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**MONOGRAPH  
INFLUENCE OF THE LIFE OF JACKIE ROBINSON IN THE SCOPE OF SPORTS  
AND SOCIAL**

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## GRATITUDE

I would like to thank God, who has always guide me and been by my side, no matter what,he best and worsts days of my life, He is the only one that knows my true feelings and thoughts, the one that accepts and loves me with all my defects.

To my parents, I give thanks for their having been by my side at all times, for teaching me the real things of the life and for giving me the opportunity to study at this great school. I thank my dad for getting me interested in t baseball which is now the the base of this monograph.

In the end, I would like to thank to my teachers, especially to my tutor Ms Laura Ortuño, that has always helped me and guided me not only in this monograph. Finally, my friends, I would like them to now that I am grateful for all the support that they have given me throughout all these years and , especially during this last one.

## SUMMARY

This monograph entitled "Influence Of The Life Of Jackie Robinson In The Scope Of Sports And Social", tries to shed light and make known the life of Jackie Robinson. I believe in the importance of making the events that led him to be one of the most outstanding sportsmen of the history of the United States become more commonly known and better understood. Due to his determination, kind manner and steady belief in himself, he became a role model for those who followed. He remains a very important person for society, especially for people who suffer from racial discrimination, in this specific case people of black color.

This monograph presents the difficulties and events which occurred and how he managed to overcome and reach his goal, which was as simple as playing a sport. He did not seek to change the sport although he knew that in one way or another he was doing so., He suffered hardship and discrimination, even by his teammates. This being said, one can only imagine the discrimination he withstood from people, strangers and especially from the rival teams.

After understanding everything that Jackie Robinson experienced, he reveals how influential his time in this sport was, and all the changes that caused the first black player in the Major Leagues, who was not only satisfied with being a great player and a figure, but understood that he could help and inspire generations to come, so he went even further and created a foundation to help young people in their studies.

He was a person with a strong character who never let anyone tell him t what he could not do , never thought that something was enough,was always looking to give something more re, everything for his his team, his sport and his country. We must understand that racist acts do not serve any purpose other than to destroy History has already taught us that because of racism, there have been massacres and wars.

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## INTRODUCTION

The following monograph "Influence Of The Life Of Jackie Robinson In The Scope Of Sports And Social", is about presenting the life of Jackie Robinson, not only because he was an incredible baseball player, but because of the importance that he had to play professionally this sport , the life of Jackie and her influence is not only based on a good play or a good hit, it is about the effort and courage to stand in front of a whole country against her presence and give the example that he can, and It deserves to stand there.

Jackie Robinson's life goes beyond having become a sports legend, a legend in his country, or having the honor of being the only player in the history of the Major Leagues, who have retired his number, 42, for absolutely all teams, or have a day in which year after year is honored by all, the importance is that it was one of the first steps, and a very important one, in saying that nobody is better than anyone because of the color of skin, we are all the same.

In different studies like the book "Enjoying American History" they have established the importance or the effect of Jackie, mainly telling real stories of their life, like blacks were separated or treated separately in different places, for example, there were hotels, restaurants and workplaces only and exclusively for white, because of this on one occasion he did not want to allow his team to stay at a hotel because he was present, and as after the break of the color barrier the doors were opened for others like him.

In the first chapter he talks about life and his sporting career, important things to be able to enter into the context of the situations he overcame during his life, in the second chapter he tries to show all the difficulties, the barriers that were imposed only to look for that the fall, also as was the process for acceptance to begin and what was its impact, the third chapter talks about the legacy, its foundation and the life lessons that it leaves us, the fourth and last are interviews to know the opinion of this topic .

## CHAPTER I

### LIFE AND STEP BY SPORT

#### 1.1. Biography

Jack Roosevelt was born on the evening of January 31, 1919 near the town of Cairo in Grady County in southern Georgia; his parents Jerry and Mallie Robinson put his middle name in honor to Teddy Roosevelt, as president he inspired many black people because of his outspoken disdain for racism, this were times when black people were very rejected by the white society, Roosevelt was very respected by black people because he fight a lot to help black people, like when he attacked the new system called peonage that was the new name for saying slavery.

