

📍 New Yorkers Make a Difference

During the 1960s, many groups of Americans demanded equal opportunities and **civil rights**. Civil rights are the rights of all citizens to be treated equally under the law.

Equal Treatment

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or NAACP, began in New York in 1909. It worked to end discrimination against African Americans. The movement for civil rights took hold in 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama. One of the leaders of this movement was Martin Luther King, Jr., of Atlanta, Georgia.

A famous New York leader of the civil rights movement was Malcolm X. He gave many speeches demanding equal

rights for African Americans. He also encouraged African Americans to build and own their own businesses.

Other New Yorkers worked for equality and civil rights in Congress. Herman Badillo, from the Bronx, became the first person born in Puerto Rico to serve in Congress in 1971.

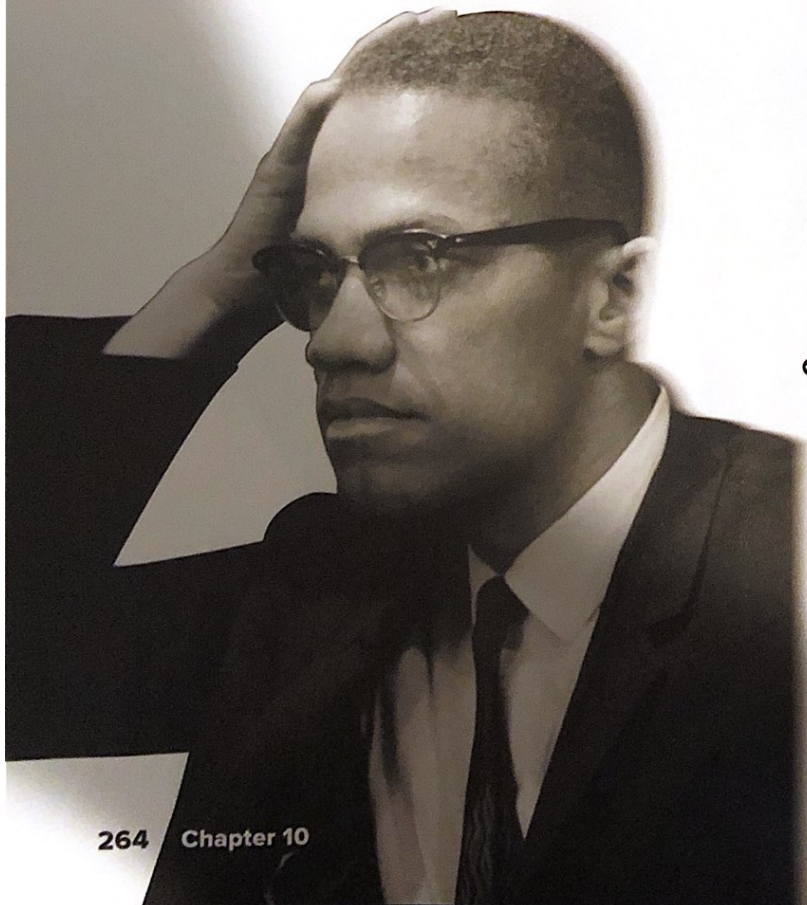
Women's Rights

Women wanted equal opportunities as well. In 1966, the National Organization for Women (NOW) was formed.

Gloria Steinem moved from Ohio to New York in 1960. She founded *Ms.* magazine, to publicize the women's rights movement.

Bella Abzug was another New York leader of the women's movement. She represented New York in Congress during the 1970s.

📍 Malcolm X



Protecting the Environment

Pollution is anything that dirties the air, soil, or water. In the 1970s, residents of a neighborhood called Love Canal near Niagara Falls, New York, began to fight pollution in their neighborhood. Led by Lois Gibbs, they forced the owners of the polluted land to clean up their

A volunteer plants a tree to help her community.



neighborhood. Later, other New Yorkers stopped another company from emptying chemicals into the Hudson River.

These cleanup operations show that New Yorkers are working to make their state a safer and more beautiful place to live. Conservation and strong laws against pollution will continue to protect the environment of New York.

QUICK CHECK How did people work to make New York a better place to live? *Main Idea and Details*

What You Learned

- A** New Yorkers worked together to win World War II.
- B** Suburbs developed after World War II; The United Nations began to meet in New York.
- C** New Yorkers worked together to promote equal rights, and protect the environment.

Focus Lesson Review

- 1. Focus Question** How did life change after World War II?
- 2. Vocabulary** Use the vocabulary words below to write a summary of what you learned in this lesson.
commute **ration**
pollution **suburb**
- 3. Culture** How did television change American life in the 1950s and 1960s?
- 4. Critical Thinking Problem Solving** How did residents of Love Canal fix the pollution in their community?
- 5. Reading Strategy Sequence Events**
List three events of the Equal Rights movement and the order in which they occurred.
- 6. Write About THE BIG IDEA**
Write a paragraph about how the automobile changed life.
- 7. Reading Primary Sources** Look at the photograph of the family on page 262. What can you tell about life in the 1950s from this photograph?