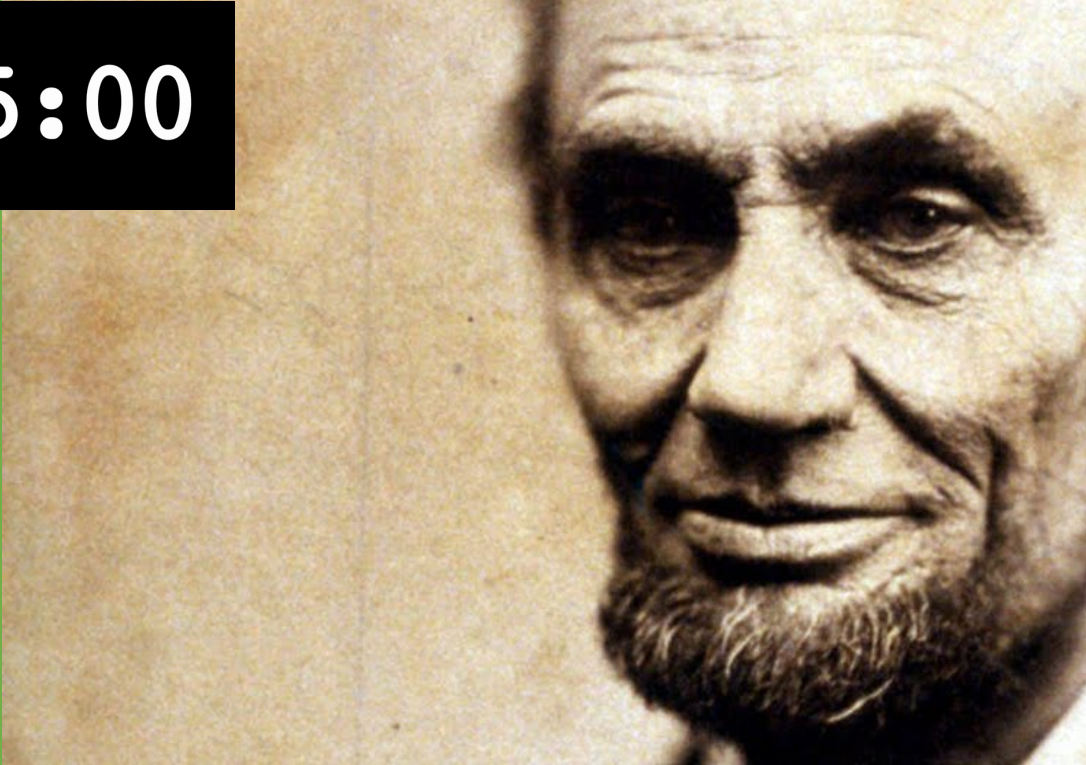


"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

-- Abraham Lincoln

05:00



Please pick up a notes handout for today from the front middle desk!

Before moving on to the rest of the 1960s, let's make sure we understand the evolution of the

The Civil Rights Movement



"The assertion that "all men are created equal" was of no practical use in effecting our separation from Great Britain... it was placed in the Declaration not for that, but for future use."

-- Abraham Lincoln



Where we left off...

“Civil Rights – The Developing Movement from the 1950s into the 1960s”

A. What was the status of race relations after WWII?

IN YOUR NOTES:

Nothing specific to write down here, just an opportunity to brainstorm what you know based on the reading you've done thus far and the discussions we've had!

Where we left off...

After WWII, America enjoyed the comforts of peace and prosperity.

However, nearly 100 years after the Civil War, Black Americans still faced disenfranchisement, segregation, and various forms of oppression, including race-inspired violence.

Think back...

What happened after the Civil War?

Was progress made in the area of Civil Rights?

Optional review of Reconstruction (on your Final Exam!)

Reconstruction

Reconstruction (1865-1877) was the turbulent era following the Civil War. It was the effort to reintegrate Southern states from the Confederacy and 4 million newly-freed slaves into the United States.

Optional review of Reconstruction

Reconstruction: **Progress**

During Reconstruction a multitude of Constitutional measures were intended to bring equality to the newly freed slaves (this included the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments that gave black Americans freedom from slavery, equal protection under the law, and the right to vote).

For a brief period, known as Radical Reconstruction newly enfranchised blacks gained a voice in government for the first time in American history, winning election to southern state legislatures and even to the U.S. Congress. These years of Radical Reconstruction were the most progressive in the region's history. The participation of African Americans in southern public life after 1867 would be by far the most radical development of Reconstruction, which was essentially a **large-scale experiment in interracial democracy unlike that of any other society following the abolition of slavery.**

Optional review of Reconstruction

Violence Ends Reconstruction

IMPORTANT

After 1867, an increasing number of southern whites turned to violence in response to the revolutionary changes of Radical Reconstruction. The Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist organizations targeted local Republican leaders, white and black, and other African Americans who challenged white authority.