Jackie lived in a time that black people were just slaves, they just where needed to work in plantations of white people, they were treated as numbers or objects because white people trade using the black people as the product, so they were just belonged to someone. There were black persons who born in one of these plantations live and work there for all their lives and died there without knowing what the world was really.

In his life he had a recognized political participation to fight for equal rights and discrimination that existed against the people of color, he entered the military service in the Second World War where he also received a bad treatment due to his color skin, stands out the case where he refused to sit in the back of the bus and that was why he was taken to the court martial, but was finally acquitted for lack of evidence, he ended up leaving the army but in spite of everything he obtained honors.

## **1.2. Sports Career**

April 18, 1946 Opening Day of the season of baseball, the mayor of New Jersey as every year close all schools and required all employees to get tickets for the first game, a lot of teams had arrived to the city. This day, this opening day had two things that were extraordinary, the first one was that that day marked the start of the first minor league season since the end of the war, but this was not enough to be excited, all the people specially the reporters were interested in one player of the visiting team Montreal Royals, when this man batted in the first inning he would become the first black man in the



twentieth century to play any professional organized tournament of baseball, that man, that player was Jackie Robinson, he was about to broke the color barrier.

Six months later Branch Rickey, president of Brooklyn Dodger, made one of the biggest news; he announced the signing of Robinson to play for them, the Dodgers, one of the biggest teams on the country by that time, and also actually. Robinson was already the first black man to play in organized baseball and now he was going to be the first to play in the big leagues, The Major League Baseball. April 15, 1947 Jack Roosevelt Robinson debuts in the Mayors with the Brooklyn Dodgers, and this was just the beginning of this story that changes a big part of history and not just sportingly also socially.

Jack played first and second base and won a championship in 1955, he get the award of rookie of the year (1947), he was MVP (1949), was included in the all-star by six times (1949-1954), and finally he got into the baseball hall of fame in 1962.

### **1.3. Important Facts**

According to Tygel, 2002, p. 3, Jackie Robinson was born in 1919 and died in 1972. He crammed into these brief fifty-three years a legacy of accomplishment, acclaim, controversy, and influence matched by few Americans. He was, even before his historic baseball breakthrough, an athlete of legendary proportions. He won fame and adulation as the first

African-American to play in the major leagues in the twentieth century, launching an athletic revolution that transformed American sports. He garnered baseball's highest honors: Rookie of the year, Most Valuable Player, and first-ballot election to the Hall of Fame. More significantly, Robinson became a symbol of racial integration and a prominent leader in the civil rights struggle of the 1950s. Yes Jackie Robinson's half century among us illuminates not just the contours of an exceptional life, but much about the broader African-American experience of those years.

As we can see, Jackie Robinson wasn't just a sports figure, he was more than that. He was a man that had to put up and suffer all kinds of discrimination wherever he went, yet he endured it all because he understood that everyone needed a change to come, everyone needed to see that if he could do it, they could too. This is the main reason he is of such great importance. This is why Robinson is such an important part of sports history. He was a role model and inspiration to others. He seemed to understand this before anyone else did and so he continued with his great deeds, helping people and supporting people with his foundation wanting to give back to those who had supported him and given him so much.

## CHAPTER II

### DIFFICULTIES TO OVERCOME IN SPORT

#### 2.1 Discrimination

What is discrimination, “treating a person or particular group of people differently, especially in a worse way from the way in which you treat other people, because of their skin color, sex, sexuality, etc.?” (Cambridge Dictionary), this means that you treat a person differently because he or she is different to you, in this case the type of discrimination that is going to be treated is racism.

“The belief that people's qualities are influenced by their race and that the members of other races are not as good as the members of your own, or the resulting unfair treatment of members of other races” (Cambridge Dictionary), the most common way of racism is the one that affects people with black skin color, principally by white people.

In present day, sports are now inclusive, meaning that all accept people of all kinds, race and color, specifically to avoid racism. When Jackie Robinson starts playing baseball, the US was in a time in its history where racism was supported and practiced by the maximum authorities of the country. for example, stadiums had segregated seats, those for white people and others for black people. When Jackie was included in the major league, the club leaders opposed the idea that a black player participate. in fact, there were cities where hotels refused to receive the dodgers because they had a black player and they didn't want a

black person inside their establishment. Here also were occasions that the police stepped onto the field, trying to take Jackie away and preventing him to play using the excuse that no black person could play baseball in the same place that white people were playing, by law.

