

## **Malcolm X Decal**

### **Assignment #2 – Study Guide**

Some questions to consider while listening to these recordings:

#### *New York Radio Interview of March 10, 1960 (Audio 01 in DVD Reader)*

1. How would you characterize Malcolm's demeanor, or attitude, towards his interviewer (Mr. Gray) throughout the recording?
2. What assumptions does the interviewer hold about the race problem, citizenship, American democracy and the American legal system?
3. How does Malcolm explain the use of "X" as his last name?
4. What is Malcolm's response to charges that he is "anti-white" and preaches "Black supremacy"? Do you think he makes a good case? Why or why not?
5. How does Malcolm define, or re-define, the following terms? "Negro" "Black" "Colored" "nationality" "citizenship" "civil rights" "American".
6. On what basis does Malcolm call for "unity" among Blacks?
7. What does Malcolm mean when he says, "You've got a *new Negro* on the scene today"? (@14minutes) Who is this "new Negro," according to Malcolm?
8. How does Malcolm respond to the alleged criticisms coming from the NAACP's Roy Wilkins and Thurgood Marshall?
9. '*Well then, who speaks for whom?*' (@14minutes). Who do Wilkins and Marshall speak for? Who does Malcolm (or Elijah Mohammed) speak for?
10. What is Malcolm's perspective on the trope, or debate, about 'bad Negroes'?
11. What does Malcolm think that the White Man ought to know? What is Elijah Mohammed's 'warning' and is there room for Whites to heed it, or not?
12. How does Malcolm define these terms/concepts: "integration," "segregation," "separation"? What do you think of the distinctions he draws between them?
13. In light of our discussion last week regarding the 'Baby Boomer' generation: In 1960, were "the overwhelming number of white people" really *for* Civil Rights for Blacks? What does Malcolm have to say about this? Do you find his argument compelling? Why or why not?
14. What do you think of Malcolm's use of the story of Moses and the Israelites under Pharaoh ("Exodus," Old Test.)? Is the analogy he makes a good one? Does it bolster his argument regarding "integration" vs. "segregation" or not?
15. What is the relationship between God and Justice in Malcolm's paradigm?

#### *Embassy, Los Angeles. Speech of April 16, 1961 (Audio 02 in DVD Reader)*

1. According to Malcolm, what do "we" have in common that should unite "us"?
2. How does Malcolm distinguish between *segregation* and *separation*?
3. In the late-1950s, the term "second-class citizenship" had entered into common usage to explain the need for a Civil Rights Bill. What does M. say?
4. How does Malcolm define "equality"? What do you think of his definition?
5. How does Malcolm use 'American' nationalism to explain 'Black' nationalism?
6. What is Malcolm's economic/political-economic philosophy?