

THE STRUGGLES OF BLACK PEOPLE IN STEM

Black people have overcome obstacles, challenges, and discrimination both inside and outside the workplace. They have continued to make key discoveries and inventions in our culture despite not receiving fair opportunity or resources to thrive in STEM fields. The struggles and perseverance of black people have also led to many breakthroughs in the fields of STEM

Slaves began to play a vital part in the advancement of medicine and medical education in the 18th century. At this time, there was a greater than ever desire for modern education that was based on statistics, facts, and experiments. Human specimens and bodies were clearly needed for experiments and observation. Using the poor and voiceless slaves as subjects for these various lessons was the obvious choice in this situation. As a result, Black people were frequently seen on dissecting tables, bedside demonstrations, and experimental settings. In addition to being used for demonstrations, Black people contributed far more to the medical industry and were significant in the discovery of vaccinations and treatments for numerous diseases. James Marion Sims' experiments, the founder of modern gynaecology, is prime evidence of such an event. Sims experimented on a large number of black women, performing painful and torturous surgeries on them without the use of anaesthesia. As a result of his despicable actions, he was able to advance the field of gynaecology and make numerous significant discoveries, thanks to the women he experimented on.

As time passed, Black people willingly participated in a growing number of scientific sectors. All of this was challenging since Black people at the period lacked sufficient access to education. Black individuals continued to study and learn more despite this. To get the recognition they deserved for their experiments and discoveries, Black people also had to work harder than most. The first effective treatment for Hansen's illness(leprosy) was created by a woman by the name of Alice Ball. Ball died at the age of 24, but her discoveries and accomplishments were not recognised until much later. The traffic light, the clothes dryer, and home security systems were all created by Black people, as were many other items that we see today.

Despite facing challenges, Black people have continued to develop, extend, and explore in today's society. In the modern world, Black people and even young people are still growing in the STEM sector and making valuable and knowledgeable contributions to their societies. There are several well-known and well-recognized scientists, such as the first African American woman astronaut Mae C. Jemison. People of African ancestry are increasingly filling critical STEM positions today and actively contributing to big issues and ideas. Black people continue to be scientists, astronauts, physicians, and many other professions.

In the field of STEM, Black people have made numerous significant discoveries, inventions, and medical breakthroughs. Despite the challenges and disadvantages, they confront, Black people continue to achieve success by working hard to continue to learn. They have made significant contributions to STEM and will continue to do so despite all challenges- Zoe Abiagom

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