Though federal legislation took aim at the Klan and others who attempted to interfere with black suffrage and other political rights, over time and after economic disruption in the early 1870s, support for Reconstruction in the north waned and white supremacy gradually reasserted its hold on the South. In less than a decade, the changes wrought by Radical Reconstruction were reversed.

Optional review of Reconstruction

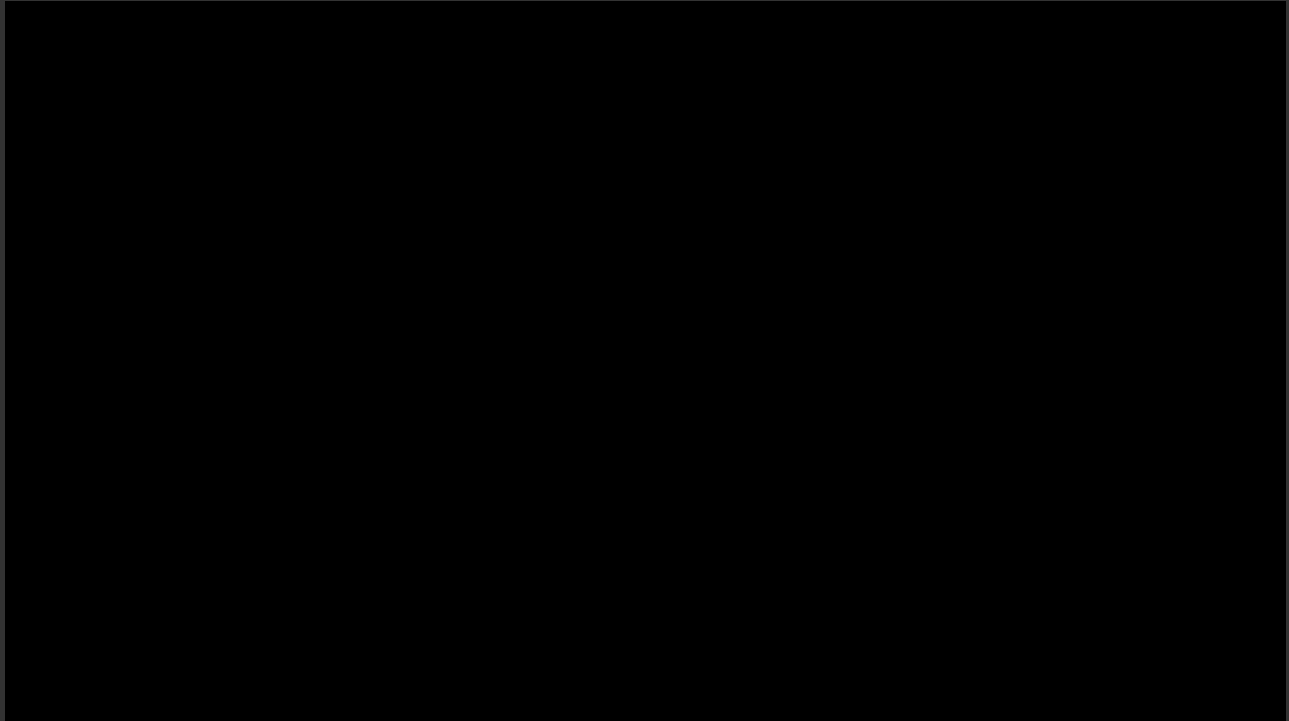
IMPORTANT

With legalized segregation, “**Jim Crow Laws**” were passed in the South that insured black Americans remained second-class citizens between 1896 and the 1960s.

Disenfranchisement, discrimination, educational inequity, economic stratification, a horrifying convict leasing system, and a deeply segregated society grew stronger, not weaker, over time.

In 1896, the United States Supreme Court case Plessy v Ferguson ruled a “separate, but equal” society WAS constitutional.

Optional video review of Plessy vs. Ferguson.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sj54KP16llw>

IMPORTANT

Though many people are familiar with the image of “separate, but equal” schools, bathrooms, restaurants, hotel entrances and drinking fountains, **some may not understand the all-encompassing legal system that created a distinctly separate life for blacks and whites.**

IMPORTANT

These codes not only made **marriage between blacks and whites illegal**; they also made it illegal for blacks and whites to play games such as checkers together, or to read and **hold the same books in a library**. It was illegal for a white nurse to care for black male patients in a hospital or nursing home. It was even illegal for a teacher in Oklahoma to **educate a mixed-race class and was considered a misdemeanor**. In Birmingham, Alabama, the city passed segregation codes that designated “white” and “black” residential districts, making it **illegal for black Americans to live in the same neighborhoods as whites**. When black Birmingham residents bought houses that were considered “too close” to white neighborhoods, their homes were bombed.

