



Civil Rights: Introduction

- Refer to those things that the government must do to provide equal protection and freedom from discrimination for all citizens.
- Traditionally, thought of as rooted in the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

RIGHTS OF CITIZENS **Civil Rights**

Positive acts of government that seek to make constitutional guarantees a reality for all people....

No discrimination on basis of race, sex, religious belief, etc.



Civil Rights: Introduction (cont.)

■ Early attempts at true protection were unsuccessful because the Supreme Court believed that it was not within its purview to stop non-governmental discrimination. Since the 1950s, the Court has enabled the government to offer broader protections to citizens' equality in social and economic

ANV E LANVA

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Keep a Sharp Look Out for KIDNAPPERS, and have TOP EYE open.

ABOLITIONISTS RESPOND

- Denounced by **Abolitionists**
- ■Harriet Beecher Stowe's, **Uncle Tom's** Cabin is published
- Abolitionists refuse to enforce the law
- Underground Railroad becomes more active

FUCITIVE SLAVE LAW

RESPONSE BY ABOLITIONISTS

"An immoral law makes it a man's duty to break it, at every hazard. For virtue is the very self of every man. It is therefore a principle of law that an immoral contract is void, and that an immoral statute is void. The Fugitive Slave Law is a statute which enacts the crime of kidnapping, a crime on one footing with arson and murder. A man's right to liberty is as inalienable as his right to life......" Ralph Waldo Emerson

"3 millions of the American people are crushed under the American Union! The government gives them no protection—the government is their enemy, the government keeps them no protection—the government is their enemy, the government keeps them in chains! The Union which grinds them to the dust rests upon us, and with we will struggle to overthrow it! The Constitution which subjects them to hopeless bondage is one that we cannot swear to support. Our motto is, 'No Union with Slaveholders'...We separate from them, to clear our skirts of innocent blood....and to hasten the downfall of slavery in America, and throughout the world!" **Lloyd Garrison**

FUCITIVE SLAVE LAW

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Southerners threatened secession and war

-Believed it should be enforced because the Constitution protects property and Federal law is over State law.

5th Amendment

-Supremacy Clause

Dred Scott Decision (1857)



DRED SCOTT DECISION



•Slave from Missouri traveled with his owner to Illinois & Minnesota both free states.

•His master died and Scott wanted to move back to Missouri---Missouri still recognized him as a slave.

•He sued his master's widow for his freedom since he had lived in a free state for a period of time.

•Court case went to the Supreme Court for a decision----National issue

·Can a slave sue for his freedom?

- •Is a slave property?
- ·Is slavery legal?

DRED SCOTT DECISION

•Supreme Court hands down the Dred Scott decision

•North refused to enforce Fugitive Slave Law

•Free states pass personal liberty laws.

•Republicans claim the decision is not binding

•Southerners call on the North to <u>accept the decision</u> if the South is to remain in the Union. •Slaves cannot sue the U.S. for

their freedom because they are property.

•They are not citizens and have no legal right under the Constitution.

Supreme Court legalized slavery by saying that

 Congress could not stop a slaveowner from moving his slaves to a new territory

 Missouri Compromise and all other compromises were unconstitutional

DRED SCOTT DECISION



Chief Justice Roger B.Taney (1777 to 1864) in the case of Dred Scott referred to the status of slaves when the Constitution was adopted.

"They had (slaves) for more than a century before been regarded as beings of an inferior order; and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations; and so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect. This opinion was at that time fixed and universal in the civilized portion of the white race."

What happened to Dred Scott?

1857 The Blow brothers, his former master's sons and childhood friends of Scott, had helped pay Scott's legal fees through the years. After the Supreme Court's decision, they purchased Scott and his wife and set them free.

Scott was 58 years old.