## 2.2 Acceptance

“In 1947, Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier that not only changed baseball, but changed the culture and society of America itself. Jackie Robinson was not only a great baseball player, he was a great man who had enormous amounts of courage and pride. He took verbal beatings whenever he traveled with the Dodgers. Sometimes, the Dodgers were not able to stay at their usual hotels because they would not allow black people to stay in them.” (Jackie Robinson: A Man Who Changed Sports Forever).

Jackie Robinson was more than just the first african-american man to ever play in the major league. Simply being a part of and playing there was a huge thing, everyone’s dream come true. Baseball in the United States is one of the most important sports and apart of the culture, there are even entire families that revolve around baseball, so, the impact that Jackie made by being a part of this entity was huge was really enormous. White families at that time had to tell their children that there was a black player now playing. This was harder to do in those days than it may seem. they had to explain why which was also difficult because of the moral standards of the times., so, there was two options, leave the sport of baseball because you were unable to cope with the idea of a black a player or learn

to live and let live and get used to the idea of having a black player on your team..

In the movie of the life of Jackie Robinson, 42, there is a part that show us two things, Jackie is returning to the place that he is staying after a match and he feels bad because a lot of people is discriminating him, so the person who is with he said to Jackie that he had seen kids, white kids playing baseball in the street pretending that they are Jackie Robinson, the two things that this scene show us are, first that the human is just racist because others tell them to be because a kid doesn't care and even pretend that they are a black man, and the second is that also people is starting to change their mentality and are accepting that black people can play, can enjoy baseball and different sports too.

### **2.3 Bigger impact than other players**

The life of Jackie Robinson is really one of the most important in history. He changed the way of thinking of a lot of people and because it was in the United States, there was an even bigger impact. His career as a baseball player was great. He is known, recognized and remembered as one of the best players in all of baseball history, it must be stated, he goes beyond the mere idea of being a great baseball player, and he really is bigger than just that.

Jackie Robinson is perhaps the most historically significant baseball player ever, ranking with Babe Ruth in terms of his impact on the national pastime. Ruth changed the way baseball was played; Jackie Robinson changed the way Americans thought. When Robinson took the field for the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 15, 1947, more than sixty years of racial segregation in major-league baseball came to an end. (Society for American Baseball Research)

As we can see, the impact of Jackie transcends the sporting aspect, even that he was a great player with some of the best statistics and a lot of prizes like being part of the hall of fame or being the MVP, the impact that Robinson generates is more than something that can change something in sports. He changed the way that people thought about black people and not only that, that was the start of the acceptance to the variety of races and ethnicities like people that comes from other parts of the world, if you watch a baseball game in the actuality you will find white players, black players, players from all different countries like Japan, Korea, countries from Central America like Cuba, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, South American players such as Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, and all this is because he cause that the people, authorities, the club leaders accept and not only that, they start doing the same that the Dodgers did, immediately the following year of the debut of Robinson more black players arrived to the Majors, that's why the impact of Jackie Robinson is unique, it's not only The sporting way he changed society, but the manner in which he influenced other sports to do the same.

## CHAPTER III CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESENT

### 3.1 Foundation

Through his leadership, skill and courage, Jackie Robinson broke barriers in sports, media and business, impacting our entire society and helping to set the stage for the modern civil rights movement. For more than 42 years, the Jackie Robinson Foundation has continued Robinson's commitment to equal opportunity by addressing the achievement gap in higher education, and is poised to expand his rich legacy by building the Jackie Robinson Museum in New York City. (CEO of Jackie Robinson Foundation)

The career and the life of Jackie Robinson had such a great impact that would be a

waste if it were not used as a starting a point of support to reach so many people, the legacy left by the social aspect, leaving aside the sport which is a whole different thing and a big enough factor on its own . this foundation apart from remembering and instructing today's society, are the main and most important thing in the life of jackie, it aims to help young people who want to have an opportunity to study but, due to their situations do not have that luck. these are young people who in their majority belong to minorities and who thanks to this nonprofit foundation, have had the opportunity to study without having to worry about the economical aspect.