The bombings became so prevalent that by the 1950s, the area called Fountain Heights in Birmingham became known as “Dynamite Hill.”

IMPORTANT - ACTUALLY READ THIS

While blacks and whites were kept legally separate, there was also a deep and comprehensive etiquette system that ensured white supremacy. For instance, a black man could not shake the hand of a white man (because it implied equality), nor could a black man talk to or take the hand of a white woman (indicated possible rape). Black individuals always addressed whites with Mr., Mrs., Miss, while whites called black individuals by their first names, or simply just “girl” or “boy”. While black consumers were encouraged for economic reasons to frequent department stores, this strict etiquette would not allow them to try on clothes or shoes in the store before purchase. If a black mother wanted to buy shoes for her children, she had to measure their feet beforehand. It was unacceptable for whites to touch or be touched by anything utilized by blacks. The irony of course is that it was quite acceptable for a white family to hire a black domestic worker to cook and clean their homes, as well as care for their children.

Optional but recommended: [CLICK HERE](#) to read examples of actual Jim Crow Laws

IMPORTANT

This deep-seated caste system was held to at any cost. Scores of black Americans who attempted to obtain their economic, political and social rights endured beatings, bombings, lynchings and mobs of white individuals who refused to allow black citizens their civil rights.

Yet, by the 1950s, black Americans began to make headway in the courts.

IMPORTANT - ACTUALLY READ THIS

In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the “separate but equal” doctrine that formed the basis for state-sanctioned discrimination,

drawing national and international attention to Black Americans’ plight. In the turbulent decade and a half that followed, civil rights activists used nonviolent protest and civil disobedience to bring about change, and the federal government made legislative headway with initiatives such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Many leaders from within the Black American community and beyond rose to prominence during the Civil Rights era.

They risked — and sometimes lost— their lives in the name of freedom and equality.

REX THEATRE FOR COLORED PEOPLE



LOUIS
PASTOR

RANDALL

WHITE
WOMEN
COLORED
WOMEN

WHITE
MEN
COLORED
MEN

COLORED



MATINEE

WHEN YOU DRINK A



A BITE TO EAT

COLORED · ADM.
10¢



CASH-NITE
FRIDAY

\$400⁰⁰



COLORED WAITING ROOM

GATE
4





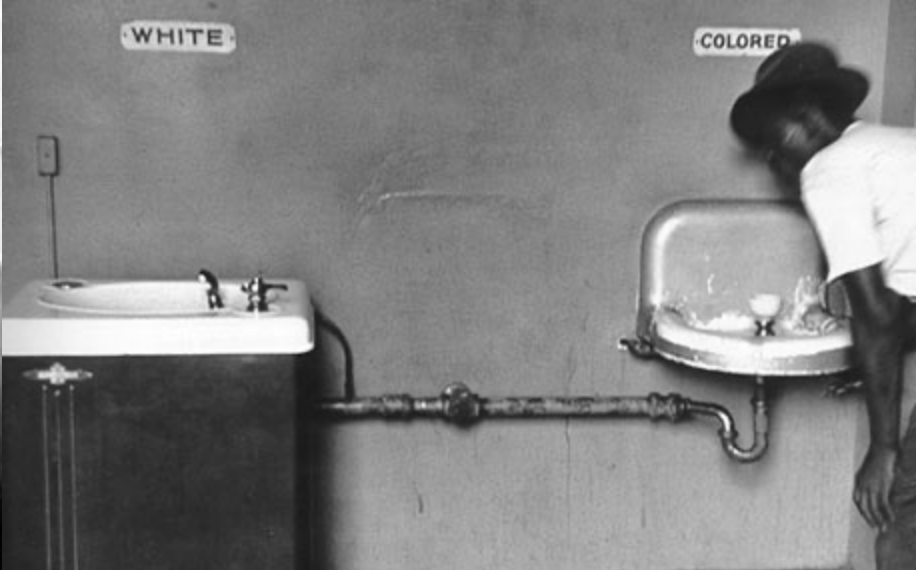
HELP
WANTED
WHITE ONLY

**IMPERIAL
LAUNDRY CO.**

**WE WASH FOR
WHITE PEOPLE ONLY**



WAITING ROOM
FOR WHITE ONLY
←
BY ORDER
POLICE DEPT.