1858 Dred Scott died nine months after gaining his freedom. He is buried in St. Louis.





13th Amendment

- * Ratified in December, 1865.
- * Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction.
- ★ <u>Congress</u> shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Freedmen's Bureau (1865)



- ★ Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.
- * Many former northern abolitionists risked their lives to help southern freedmen.
- Called "carpetbaggers" by white southern Democrats.

Freedmen's Bureau Seen

Through Southern Eyes

Plenty to eat and nothing to do.



Freedmen's Bureau School



Mississippi Black Codes 1865

The Civil Rights of Freedmen in Mississippi

Section 1. Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Mississippi, That all freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded in all the courts of law and equity of this state, and may acquire personal property and choses in action, by descent or purchase, any may depose of the same, in the same manner, and to the same account the same property of the same, in this section shall not be so contribed as the property of the same, and to the same account and as the property of the same, and the provisions of this section shall not be so contribed as the property of the same. The Negro, or mulato to rent or lease any lands or tennements, except in incorporated town or offers in which places the corporate authorities shall control the same.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That all freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes may intermarry with each other, in the same manner and under the same regulations that are provided by law for white persons: Provided, that the clerk of probate shall keep separate records of the same.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That all freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes, who do now and have heretofore lived and cohabited together as husband and wife shall be taken and held in law as legally married, and the issue shall be taken and held as legilimate for all purposes. That it shall not be lawful for any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto to intermarry with any white person, nor for any white person to intermarry with any freedman, free Negro, or mulatto; any person who shall so intermarry shall be deemed guilty of felony and, on conviction thereof, shall be confined in the state penitentiary for life; and those shall be deemed freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes who are of pure Negro blood, and those descended from a Negro to the third generation inclusive, though one ancestor of each generation may have been a white person.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That in addition to cases in which freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes are now by law competent witnesses, freedmen, free Negroes, or mulattoes shall be competent in civil cases when a party or parties to the suit, either plaintiff or plaintiffs, defendant or defendants, also in cases where freedmen, free Negroes, and mulattoes is or are either plaintiff or plaintiffs, defendant or defendants, and a white person or white persons is or are the opposing party or parties, plaintiff or plaintiffs, defendant or defendants. They shall also be competent witnesses in all criminal prosecutions where the crime charged is alleged to have been committed by a white person upon or against the person or property of a freedman, free Negro, or mulatto: Provided that in all cases said witnesses shall be examined in open court on the stand, except, however, they may be examined before the grand jury, and shall in all cases be subject to the rules and tests of the common law as to competency and credibility.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That every freedman, free Negro, and

Black Codes

- ★ Purpose:
 - Guarantee stable labor supply now that blacks were emancipated.
 - * Restore pre-emancipation system of race relations.
- ★ Forced many blacks to become sharecroppers [tenant farmers].





14th Amendment

- ★ Ratified in July, 1868.
 - * Provide a constitutional guarantee of the rights and security of freed people.
 - Insure against neo-Confederate political power.
 - * Enshrine the national debt while repudiating that of the Confederacy.
- Southern states would be punished for denying the right to vote to black citizens!

The Balance of Power in Congress



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Black "Adjustment" in the South

CONGRESSIONAL RECONSTRUCTION in the South

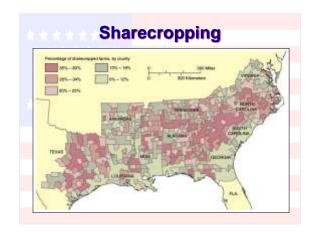
- "40 acres and a mule"
- tenants
- Sharecroppers
- crop lien system

