

# Thurgood Marshall: The Supreme Court Nomination that Changed America

Thurgood Marshall was the first African American to be appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States. His nomination was a landmark moment in American history, and it had a profound impact on the course of civil rights in the United States.



## Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America by Wil Haygood

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Marshall was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1908. He graduated from Howard University Law School in 1933, and he went on to become a successful civil rights lawyer. In 1940, he joined the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and he quickly became one of the organization's most effective lawyers.

Marshall argued numerous landmark cases before the Supreme Court, including *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which overturned the

"separate-but-equal" doctrine and led to the desegregation of public schools.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Marshall to the Supreme Court. Marshall's nomination was controversial, but it was ultimately confirmed by the Senate. He served on the Court for 24 years, and he wrote some of the most important civil rights decisions in American history.

Marshall's Supreme Court nomination was a watershed moment for civil rights in the United States. It showed that the country was finally ready to embrace the principle of equality for all Americans.

## **Early Life and Education**

Thurgood Marshall was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on July 2, 1908. His parents, William and Norma Marshall, were both teachers. Marshall's father was also a civil rights activist, and he instilled in his son a strong sense of social justice.

Marshall attended public schools in Baltimore, and he graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in 1925. He then attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, where he earned a degree in economics in 1930.

After graduating from Lincoln University, Marshall attended Howard University Law School. He graduated from law school in 1933, and he was admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1934.

## **Civil Rights Lawyer**

After graduating from law school, Marshall began his career as a civil rights lawyer. He joined the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in 1940, and he quickly became one of the organization's most effective lawyers.

Marshall argued numerous landmark cases before the Supreme Court, including *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which overturned the "separate-but-equal" doctrine and led to the desegregation of public schools.

Marshall also argued cases involving voting rights, employment discrimination, and housing discrimination. He was a tireless advocate for civil rights, and he helped to achieve many important victories for the movement.

## **Supreme Court Justice**

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Marshall to the Supreme Court. Marshall's nomination was controversial, but it was ultimately confirmed by the Senate. He served on the Court for 24 years, and he wrote some of the most important civil rights decisions in American history.

Marshall's most famous opinion was in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954). In *Brown*, the Supreme Court ruled that school segregation was unconstitutional. Marshall's opinion in *Brown* was a major victory for the civil rights movement, and it helped to pave the way for the desegregation of public schools.

Marshall also wrote the opinion in the case of *Loving v. Virginia* (1967), which struck down laws that prohibited interracial marriage. *Loving*

was a landmark decision that helped to advance the cause of civil rights.

Marshall was a brilliant jurist, and he was a passionate advocate for justice. He served on the Supreme Court with distinction for 24 years, and he left a lasting legacy on American law.

## Legacy

Thurgood Marshall was one of the most important figures in the civil rights movement. He was a brilliant lawyer, a tireless advocate for justice, and a Supreme Court Justice who wrote some of the most important civil rights decisions in American history.

Marshall's legacy is one of hope and inspiration. He showed that anything is possible if you are willing to fight for what you believe in. He also showed that the law can be used to achieve social change.

Thurgood Marshall was a true American hero, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.



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