COLORED SERVED
IN REAR

WE SERVE
WHITE'S *only*
NO
SPANISH & MEXICANS

REST ROOMS



WHITE ONLY

Aug. 2, 1926



Let's think about

“Separate But Equal”

And Its Consequences

George Wallace view of segregation was as follows :

(he was the Governor of Alabama who was famous for saying “segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever!”)

“White and colored have lived together in the South for generations in peace and equanimity. They each prefer their own pattern of society, their own churches and their own schools—which history and experience have proven are best for best for both races”

Let's Evaluate...

think

CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE

What problems arise with a policy of "separate but equal"?

What intended and unintended consequences might segregation have on people?



The "Doll Test" & Effects of "Separate But Equal"

The pictures to the left show an experiment performed by Mamie and Kenneth Clark, psychologists trying to understand effects of segregation.

The experiment which involved white and brown-skinned dolls was deceptively simple (in a reflection of the racial biases of the time, the Clarks had to paint a white baby doll brown for the tests, since African-American dolls were not yet manufactured). The children were asked to identify the diapered dolls in a number of ways: the one they wanted to play with, the one that looked "white," "colored," or "Negro," the one that was "good" or "bad." Finally, they were asked to identify the doll that looked most like them.

All of the children tested were black, and all but one group attended segregated schools. Most of the children preferred the white doll to the African-American one. Some of the children would cry and run out of the room when asked to identify which doll looked like them. These results upset the Clarks so much that they delayed publishing their conclusions.

REQUIRED

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR A REQUIRED VIDEO



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mcCLm_LwpE

**QUESTIONING
SEGREGATION**

&

**CIVIL RIGHTS EVENTS
OF THE 1950s**

The demand for equality grew in the 1950s.

WHY?

Factors:

- 1) Migration to Northern or western cities →
- 2) Increased voice in politics →
- 3) Rising influence of organizations like NAACP



The demand for equality grew in the 1950s.

WHY?

4) **IMPORTANT: WWII and Cold War** set the stage for change:

Both events **forced Americans to define and defend American principles: freedom, democracy, and equal protection under the law.**

This ideological climate would bring the **contradictions in American practice vs American principles** to the forefront.

Did all agree?

In your reading
from last week!

Troubled by the horrific treatment black American WWII veterans faced upon their return to the country, Democratic President Harry Truman initiated the first federal civil rights action in years – desegregating the armed forces and the federal civil service.

Desegregation in other areas would follow, but not without resistance.

Remember: This event split the Democratic party.

Un-doing "Separate but Equal"



In your reading
from last week!

Brown vs. Board of Education - 1954

1951: Oliver Brown (with 8 year old daughter) sued Topeka, Kansas, Board of Education

May 17, 1954: Supreme Court issued historic ruling:

- 1) Declared separate but equal is **unconstitutional**
- 2) Ruled school boards should move to desegregate *"with all deliberate speed"*



The News
**HIGH COURT BANS
SEGREGATION IN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Statement from the Supreme Court