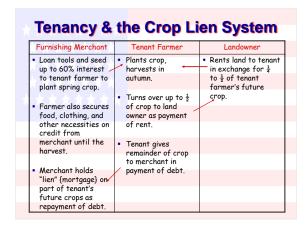


Sharecropper's cabin, North Carolina, 1914

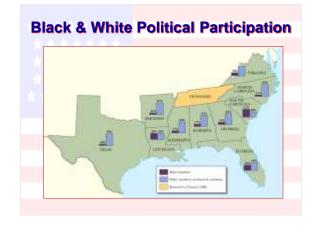


Freedmen in Richmond, Virginia, 1865

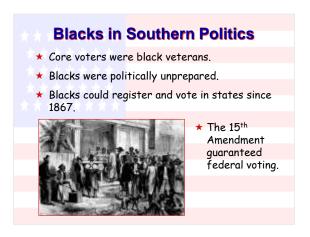




SHARECROPPING & THE CYCLE OF **DEBT** Poor whites & freedmen have no jobs, homes, or \$ to buy land **Sharecropper cannot** Poor whites & freedmen leave farm as long as he sign contracts to work is in debt to landlord. landlord's acreage for part of the crop. At harvest, sharecropper owes more to landlord Landlord keeps track of than his share of the crop the \$\$ that sharecroppers is worth. owe for housing and food.







15th Amendment

- Ratified in 1870.
- * The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.
- * The <u>Congress</u> shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.
- * Women's rights groups were furious that they were not granted the vote!



The "Invisible Empire of the South"





The Failure of Federal Enforcement

★ Enforcement Acts of 1870 & 1871 [also known as the KKK Act].



- * "The Lost Cause."
- ★ The rise of the "Bourbons."
- * Redeemers
 (prewar
 Democrats and
 Union Whigs).

The Civil Rights Act of 1875

- Crime for any individual to deny full & equal use of public conveyances and public places.
- Prohibited discrimination in jury selection.
- ★ Shortcoming → lacked a strong enforcement mechanism.
- ★ No new civil rights act was attempted for 90 years!

After Reconstruction and the beginning Segregation and Jim Crow laws.

SECRECATION

•In 1870, <u>15th Amendment</u>, Black men and former were given the right to vote.

 After Reconstruction 1876, Southern states kept Blacks from voting and segregated, or separating people by the color of their skin in public facilities.

 Jim Crow laws, laws at the local and state level which segregated whites from blacks and kept African Americans as 2nd class citizens and from voting.

•poll taxes
•literacy tests
•grandfather clause

Jim Grow Laws

Poll Taxes: Before you could vote, you had to pay taxes to vote. Most poor Blacks could not pay the tax so they didn't vote.

Literacy Test: You had to prove you could read and write before you could vote....
Once again, most poor Blacks were not literate.

Grandfather clause: If your grandfather voted in the 1864 election than you could vote.....Most Blacks did not vote in 1864, so you couldn't vote....



Slavery in the United States

- Ending servitude
 - □ The Thirteenth Amendment (1865) prohibits slavery within the United States.
 - □ The Fourteenth Amendment (1868) established that all persons born in the United States are citizens and no state shall deprive citizens of their rights under the Constitution.
 - □ The Fifteenth Amendment (1870) established the right of citizens to vote.



Early Civil Rights Legislation

- The Civil Rights Acts of 1865 to 1875
 Aimed at the Southern states.
 Attempted to prevent states from passing laws that would circumvent the amendments
- The Civil Rights Cases (1883)
 Invalidated much of the civil rights legislation in the Civil Rights cases.

The Ku Klux Klan

- Certain angry whites were driven underground because of the presence of the federal "bluecoats". They started the "Invisible Empire of the South", better known as the
- "Ku Klux Klan" in Tennessee (1866).
 - The KKK thrived on fear men (and their horses) were masked in order to ensure secrecy from reprisals by the federal military.
 - They burned ("purified") crosses, threatened blacks who didn't "know their place", and often lynched any who would defy them.
- Racist whites used other tricks as well. To disenfranchise blacks, literacy tests to weed out illiterate blacks from voting, were put into effect.
 - Later, when many illiterate whites were also weeded out, "grandfather clauses" were put into place. In these, if your grandfather had voted, well, then you could to! Obviously, if you were a former slave, YOUR grandfather certainly had NOT voted!



