

the 1968 assassination of robert kennedy answers

the 1968 assassination of robert kennedy answers provide valuable insight into one of the most pivotal and tragic events in American political history. Robert F. Kennedy, a prominent senator and presidential candidate, was fatally shot in June 1968, an event that sent shockwaves across the nation and altered the trajectory of American politics. Understanding the details surrounding his assassination, including the motives, the suspect, and the aftermath, is crucial for comprehending its lasting impact. This article delves into the key facts, the investigation results, conspiracy theories, and the broader historical context related to the assassination. By exploring these aspects, readers can gain a comprehensive understanding of the 1968 assassination of Robert Kennedy answers and their significance.

- The Background and Context of Robert Kennedy's Assassination
- The Night of the Assassination: What Happened?
- The Investigation and Official Findings
- Conspiracy Theories and Alternative Explanations
- The Aftermath and Historical Impact

The Background and Context of Robert Kennedy's Assassination

To fully grasp the significance of the 1968 assassination of Robert Kennedy answers, it is essential to understand the political and social climate of the time. Robert F. Kennedy was a leading figure in American politics, known for his advocacy on civil rights, social justice, and opposition to the Vietnam War. As a Democratic senator from New York and a presidential candidate, Kennedy attracted widespread support, especially from minority communities and young voters.

The year 1968 was marked by intense political turmoil, including the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and widespread protests against the Vietnam War. Kennedy's campaign symbolized hope for many Americans seeking change. His assassination occurred during a period of national unrest, further exacerbating the sense of crisis and grief. Recognizing this backdrop is key to understanding why the assassination had such a profound effect on the country.

Robert Kennedy's Political Career

Robert Kennedy's career was deeply intertwined with major political and social movements of the 1960s. As Attorney General under President John F. Kennedy and later as a senator, he championed causes such as civil rights enforcement, poverty reduction, and opposition to organized crime. His presidential campaign in 1968 emphasized unity, peace, and reform, appealing

to a broad coalition of voters.

Social and Political Climate of 1968

The year 1968 was one of the most turbulent in U.S. history. The nation was deeply divided over the Vietnam War, racial inequality, and political leadership. The assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in April 1968 led to riots and heightened tensions. Against this backdrop, Robert Kennedy's bid for the presidency represented a potential turning point, making his assassination all the more shocking and consequential.

The Night of the Assassination: What Happened?

The 1968 assassination of Robert Kennedy answers begin with the events of June 5, 1968, shortly after Kennedy won the California Democratic presidential primary. He was shot at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, a moment that was captured by numerous eyewitnesses and documented extensively by the media.

After delivering a victory speech in the hotel ballroom, Kennedy exited through the kitchen area where he was approached and shot multiple times by Sirhan Sirhan, a 24-year-old Palestinian immigrant. The shooting occurred at close range and was witnessed by many people present at the scene. Kennedy was rushed to the hospital but succumbed to his injuries on June 6, 1968.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who assassinated Robert F. Kennedy in 1968?

Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated by Sirhan Sirhan on June 5, 1968.

Where did the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy take place?

The assassination took place at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

What was Robert F. Kennedy doing when he was assassinated?

He was celebrating his victory in the California Democratic presidential primary when he was shot.

Was Sirhan Sirhan convicted for the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy?

Yes, Sirhan Sirhan was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

What was the motive behind Sirhan Sirhan's assassination of Robert F. Kennedy?

Sirhan Sirhan was reportedly motivated by his opposition to Kennedy's pro-Israel stance.

Did Robert F. Kennedy die immediately after the shooting?

No, Robert F. Kennedy died the next day, June 6, 1968, from his injuries.

How many shots were fired during the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy?

Sirhan Sirhan fired eight shots during the assassination.

Were there any conspiracy theories regarding the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy?

Yes, several conspiracy theories exist suggesting multiple shooters or cover-ups, but none have been conclusively proven.

What impact did Robert F. Kennedy's assassination have on the 1968 presidential election?

His assassination left the Democratic Party without one of its leading candidates, significantly altering the course of the 1968 election.

Where is Robert F. Kennedy buried?

Robert F. Kennedy is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Additional Resources

1. *"RFK Must Die: The Assassination of Robert F. Kennedy"* by Dan E. Moldea
This investigative book delves into the complex circumstances surrounding Robert F. Kennedy's assassination. Moldea explores various conspiracy theories and scrutinizes the official account of Sirhan Sirhan as the lone assassin. The book provides detailed background on RFK's political career and the turbulent atmosphere of 1968.

2. *"The Assassination of Robert F. Kennedy: Crime, Conspiracy, and Cover-Up"* by James H. Lesar

Lesar examines the evidence and testimonies related to Kennedy's assassination, challenging the findings of the official investigation. The book discusses potential motives and suspects beyond Sirhan Sirhan and highlights alleged inconsistencies in the case. It offers a critical look at government responses and possible cover-ups.

3. *"Shadow Play: The Unsolved Murder of Robert F. Kennedy"* by William Turner
Turner presents a comprehensive narrative of the night of the assassination and its aftermath. The book questions the official version and introduces alternative theories about who might have been involved. It also covers the

political impact of Kennedy's death on the United States.

4. *"The Robert F. Kennedy Assassination: New Revelations and Theories" by Robert Blair Kaiser*

Kaiser, a close observer of RFK, investigates new evidence and interviews key witnesses to shed light on the assassination. The book explores the possibility of a broader conspiracy and the role of intelligence agencies. It provides a gripping account of the events leading up to and following the shooting.

5. *"Robert Kennedy and His Times" by Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr.*

Though a biography, this book offers detailed insights into Robert Kennedy's life and the political climate before his assassination. Schlesinger, a close advisor to the Kennedy family, contextualizes the significance of RFK's death in American history. The assassination chapter provides a thoughtful reflection on its impact.

6. *"Who Killed Bobby?: The Unsolved Murder of Robert F. Kennedy" by Shane O'Sullivan*

O'Sullivan explores the mystery surrounding Kennedy's assassination with a focus on overlooked evidence and alternative suspects. The book investigates the possibility of multiple shooters and government involvement. It is a provocative examination of one of America's most enduring political mysteries.

7. *"Robert F. Kennedy: A Memoir" by Clinton Hill*

Written by one of RFK's closest aides, this memoir gives a personal perspective on Kennedy's life and his tragic assassination. Hill shares firsthand accounts of the events on the night of June 5, 1968. The book provides intimate details that highlight RFK's character and the shock of his death.

8. *"The Kennedy Detail: JFK's Secret Service Agents Break Their Silence" by Gerald Blaine and Lisa McCubbin*

While primarily focused on JFK, this book also touches on the security failures and lessons learned in the aftermath of RFK's assassination. It includes insider perspectives on protecting the Kennedy brothers amidst a climate of political violence. The book sheds light on the challenges faced by Secret Service agents during that era.

9. *"Sirhan: The Secret Life of Sirhan Sirhan" by Karl Taro Greenfeld*

This biography of Sirhan Sirhan, the convicted assassin, explores his background, motives, and mental state. Greenfeld investigates the complexities of the case, including questions about brainwashing and mind control. The book provides a nuanced look at the man behind the assassination.

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