideas for Social Change

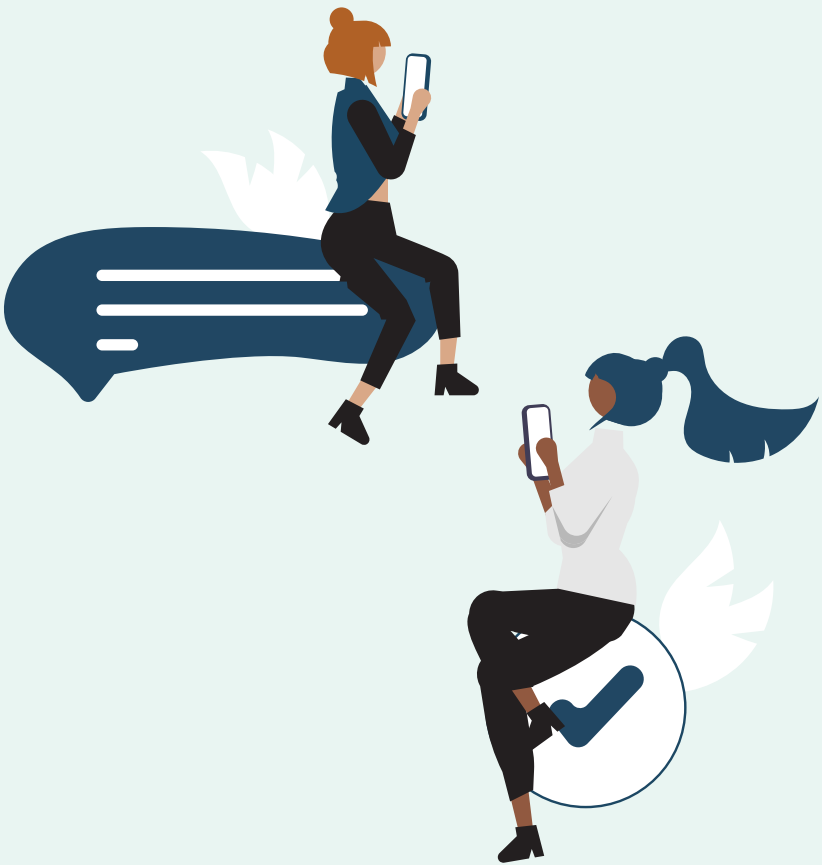


This is a booklet on social change and the people, organizations and ideas that were, and are, instrumental in generating forward movement. Our class chose the topics, some of which were well known, while other information was new to us. Besides providing an account of key people and historical movements, this booklet served as a typography assignment in which we learned to work with style sheets and Parent pages while creating grid-based layouts using consistent typography, color, and design elements.

It was not easy!

The design training for this booklet included many critiques: we asked questions, offered feedback, and worked hard on improving our work. We hope you enjoy the results.