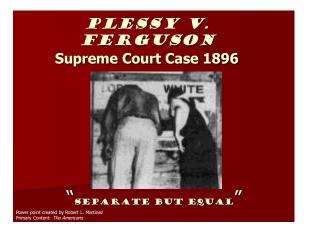












■ In 1892, Homer Plessy took a seat in the "whites only" car of a train and refused to move. He was arrested, and convicted for breaking Louisiana's segregation law.





■ Plessy appealed, claiming that he had been denied equal protection under the law. The Supreme Court handed down its decision on May 18, 1896.



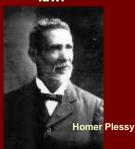
Homer Plessy

■ The Supreme Court ruled that separatebut-equal facilities for blacks and whites did not violate the Constitution.



Miami, Florida

Plessy claimed that segregation violated his right to equal protection under the law.

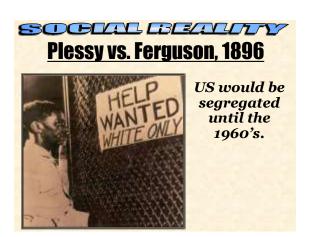


■ Supreme Court Justice Henry B. Brown ruled, "the object of the 14th amendment ... could not have been intended to abolish distinctions based upon color... or a commingling of the two races."

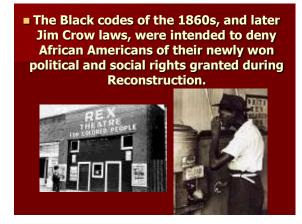


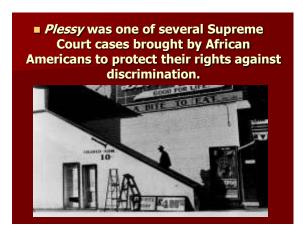
■ Justice John Marshall Harlan dissented from the majority opinion, "In respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law...the seeds of race hate...planted under the sanction of law...the thin disguise of 'equal' accommodations...will not mislead anyone, nor atone for the wrong this day done."





■ In the decades following the Civil War, Southern states passed laws that aimed to limit civil rights for African Americans.





■ In these cases, the Supreme Court regularly ignored the 14th Amendment and upheld state laws that denied blacks their rights.



Plessy was the most important of these cases because the Supreme Court used it to establish the separate-but-equal doctrine.



As a result, city and state governments across the South, and in some other states, maintained their segregation laws for more than half of the 20th century.



■ These laws limited African Americans' access to most public facilities, including restaurants, schools, and hospitals.



■ Signs reading "Colored Only" and "Whites Only" served as constant reminders that facilities in segregated societies were separate but not equal.

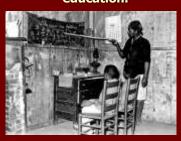


■ It took many decades to abolish legal segregation. During the first half of the 20th century, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) led the legal fight to overturn *Plessy*.

■ It was not until 1954 in Brown v. Board of Education that the Supreme Court overturned any part of Plessy.



■ In Brown v. Board of Education, the **Supreme Court said that separate-but**equal was unconstitutional in public education.



■ In later years, the Supreme Court overturned the separate-but-equal doctrine, using the Brown decision . For example, in 1955, Rosa Parks was convicted for violating a Montgomery, Alabama law for segregated seated on buses.





A federal court overturned Park's conviction, finding such segregation unconstitutional. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, which upheld without comment the lower court's decision, signaling the end of *Plessy* in any fashion.





- Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka Overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- "With All Deliberate Speed." □States were ordered to eliminate segregation policies with all deliberate speed.



School Integration

- De facto segregation—racial segregation that occurs because of past social and economic conditions and residential racial patterns.
- De jure segregation—racial segregation that occurs because of laws or administrative decisions by public agencies.
- Court-Ordered Busing
- The Resurgence of Minority Schools



Improving Conditions for African Americans

Lynching - Ida Wells - The Red Record.





