



# Chicago Defender (1910–1975)

Leading voice of the black community

**THE CHICAGO DEFENDER** has been a leading voice of the black community well beyond the Windy City, with more than two-thirds of its readership outside Chicago. The newspaper was a proponent of The Great Migration, the move of over 1.5 million African-Americans from the segregated South to the industrial North from 1915 to 1925. It reported on the Red Summer race riots of 1919, and editorialized for anti-lynching legislation and the integration of blacks into the U.S. military. This newspaper also supported the aviation career of Bessie Coleman, the first African-American female pilot, and promoted the writing of Langston Hughes and Gwendolyn Brooks, poet laureate of Illinois.

Over six decades of this newspaper’s historic coverage, online and easily searchable for both researchers and readers, is available from ProQuest.

## Curriculum Focus

- African-American Studies
- Arts and Literature
- Civil Rights
- Culture
- Genealogy
- Education
- History
- Journalism
- Multidisciplinary
- Political Science
- Religion
- Social Sciences
- Sports History
- Urban Planning

## Why the *Chicago Defender*?

- **Full access to a leading voice of the black community:** Users can study the progression of issues over time by browsing issues of the historic newspaper, which offers coverage of 1910-1975, including news articles, photos, advertisements, classified ads, obituaries, cartoons, and more.
- **Insight into multiple perspectives:** Not only does presenting this newspaper on the ProQuest platform allow for cover-to-cover browsing of complete issues of the *Chicago Defender*, but users can find a broader view of issues and events by cross searching all of ProQuest’s historical newspapers, such as the *Chicago Tribune* and *The New York Times with Index*.
- **User-friendly support tools to facilitate research:** Offered on the intuitive ProQuest platform, users benefit from the ability to search by more than 20 article types, keyword, date ranges, specific dates, author and more. They can also focus on relevant information quickly with hit-term highlighting and download articles and images in PDF format.
- **Award-winning, user-friendly interface:** ProQuest was awarded Best Interface in the 2015 *Charleston Advisor* Reader’s Choice Awards: *“It is much more intuitive and easy to use than previous versions. It includes improved document viewing, easier navigation...Kudos to ProQuest.”*

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