PEOPLE



MALCOLM X

1925 – 1965

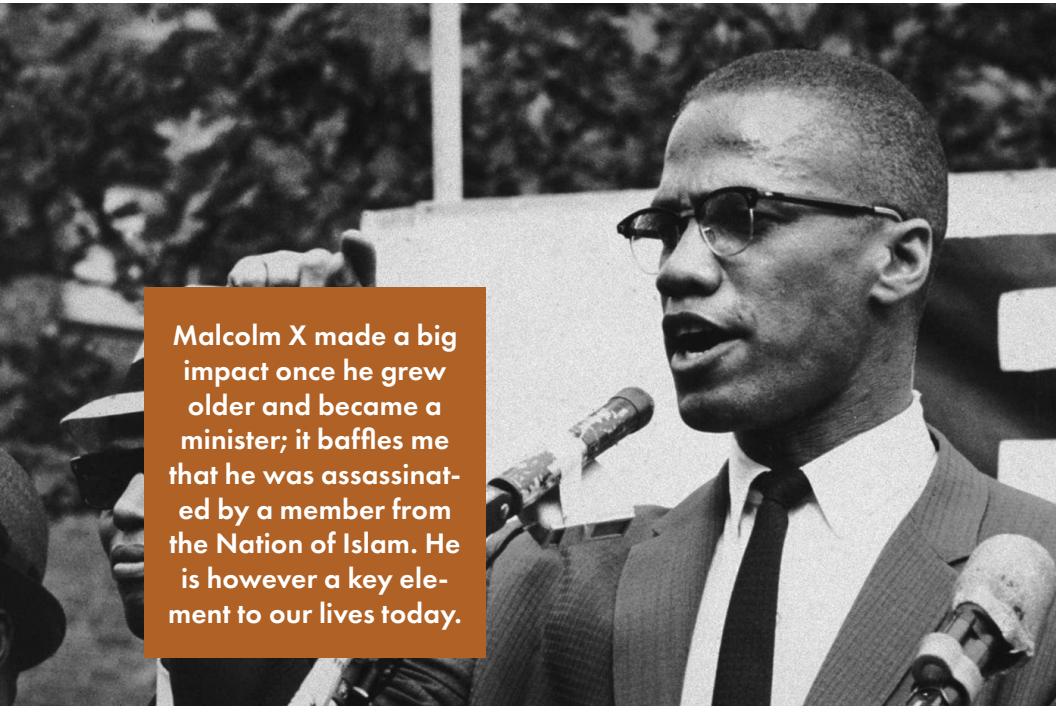
Born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, Malcolm X spent his teenage years living in a series of foster homes after his father's death and his mother's hospitalization. There, he engaged in several illicit activities, eventually being sentenced in 1946 to ten years in prison for larceny and breaking and entering. While incarcerated, he joined the Nation of Islam, adopted the name Malcolm X, and quickly became one of the organization's most influential leaders after being paroled in 1952. He served as the public face of the organization for 12 years, advocating for black supremacy, black empowerment, the separation of black and white Americans, and publicly criticizing the mainstream civil rights movement for its emphasis on nonviolence and racial integration. Malcolm X expressed pride in some

of the Nation's social welfare achievements, namely its free drug rehabilitation program. He was surveyed by the FBI for the Nation's supposed links to communism.

In the 1960s, Malcolm X began to grow disillusioned with the Nation of Islam and leader Elijah Muhammad, subsequently embracing Sunni Islam and the civil rights movement, and publicly renouncing the Nation of Islam. His conflict with the Nation of Islam intensified, and he was repeatedly sent death threats. On Febru-

On February 21, 1965, Malcolm X was assassinated.

ary 21, 1965, Malcolm X was assassinated. Three Nation members were charged with the murder and sentenced to indeterminate life sentences. Speculation about the assassination and whether it was conceived or aided by members of the Nation, or with law enforcement agencies, have persisted for decades after the shooting.



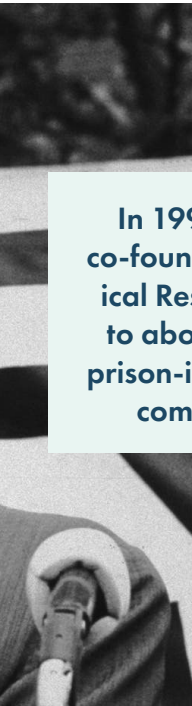
Malcolm X made a big impact once he grew older and became a minister; it baffles me that he was assassinated by a member from the Nation of Islam. He is however a key element to our lives today.

ANGELA DAVIS

Davis opposed the 1995 Million Man March, arguing that the exclusion of women from this event promoted male chauvinism. She said that Louis Farrakhan appeared to prefer that women take subordinate roles in society. She joined with colleagues to form the African American Agenda 2000, an alliance of black feminists.



Angela Davis, born in Birmingham, AL in 1944, is an American Marxist and feminist political activist, philosopher, academic, and author; she is a professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She writes extensively on class, gender, race, and the U.S. prison system.



In 1997, she co-founded Critical Resistance to abolish the prison-industrial complex.

Studying philosophy in Germany, Davis became engaged in far-left politics, and earned a doctorate at the University of Berlin. Back in the United States, she was involved in numerous causes, including the second-wave feminist movement and the campaign against the Vietnam War. In 1969, she became an assistant professor of philosophy at UCLA and was later fired for her membership in the Communist party; after a court ruled the firing illegal, the university fired her for the use of inflammatory language.