The Anti-Lynching Campaign

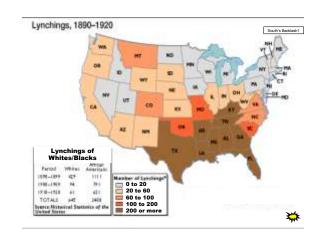
"No torture of helpless victims by heathen savages or cruel red Indians ever exceeded the cold-blooded savagery of white devils under lynch law. This was done by white men who controlled all the forces of law and order in their communities and who could have legally punished rapists and murderers, especially black men who had neither political power nor financial strength with which to evade any justly deserved fate...the Southerner ha[s] never gotten over his resentment that the Negro was no longer his plaything, his servant, and his source of income."

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Ida B. Wells

(Crusade for Justice, 1928)

According to the Tuskegee Institute, 4,742 lynchings occurred between 1882-1968. 90% of the victims were Southern 73% of the victims were black 27% of the victims were white



Lynching took the place of "the merry-go-round, the theatre, symphony orchestra" (H.L. Mencken)

For which crime was someone lynched?

For illegal crimes, such as murder, rape, or theft

But also, people were lynched for insulting a white person, buying a car...

Or even, especially if it was a black lynching, for no crime at all. Just to remind blacks to stay in their



ANTI LYNCHING LEGISLATION

- Look at the following Anti Lynching Legislation
 - -What do you see?
 - -Are there any common themes
 - -How does Federalism apply?

Anti-Lynching Legislation

Dyer Bill (1921) Provisions:

- Lynching: "murder of a U.S. citizen by a mob of 3+ people
- Sheriff/official who fails to protect prisoner is guilt of felony
- U.S. government can prosecute lynchers if state government does not
- County in which lynching occurs must pay \$10,000 to victim's family

Passed in H.O.R./Filibuster in Senate

Anti-Lynching Legislation

Wagner-Costigan Bill (1934) Provisions:

- mob: 3+ persons
- State officer's neglect--->5 yr prison sentence and \$5,000 fine
- Conspirators-->5-25 yr prison sentence
- County where lynching occurs: \$2,000-\$10,000 fine (to family, or to federal government if there is no family)
 - ✓ To prove that summary execution does not save the public money

Does not openly condemn lynchingcriminalizes negligence by officials

Was also defeated by Southern Senators in a filibuster

Anti-Lynching Legislation

Wagner-Van Nuys Bill + Gavagan Bill (1937)

- Pro-legislation senators willing to protest the filibuster, but faced strong dissent from Southern senators
- FDR decided not to speak out against the filibuster
- The anti-lynching movement had seventy senators and therefore, had the opportunity to challenge the filibuster and force a vote. But not all seventy were willing to challenge FDR's decision nor stir resentment in Southern senators because of their control over several committees

Presidential Reactions to Lynching

"loosening of the bonds of civilization" black man's runaway sexual appetite educated blacks could help eliminate the practice of lynching if they turned in fellow colored criminals to the state

Teddy Roosevelt

Any American "who takes part in the action of a mob...is no true son of this great democracy, but its betrayer"

Woodrow Wilson, as motivated by the NAACP Lynching is a "very sore spot on our boast of civilization"

Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly, representative democracy" (1921)

Warren Harding

On Monday, June 12, 2005, the Senate passed a non-binding resolution apologizing for not enacting anti-lynching legislation.

The Senate "expresses the deepest sympathies and most solemn regrets of the Senate to the descendants of victims of lynching, the ancestors of whom were deprived of life, human dignity and the constitutional protections accorded all citizens of the United States."



African Americans 1930s and 1940s

Migration and the New Deal

- In the years between the Civil War and the 1940s, many African Americans migrated from the South to northern cities.
- During the Depression, Roosevelt and others courted black votes to support New Deal initiatives.
- Under Roosevelt, the number of African Americans working for the federal government rose significantly.

World War II and the NAACP

- A shortage of labor during World War II led many more African Americans to the North.
- As Americans fought a war against discrimination in Europe, many began to think about the discrimination taking place at home.
- The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) worked hard in the courts to challenge segregation laws.