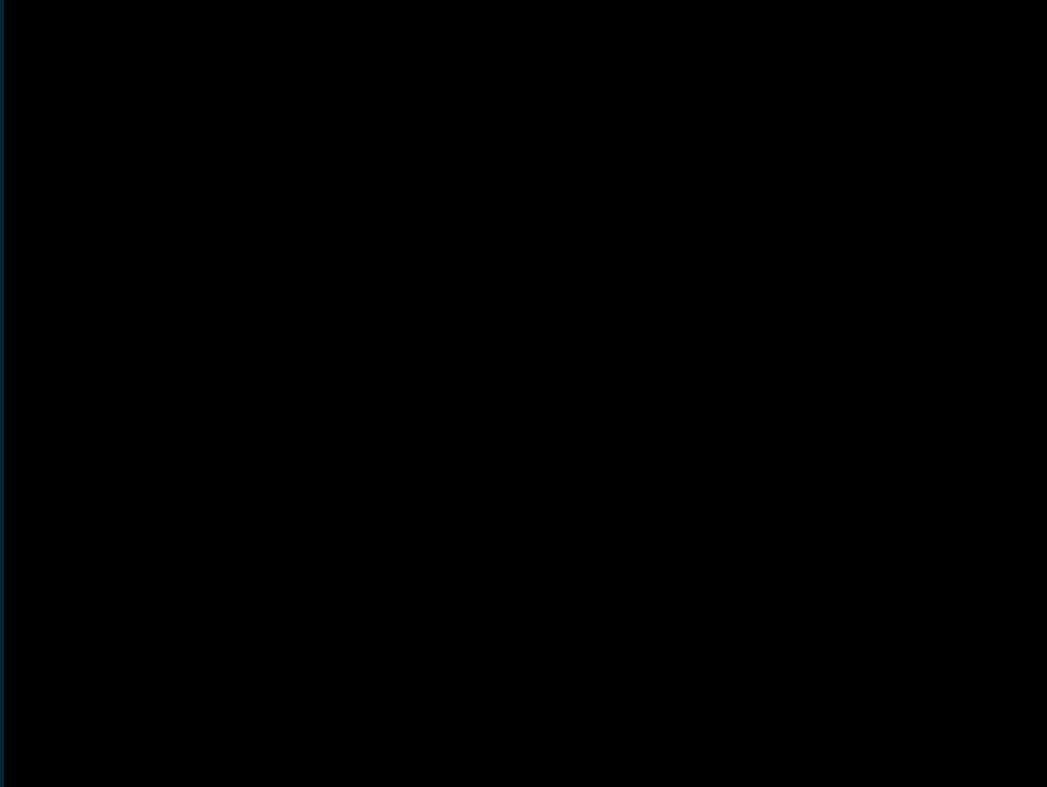


"Does segregation of children in public schools solely on the basis of race... deprive the children of the minority group of equal educational opportunities? We believe that it does... To separate them from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely to ever be undone... We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place.

Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal. –
Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren

Un-doing "separate but equal"

Optional Help On Brown v. Board of Education



<https://youtu.be/OT-Cuh-8oEo>

think

CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE

In what ways was this event significant?



IMPORTANT!

IMPACT

Unanimously overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson*

The Supreme Court had ruled that legal segregation **violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment**. This paved the way for integration.

It was a major victory for the early Civil Rights movement.

WHAT WAS THE REACTION?

Many, even if didn't agree, hoped desegregation could occur peaceful.

BUT

Many other Southern whites reacted with fear and angry sometimes violent resistance.



- 100 members of Congress opposed with what they called the “Southern Manifesto”
 - *Their Reasoning?* Argued Supreme Court overstepped its bounds and “had no legal basis for such action”
 - Claimed this federal decision violated the state's rights to make its own decision about education (some white Southerners argued they were being deprived of “self-government”)
- 11 southern states enacted resolutions interfering with, protesting, or even nullifying school desegregation!
- KKK became more active

THE SOUTHERN MANIFESTO

“We pledge ourselves to use all lawful means to bring about a reversal of this decision, which is contrary to the constitution, and to prevent the use of force in its implementation.”

- From the Congressional Record



Deprived of the Power of Self-Government *William Simmons*

States' rights became a rallying cry in the South after the Brown decision in 1954. William Simmons, a leader of the segregationist Citizens' Council, describes his reaction when black student James Meredith integrated the University of Mississippi in 1962.

When Meredith was brought in to Ole Miss by the U.S. marshals and the riots broke out, I was in the Citizens' Council office in Jackson... There was a lot of excitement because rumors

were flying that Governor Barnett would be arrested by United States marshals. Many people, probably several thousand, surrounded the governor's mansion... as a sort of human barrier, to protect the governor... We thought the use of marshals was pretty bad. We viewed the whole episode as an attack on the authority of the state....

After it was all over, the next day was a beautiful fall day... We were on the third floor, and my wife was standing there

beside me. We looked at the people walking down the street, normally going about their everyday affairs, and I turned to her and I said, "These people have just been deprived of the power of self-government, and they don't know it." That's the shock. The realization came to me that the enormous usurpation of power by the federal government had succeeded and from then on things would never be the same