In 1970, guns belonging

to Davis were used in an armed takeover of a courtroom in Marin County, CA, in which four people were killed. Prosecuted for three capital felonies — including conspiracy to murder — she was held in jail for over a year before being acquitted of all charges. During the 1980s, she was professor of ethnic studies at San Francisco State University. In 1997, she co-founded Critical Resistance to abolish the prison-industrial complex. In 1991, she became department director of feminist studies at University of California, Santa Cruz, retiring in 2008. She has continued to write, and has remained active in movements such as Occupy and the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign.



MICHELLE OBAMA

Michelle Obama served as first lady from 2009 – 2017. A Harvard Law School graduate, she first built a successful career as a lawyer and later in the private sector. Michelle became Associate Dean of Student Services at the University of Chicago and was then named Executive Director of Community Relations and External Affairs for the University of Chicago Hospitals while raising her daughters. She was promoted to vice president after three years, but eventually scaled back her work hours and commitments to support Barack Obama's entry into the U.S. presidential race.

After her husband's election, she supported several causes, including support for military families and healthy eating to solve

the epidemic of childhood obesity.

Continuing the family theme of her campaign speeches, Michelle brought her mother to live with her in the White House. She was recognized for an ability to connect to younger generations by remaining attuned to popular culture. Embracing the use of social media, she encouraged fans to follow her progress on her Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts, and proved willing to bring her messages to audiences by appearing in humorous sketches online and on television.

As a young mother, a fashion icon and the first African American first lady, Michelle Obama became a role model for many Americans.

Michelle sought to tie her own agendas to her husband's larger legislative goals, notably targeting the epidemic of childhood obesity while the Affordable Care Act was being created. In 2009, she worked with local elementary school students to plant a 1,100-square-foot vegetable garden on the South Lawn of the White House.

IDEAS



SUSTAINABILITY MOVEMENT

Adapted from David Rachelson, Chief Sustainability Officer, Rubicon

It's not easy to pinpoint when sustainability became an important movement. Many indigenous communities worldwide lived in "productive harmony" with their environments. Let's fast-forward to the 19th century. The Industrial Revolution brought great advances in technology like railroads, modern cities, and factories which all relied on energy sources like oil and coal. These advancements came with a price: overpopulation, pollution, disease. In reaction to these negative effects, a movement focused on sustainability and environmental protection grew. Here's where our time-line begins.



1892 John Muir, "the Father of National Parks" co-founded the Sierra Club, whose early work focused on protecting Yosemite National Park.

1901 Theodore Roosevelt became president, creating the U.S. Forest Service which established 150 national forests, 51 federal bird reserves, 4 national game reserves, and 5 national parks.

1949 The U.N. Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources discussed how to conserve land, water, wildlife, and energy.

1955 Congress enacted the Air Pollution Act.

1970 The first "Earth Day". The Environmental Protection Agency was created. The Clean Air Act was passed.

1972 The Clean Water Act passed. The U.N. Environment Program was formed to assist developing countries in creating sustainable policies.

1993 The evolution of "green brands" began. Businesses used environmental focus as a selling point.

2015 The U.N. General Assembly published 17 Sustainable Development Goals, to be achieved by 2030.

The EPA's definition of sustainability: "Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends...on our natural environment. To pursue sustainability is to create and maintain the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations."



BOOK BANNING IN AMERICA

Taken from the New York Times article by Elizabeth A. Harris

Fights over what books belong on library shelves have caused bitter rifts on school boards and in communities, and have been amplified by social media and political campaigns. Of the 2,571 titles that drew complaints in 2022, a vast majority were by or about L.G.B.T.Q. people, or are books by or about people of color; among them classics like Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* and Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, and newer works like Juno Dawson's *This Book is Gay* and Maia Kobabe's *Gender Queer*.

The development is worrisome for educators and librarians, who have increasingly come under fire. Some librarians have been accused of peddling obscenity or promoting pedophilia; others have been harassed online by people calling for them to be fired or even arrested. Deborah Caldwell-Stone of the American Library Association said,

Efforts to ban books nearly doubled in 2022 over the previous year.