Laying the Groundwork: The NAACP

- Although the civil rights movement had no one central organization, several groups formed to share information and coordinate activities. One of these was the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
- The NAACP was founded in 1909 as an interracial organization, one with both African American and white American members.
 W.E.B. Du Bois, a founding member, helped define the NAACP's goals.
- During the 1920s and 1930s, the NAACP won many legal victories, especially in the areas of housing and education.
- Despite these victories, the NAACP received criticism from poorer African Americans, who claimed that it was out of touch with the issues of basic economic survival.



Other Civil Rights Organizations

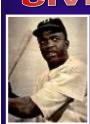
The National Urban League

- ☐ Founded in 1911, the National Urban League helped African Americans who were moving to northern cities.
- The League helped African Americans find homes and jobs in the cities, and insisted that employers help them learn skills which could lead to better jobs.

The Congress of Racial Equality

- □ In 1942, the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) was founded to help bring about change peacefully
- help bring about change peacefully.

 Like the NAACP, CORE was an interracial organization which argued against discrimination and segregation.
- CORE came to have a major role in civil rights confrontations of the 1950s and 1960s.



African American WWII veterans returned to lim Crow and discrimination

to <u>Jim Crow</u> and <u>discrimination</u>.

During <u>WWI</u>, <u>Europeans treated Black</u>

RIG

- ■1948, President Truman signed into law the *Civil Rights Act of 1948*
 - Integrated the military

soldiers as equals.

- Integrated the federal government.
- "Jackie Robinson broke the "colored barrier" and played major league baseball with the Brooklyn Dodgers.....1947 to 1956
- ■1950's, begins the <u>Civil Rights movement</u> for equality in society.



The Civil Rights Movement



- Martin Luther King's Philosophy of Nonviolence
 - Nonviolent marches and demonstrations
- Another Approach: Black Power.
 - □ Leaders such as Malcolm X advocated a more forceful approach than King. They also resisted the impulse to cultural assimilation that was implied by the integrationist philosophy.

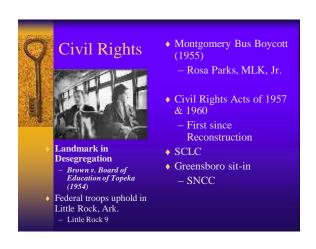


Civil Rights Background

- Post WWI & WWII movement to urban areas
- African Americans influencing party politics by the 1950s
- Conflicting feelings about Cold War message of freedom and democracy











Brown v Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas

- In 1951, Oliver Brown wanted his 8-year-old daughter to attend a Topeka, Kansas school, which only white children were permitted to attend.
- Brown sued the Topeka Board of Education, and his case reached the Supreme Court. Thurgood Marshall of the NAACP argued Brown's case.
- On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court issued its ruling in the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas case. In this ruling, the court supported Brown's case for desegregation, stating that, "Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."
- A year later, the Court ruled that local school boards should move to desegregate "with all deliberate speed."





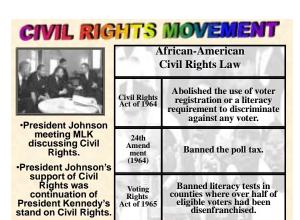
Early Civil Rights Legislation · President Eisenhower signed into law the following Civil Rights laws. Created the United States Civil **Rights Commission Rights** Investigated and reported voter Act of discrimination 1957 Gave the Attorney General the power to require federal courts to issue orders to prevent any interference Civil with a person's right to vote **Rights** Created federal voting referees who Act of

voter discrimination

helped correct conditions to prevent







The Civil Rights Act of 1964

The Law

1960

- · More far-reaching than the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1960, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 abolished the use of voter registration or a literacy requirement to discriminate against any
- · Its enforcement relied on judicial action and the use of injunctions—court orders that either force or restrain specific acts.