Violence Captures National Attention

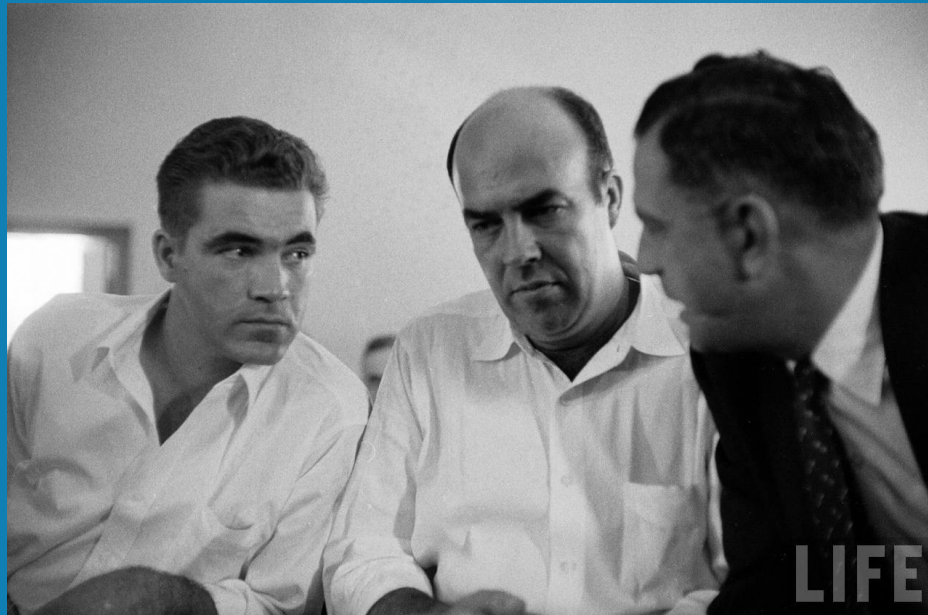
The Story of Emmett Till, 1955

“On August 1955, a 14-year-old boy from Chicago named **Emmett Till** had recently arrived in Money, **Mississippi** to visit relatives. While in a grocery store, he allegedly whistled and made a flirtatious remark to the white woman behind the counter, violating the strict racial codes of the Jim Crow South.”



"...Three days later, two white men – the woman's husband, Roy Bryant, and his half-brother, J.W. Milam – dragged Till from his great uncle's house in the middle of the night. After beating the boy, they shot him to death and threw his body in the Tallahatchie River.

The two men confessed to kidnapping Till but were acquitted of murder charges by an all-white, all-male jury after barely an hour of deliberations. Knowing that Double-Jeopardy protected them from being charged with the same crime twice, Bryant and Milam later sat down with a journalist and shared vivid details of how they killed Till, which published their confessions under the headline 'The Shocking Story of Approved Killing in Mississippi.'"

