



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

**Central High School  
National Historic Site**

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## Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site News Release

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### **Celebrate Women's History Month Guest Speaker and Book Signing**

To celebrate Women's History Month, Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site welcomes Gloria Dickerson, who, with her brothers and sisters, desegregated a Mississippi elementary school in 1965, for a guest lecture and book signing on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the Historic Site Visitor Center. A short segment of the documentary "The Intolerable Burden," directed by Chea Prince and produced by Constance Curry, which focuses on the Mississippi desegregation experience, will be shown. The event is free and open to the public.

Dickerson's story is chronicled in the book, *Silver Rights*, by Constance Curry. The lecture and book signing will officially launch a new book club at the historic site, "Reading & Rights." For this first event, visitors do not need to read the book ahead of time, but if they would like to do so, *Silver Rights* is available at the park bookstore or from area bookstores for \$14.00, plus tax.

Eight years after the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, the state of Mississippi was still struggling to integrate its public schools. In 1965, the Carters, black sharecroppers who lived on a cotton plantation in rural Sunflower County, sent seven of their thirteen children to desegregate the all-white Drew, Mississippi school system. The family was threatened repeatedly with violence, and the children were tormented by white students and some of the teachers. Despite this, all seven children remained in school, and all seven graduated. Gloria Dickerson is one of those courageous children.

For more information please log onto [www.nps.gov.chsc](http://www.nps.gov.chsc) or contact the historic site at (501) 374-1957 or [CHSC\\_Visitor\\_Center@nps.gov](mailto:CHSC_Visitor_Center@nps.gov).

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