The Aftermath

- The violent response of civilians and police and state troopers to a voter registration drive mounted by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, Alabama showed that the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960 and 1964 were still not enough to ensure voter equality.
- Led to the 24th Amendment and Voting Rights Act of 1965.



The Civil Rights Act of 1964

Johnson's Role

- After Kennedy was assassinated, President Johnson worked to build support for Kennedy's civil rights bill.
- The house passed the bill, but civil rights opponents in the Senate stalled it with a filibuster. This technique involved preventing a vote on a measure by taking the floor and refusing to stop talking.

The Act Is Passed

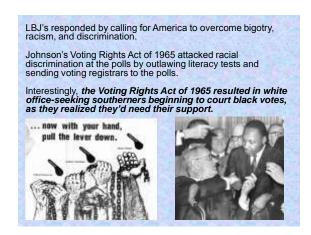
- Johnson countered the filibuster with a procedure called cloture, a threefifths vote to limit debate and call for a vote.
- In June 1964, the Senate voted for cloture. Soon afterwards, the bill passed. becoming the Civil Rights Act of 1964

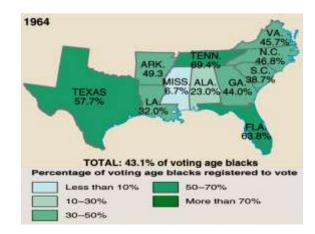


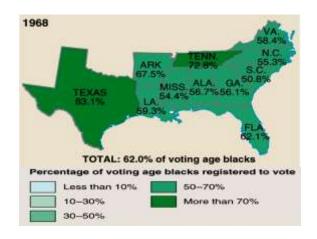
Provisions of the Civil Rights Act

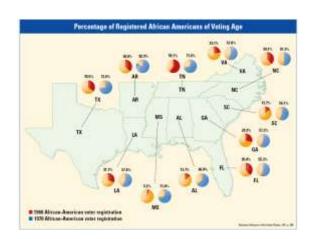
Some Provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

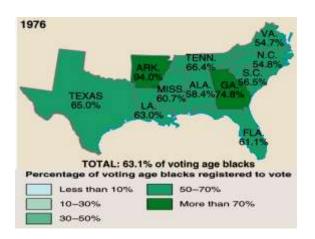
- Title I Banned the use of different voter registration standards for blacks and whites
- Title II Prohibited discrimination in public accommodations such as restaurants, hotels, and theaters
- Title VI Allowed the withholding of federal funds from programs that practice discrimination
- Title VII Banned discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin by employers and unions and created the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

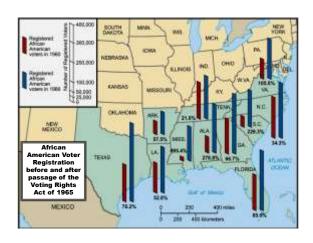


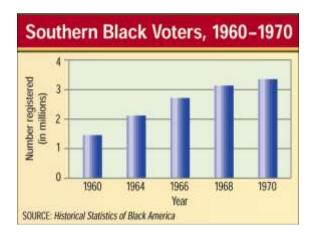






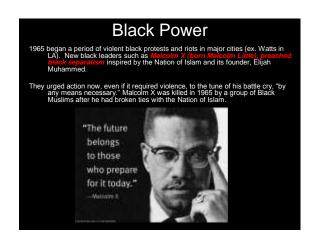






















Riots in the Streets

- The early civil rights movement had focused on *de jure* segregation, racial separation created by law.
- As laws changed, however, de facto segregation remained. This separation was caused by social conditions such as poverty.
- Frustration and anger over de facto segregation, especially in ghetto neighborhoods, led to riots in several cities.
- The worst of these occurred in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Watts, where an encounter between a black man and the police touched off six days of rioting that left many killed or injured.
- In response to these riots, the federal government set up a special National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders. In 1968, the Commission concluded that the riots were caused by issues that had been smoldering in ghettos for many years.