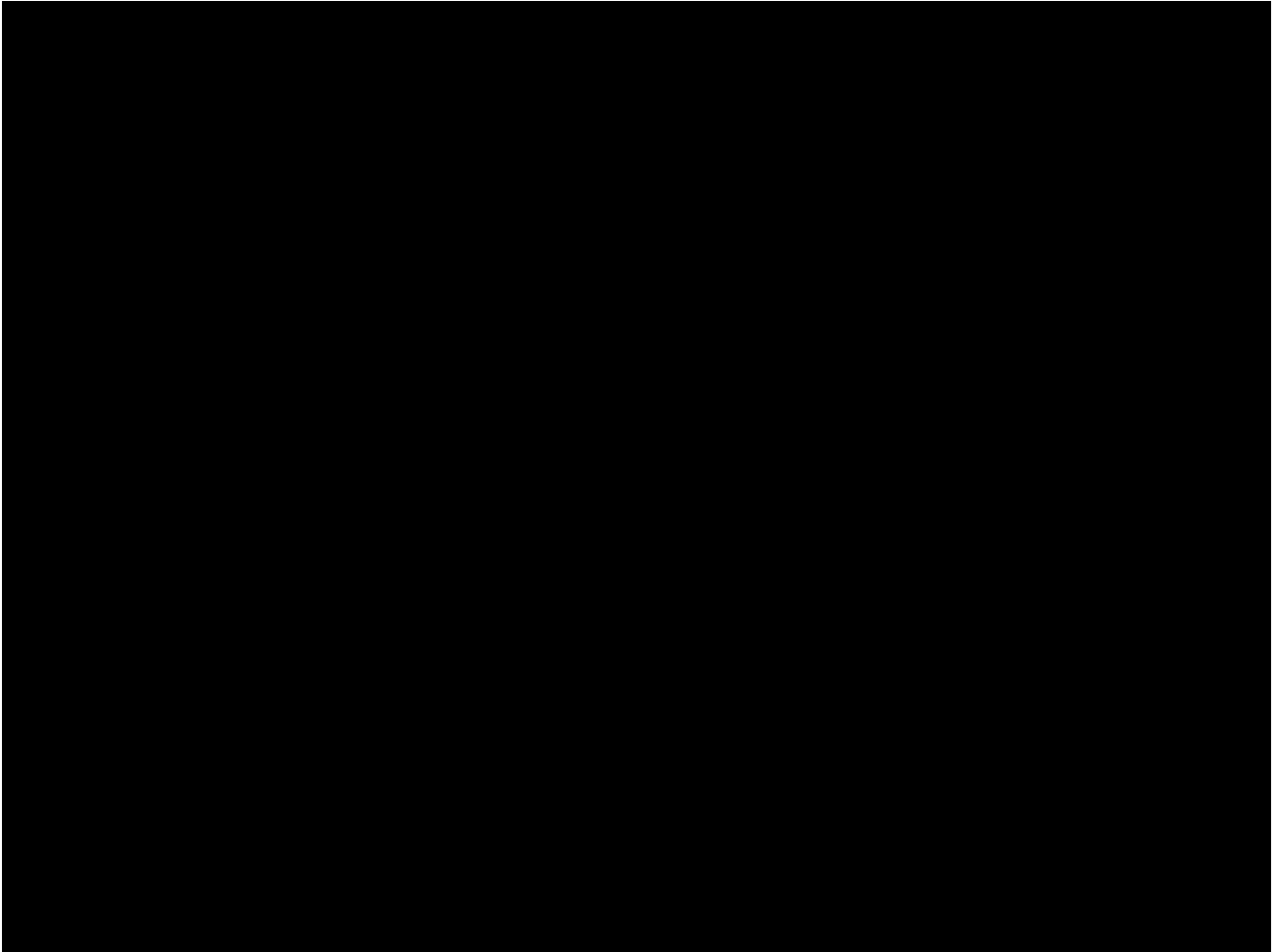




"Till's mother held an open-casket funeral for her son in Chicago, hoping to bring public attention to the brutal murder. Thousands of mourners attended, and Jet magazine published a photo of the corpse. **International outrage over the crime and the verdict helped fuel the civil rights movement:** just three months after Emmett Till's body was found, and a month after a Mississippi grand jury refused to indict Milam and Bryant on kidnapping charges, a city-wide bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama would begin the movement in earnest."

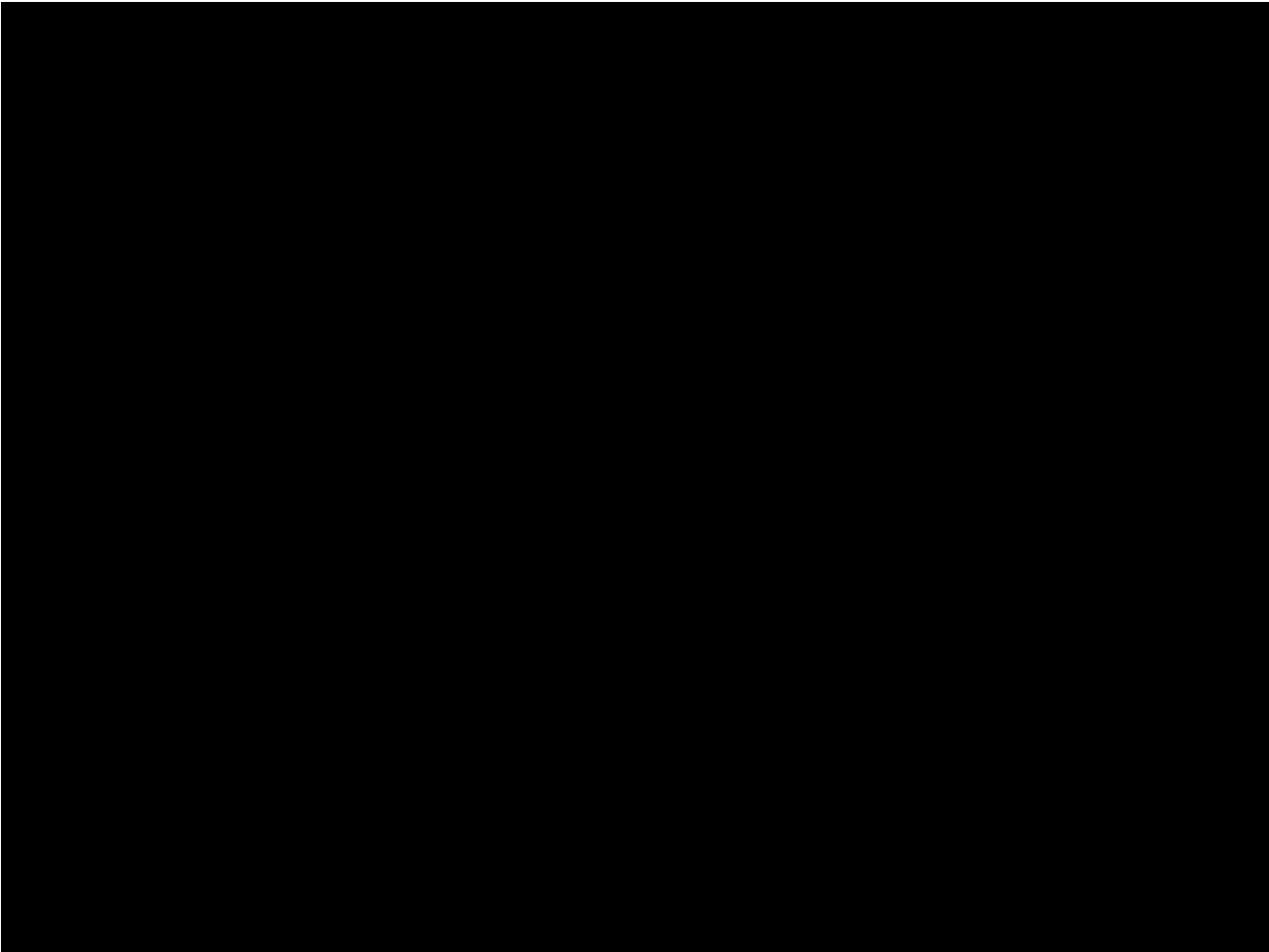
-- Excerpt from History Channel "Black History Milestones" Interactive Timeline