The Jackie Robinson Foundation was founded in 1973 by Rachel Robinson, Jackie's wife, in her desire to continue supporting her husband's idea of achieving real equality. Her idea was that the best way to end up breaking the barriers imposed by the serious society through education, educating people, instructing them and giving them an intellectual identity transforms each person into a competent being who has all the tools to fight to defend what should be defended, that is why this foundation has worked for more 42 years helping many young people to receive a ducacion of the highest level with the apollo of approximately 260 colleges and universities of first level, have a budget of almost 85 million dollars provided by sponsors and donors, have about 1500 student's t making the high percentage of graduates whose gpa average 98%.

As Jackie was a person of great impact, born from baseball, Major League Baseball has come together in different occasions and in different ways to support the Jackie Robinson Foundation, an example of this occurred in 2016 MLB announcement that IT would finance 30 scholarships, for each team in the Major Leagues, in addition, it would



contribute a million dollars for the construction of the museum in New York. All this, in the end, had as its purpose more than to offer an education, these scholars would be part of the RBI program that is based on reviving baseball in urban areas of the United States. In a written statement, Rob Manfred said that MLB wants to "reflect Jackie's vision for our American society and positively impact future generations." (Rob Manfred)

### **3.2 Opening for more black players**

As Jackie Robinson was a person who was able to completely break through the racial barrier that was present in society and in sport of that era, it is logical to think that the mentality of people changed after that even though they still see signs of this and indications of these types of situation, no matter whether it is no longer as strong or openly obvious as in the past it can still sometimes be perceived. nevertheless, in the sporting field, specifically in baseball, the robinson effect was practically immediate, just after one year of Jackie's debut in the major leagues, there were new african-american players, soon to follow was the full and complete inclusion of anyone and that included those of many other nationalities and thanks to this, these people from all different walks of life were seen, weighed, measured and judged, not as prsonas of different races, but as any player should be, as players, not the color of their skin. many of the best players in the history of baseball are of african race, whether american or latino, but without them, the history of the

game ,the success of this sport and many of the best teams would not be the same.

There are many players who stand out from others, with David Ortiz "Big Papi", from the Dominican Republic, one of the biggest in recent years, was selected ten times for the star game, has the record of home runs inside of the same season playing for the Boston Red Sox, in 2005 the owner of the team awarded him a plaque that proclaimed him as "the biggest clutch-hitter in the history of the boston Red Sox", one of the 30 players with more of 500 home runs in history with a total of 541, won three world series and was decorated as the most valuable player in one of them was recognized in the city of Boston, not only as a team player, but as a constant social contributor to the city.

Another very important player worthy of mention is Roberto Clemente, born in Puerto Rico, he played for the Pittsburgh Pirates, considered by many as one of the best right fielders in history and reaffirmed by the two gold gloves that he has won, as well as being an exhilarating batter, winning four titles individual batting and one of the few to overcome the 3000 hits mark for hits, perhaps was the most important player of the decade of the 60 and even proclaimed once as the most valuable player. Just as Jackie Robinson was a strong defender of black players,rights, Clemente was imaged of the Latin Americans struggle for education in the sport of his country. He died tragically yet heroically,. In his eagerness to help his fellow man, he was able to gather enough supplies to fill a plane a heading towards Managua to help those affected by the earthquake in 1972, unfortunately neither he nor the supplies reached their destination., In recognition of hisis awarded the

"Roberto Clemente" Award in recognition of those who perform community work.

Just like the aforementioned there are many more players that have been decisive IN the development of this sport, players who, if added together, find a lot of individual prizes, championship titles, home runs, pitches that win games, stolen bases, valuable players. , exalted to the hall of fame, help and social example which thousands of young people want to imitate, Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, Ken Griffey Jr., Leroy Satchel Paige, Bob Gibson, Lou Brock, and many more are perfect examples of the impact, the change and the sportive and competitive jump that produced the acceptance to all these players.

## CHAPTER IV INTERVIEWS

### 4.1 Survey applied

Interview to: Otton Marquez de la Plata

- What do you know about racism?

I know what racism is

- What do you think about this?

It is a very low act, nobody is superior to anyone because of their skin color.

- Do you know any case?

I could list several cases, and even, in these days they happen.

