

# My Black Women Story: *Fannie Lou Hamer*

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## *Fannie Lou Hamer*

- Fannie Lou Hamer was born on October 6, 1917 in Montgomery County, Mississippi.
- She was a civil rights and women's rights activist whose passionate depiction of her own suffering in a racist society helped focus attention on the plight of African Americans throughout the south.
- Hamer was helping and working with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee(SNCC) which Hamer helped organize the new 1964 Freedom Summer African American voter registration.
- At the Democratic Convention, she was part of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and where she provided a testimony about the issues that she encountered in her home state while trying to vote.

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# Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

- The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party was an American political party created in 1964 as a group of populist in Mississippi during the Civil Rights Movement.
- It was organized by African Americans and Whites from Mississippi to challenge the established power of the Mississippi Democratic Party, which at the time allowed participation only by whites, when African-Americans made up 40% of the state population.



# Freedom Farm Cooperative

- In 1969, Fannie Lou Hamer founded the organization called Freedom Farm Cooperative with a \$10,000 donation from an organization called Measure for Measure. The idea of this organization was based on to help and empower black farmers and sharecroppers who have always been in the authority or mercy of white landowners. Throughout the years, Fannie Lou Hamer believed that in order for African Americans in America to have the right to vote, it has to start from the beginning.
- Unfortunately, this program, Freedom Farm, was unable to continue due to the fact that it never received the necessary funding from institutional organizations or even the government so since the program never receive funding on a federal level, it was unfortunately cut off and the program ended.

In what way did Fannie Lou Hamer contributed in helping women's right issue become more clear and known?

Throughout her lifetime, Fannie Lou Hamer has helped and founded many organizations but what makes her different is the fact that she advocated for more federal funding on the issues concerning women's rights. In addition, she even helped the National Political Caucus as a way to encourage women's participation in politics.



## *Why Fannie Lou Hamer more known for civil rights than women's right?*

Throughout this point, I have been explaining of who Fannie Lou Hamer is and of her accomplishments but there have been moments where I have been researching that they don't go deep in the belief that Hamer had for women's rights. After, Fannie Lou Hamer has been known as the women who spread the word of her message about the discrimination against African Americans and not having the ability to vote. While Hamer was more associate with the civil rights movement, she still supported the idea of women having the ability to vote and also become part of the government.





# Work Cited

Article Titled: Fannie Lou Hamer

Author: History.com

URL Link: <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/fannie-lou-hamer>

<https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/mississippi-freedom-democratic-party-mfdp>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/fannie-lou-hamers-dauntless-fight-for-black-americans-right-vote-180975610/>

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07PwNVCZCcY>

The video link contains a speech from Fannie Lou Hamer discussing her discrimination which was in front of the Democratic Party Committee and describes the impact of the speech.

*Thank You for Reading*

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