"What we're seeing is not the result of an individual parent speaking to a librarian or a teacher about a particular book their child is reading, but a campaign by politically partisan groups to remove vast swaths of books that don't meet their agenda. Advocacy groups who rise up and demand that every-

body read the books that they approve of and not read any other books, and deny that choice to other families."

Librarians and free speech advocates are alarmed by new legislation that aims to regulate the content of libraries. Last year such laws were passed in seven states, including Tennessee, Oklahoma, Florida and Utah. Republicans introduced a "Parents Bill of Rights," proposed legislation that could lead to a rise in book bans. The bill requires that parents have access to "a list of the books and other reading materials available in the library of their child's school."

HEALTH-CARE FOR ALL



The U.S. is the only nation among developed nations that does not have universal health care either in practice or by constitutional right.

Medicare for All is a proposed new healthcare system where everyone in America would be on a program provided through the federal government. It was heavily championed by Senator Bernie Sanders during his runs for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016 and 2020.

How Medicare For All Works

Medicare for All would replace private insurance, employer-provided insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, and Obamacare. Sanders' plan would cover medical bills completely, with no financial burden on the patient. It would be a single, national health insurance program that would cover everyone living in the United States. It would pay for every medically necessary service, including dental and vision care, mental healthcare and prescription drugs with no copays or deductibles, and the cost of prescription drugs would be limited to \$200 a year. There may be additional out-of-pocket costs for long-term care. The government would set payment rates for drugs, services and medical equipment.

Sanders's bill includes a four-year phase-in period. 55-year-olds would be able to buy into Medicare in the first year, 45-year-olds in the second year and 35-year-olds in the third year. There would also be a public option insurance plan offered to people of all ages through the Obamacare marketplaces.

In order to pay for the program, Sanders has suggested raising taxes on incomes over \$250,000 and imposing a wealth tax on the top 0.1% of households.

ORGANIZATIONS



THE TREVOR PROJECT

Established 1970

LGBTQ young people are four times more likely to attempt suicide, and suicide remains the second leading cause of death among all young people in the U.S. Our mission is to end suicide among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning young people. Our vision: a world where all LGBTQ young people see a bright future for themselves. Our goal is to serve 1.8 million crisis contacts annually, by the end of our 25th year, while continuing to innovate on our core services.

The Trevor Project's diverse staff and inclusive culture are critical, non-negotiable requirements to achieve its mission of ending

LGBTQ youth suicide. We do this by turning volunteers into life-saving crisis counselors. Crisis counselors are trained to answer calls, chats, or texts from LGBTQ young people who reach out on our free, confidential and secure 24/7 service when they are struggling with issues such as coming out, LGBTQ identity, depression, and suicide.

Counselors work closely with members of our team and have access to role-play scenarios, supervised support shifts, and one-on-one office hours to ensure that they are able to practice and apply their acquired skills in a supportive environment.

Grammy-nominated global superstar Janelle Monáe was recipient of the 2022 Suicide Prevention Advocate of the Year award, which recognizes public figures who champion the LGBTQ community and advocate for mental health awareness. Marking September's National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, Monáe joins Lil Nas X who was recipient of the award in 2021.



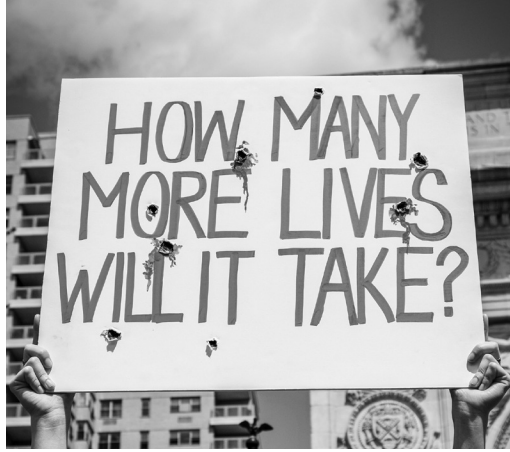
THE COALITION TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE

CSGV's guiding principle is simple: We believe gun violence should be rare and abnormal. We pursue this goal through policy development, advocacy, community engagement, and effective training.