- Do you know a situation that has arisen in the sport?

I know several cases, in international and national sports, the most heard are in football, since it is the most publicized sport

- Do you know who Jackie Robinson was? What do you know about him?

Yes, he was the first African-American player to play in MLB with number 42 in the Brooklyn Dodgers. He suffered from racism even by his own teammates.

He had to open the door for all generations of African-Americans and Latinos in the MLB, suffering racial discrimination.

- What do you know about racial discrimination in the past?

I know many things, like entering hotels and restaurants through back doors, to use bathrooms made for them.

- How do you see this topic today?

The truth is no great change, and hatred remains in people who see them differently.

- What do you know about the change in the mentality of society on this issue? How did it happen? Who influenced?

There are changes in form, not in the background, you do not have to become blind, Malcolm X, Mandela, or the Reverend MLK influenced the changes in form, but the fund lasts.

#### Interview to: Israel Rosero

- What do you know about racism?

It is quite worldwide and denigrates a race or culture

- What do you think about this?

It's wrong, people should not do that

- Do you know any case?

Yes, I know a corduroy that because he is black, they beat him or they make him

- Do you know a situation that has arisen in the sport?

Currently not so much but if at the beginning of the World Cup a black man from the USA won in Germany and they did not recognize him

- Do you know who Jackie Robinson was? What do you know about him?

No, I do not know who it is

- What do you know about racial discrimination in the past?

That before was stronger than now, before they were enslaved etc

- How do you see this topic today?

Very little but still are still present

- What do you know about the change in the mentality of society on this issue?  
How did it happen? Who influenced?

I believe that with the passage of time they have accepted it as all the other gender identity movements but there are still cases of racism

#### **4.2 Analysis of the applied survey**

After doing these interviews, we can see that the interviewees believe that racism is a very low act, something that can only be done by an ignorant person who only acts by outside influences instead of being aware and seeing the reality that we are same, human beings.

Although in comparison to past times, where the law was even on the side of racism, racism is still present and we can not deny it, we must stop facing this problem and keep giving the change.

Not everyone knows Jackie Robinson, not all the characters in the story are global complete, but if there are several different people who have contributed to the change, to the awareness of the people.

## CONCLUSIONS

At the end of this monographic work it is concluded that:

- You have to learn to value the effort the delivery that Jackie left, not any person would have had the courage, the courage to put themselves in the eye of the public knowing and accepting the conditions that they would endure, abuses, discriminations, insults, blows, propitiated by strangers and their own companions, he said yes, you could say that he was part of what can be considered an experiment, and he was not of the organizers, rather it was the object of study. For him it could have been easy to resign with the excuse that he could not stand it, even he was ready, but he did not give in to the pressure, he did not like everyone who wanted him to resign, besides, being an important person and keep in mind the pressure, he gave his maximum effort within the field of play and also became a legend as a player, getting titles and individual prizes.

- The difficulties he suffered were innumerable, he had so many obstacles, barriers and important people that the only thing they did was to speak ill of him, against him, all this reached the point that even different leaders who were in the team lost their job, a coach resigned because he was forced to work with him and never had a minimum interest in defending him from abuse, or his own teammates, worse than rivals. Around him there were so many people with power, whose only objective was to make it fail, to leave, they were oppressed with the idea that maybe at that moment there was only one, but surely behind him would come another and another , to the point where there is no difference, as it always should have been. Finally he found the consolation that people were beginning to accept him, and not only that, they were looking for him, they were following him and they wanted more, they wanted a real change to take place.

The story of Jack Roosevelt Robinson, like that of many others could have been in the past, something or someone that people only talk for a short time, but he goes further, and much was talked about the change that produced, but someone with such great power of reach to the public if he knows how to take advantage of it has incredible potential, and he did it, he was not satisfied with having played baseball, a foundation was created which seeks to help young people who do not have the same possibilities of obtaining a good education you have, have helped thousands of



young people to receive a quality education, give them the pride of being able to obtain a title with their name recognizing what they have done.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of this work it is recommended that:

- We have to give the example, and show that nobody is different from anyone and less because of the skin color
- To culturalize people in this issue, that the only thing that has done is harm to the human being
- Promote the value of equality and inclusion without exceptions

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