CSGV is a thought leader in the modern gun violence prevention movement. Drafting, passing, and implementing evidence-based legislation is our number one priority. While legislative gridlock has largely stymied gun legislation at the federal level, CSGV has worked hard to secure major victories in the states.

Our commitment to addressing gun violence in all its forms — from suicide to intimate partner homicide to the shootings in the communities that are most impacted by gun violence and never make headlines — sets us apart.

We believe that all Americans have a right to live in communities free from gun violence. We pursue this goal through policy development, strategic engagement, and effective advocacy. In addition to our data-driven policy development, CSGV is dedicated to taking on the National Rifle Association (NRA) and their toxic agenda. We were the first gun violence prevention group to use the term "insurrectionism" to describe the NRA's dangerous interpretation of the Second Amendment. By exposing the hypocrisy of the NRA's messaging, CSGV has taken on the gun lobby for 45 years and will continue to keep them on the defensive.



We have nine areas of focus, regarding issues and campaigns:

1. Opposition to the National Rifle Association's interpretation of Second Amendment rights.
2. Support for firearm microstamping, a ballistic identification technology intended to allow law enforcement to trace the serial number of a firearm from ejected cartridge cases recovered from crime scenes.
3. Ban the private sale of guns by instituting universal background checks.
4. Ban concealed carry.
5. Opposition to the sale of what it classifies as assault weapons to private citizens.
6. Support for "countermarketing", a strategy intended to force changes in gun industry's marketing and distribution practices.
7. Opposition to removing the duty to retreat in self-defense law (i.e., stand your ground laws).
8. Support for stricter mental health screening for firearm purchases.
9. Support for the repeal of the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.



CHARITY: WATER

7 71 million people in the world live without clean water. That's nearly 1 in 10 people worldwide. Or, twice the population of the United States. The majority live in isolated rural areas and spend hours every day walking to collect water for their family. Not only does walking for water keep children out of school or take up time that parents could be using to earn money, but the water often carries diseases that can make everyone sick.

But access to clean water means education, income and health — especially for women and kids. Clean water changes everything.

Health

Diseases from dirty water kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. Children under five are on average more than 20 times more likely to die from illnesses linked to unsafe water and bad sanitation than from conflict.

Time

Every day, women and girls around the world spend an estimated 200 million hours collecting water. Access to clean water gives communities more time to grow food, earn an income, and go to school — all of which fight poverty.

Education

Clean water helps keep kids in school, especially girls. Less time collecting water means more time in class. Clean water and proper toilets at school means teenage girls don't have to stay home for a week out of every month.

Women Empowerment

Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 8 out of 10 households with water off premises. When a community gets water, women and girls get their lives back. They start businesses, improve their homes, and take charge of their own futures.



771 million people in the world live without clean water.

CITATIONS

TITLE PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS

<https://undraw.co/>

MALCOLM X

<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/malcolm-x>

ANGELA DAVIS

<https://www.oswego.edu/news/story/educator-author-and-activist-angela-davis-speak-oswego-feb-9>

MICHELLE OBAMA

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/michelle-obama-launches-company-improve-child-nutrition-rcna82816>

SUSTAINABILITY MOVEMENT

Photo by Cup of Couple: <https://www.nbcnews.com/nbc-out/out-news/1600-books-banned-2021-22-school-year-report-finds-rcna48367>

BOOK BANNING IN AMERICA

<https://www.nbcnews.com/nbc-out/out-news/1600-books-banned-2021-22-school-year-report-finds-rcna48367>

HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

Photo by Anna Shvets: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/person-with-a-face-mask-and-latex-gloves-holding-a-globe-4167542/>

THE TREVOR PROJECT

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/blog/reintroducing-the-trevor-project-with-a-brand-identity-that-reflects-a-new-generation-of-lgbtq-young-people/>

THE COALITION TO END GUN VIOLENCE

Photo by Katie Godowski from Pexels: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/end-gun-violence-12255889/>

CHARITY WATER

Photo by Samad Deldar: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/person-cleaning-hands-under-water-66346/>

<https://twitter.com/charitywater/status/1346219789430050818>