Optional clip from documentary on Emmitt Till – Part 1



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHI-uwT3qal>

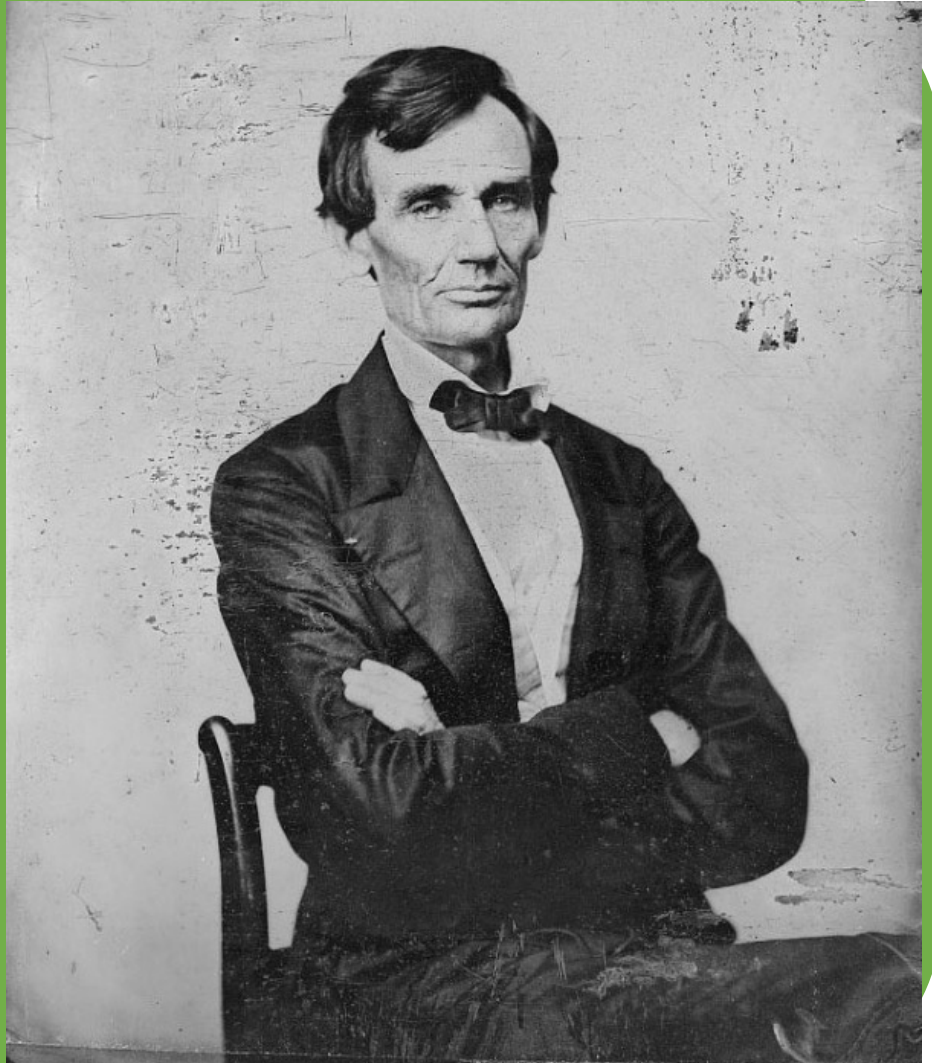
Optional clip from documentary on Emmitt Till - Part 2



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkrgPF6-fkY>

"The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.

-- Abraham Lincoln





MONTGOMERY

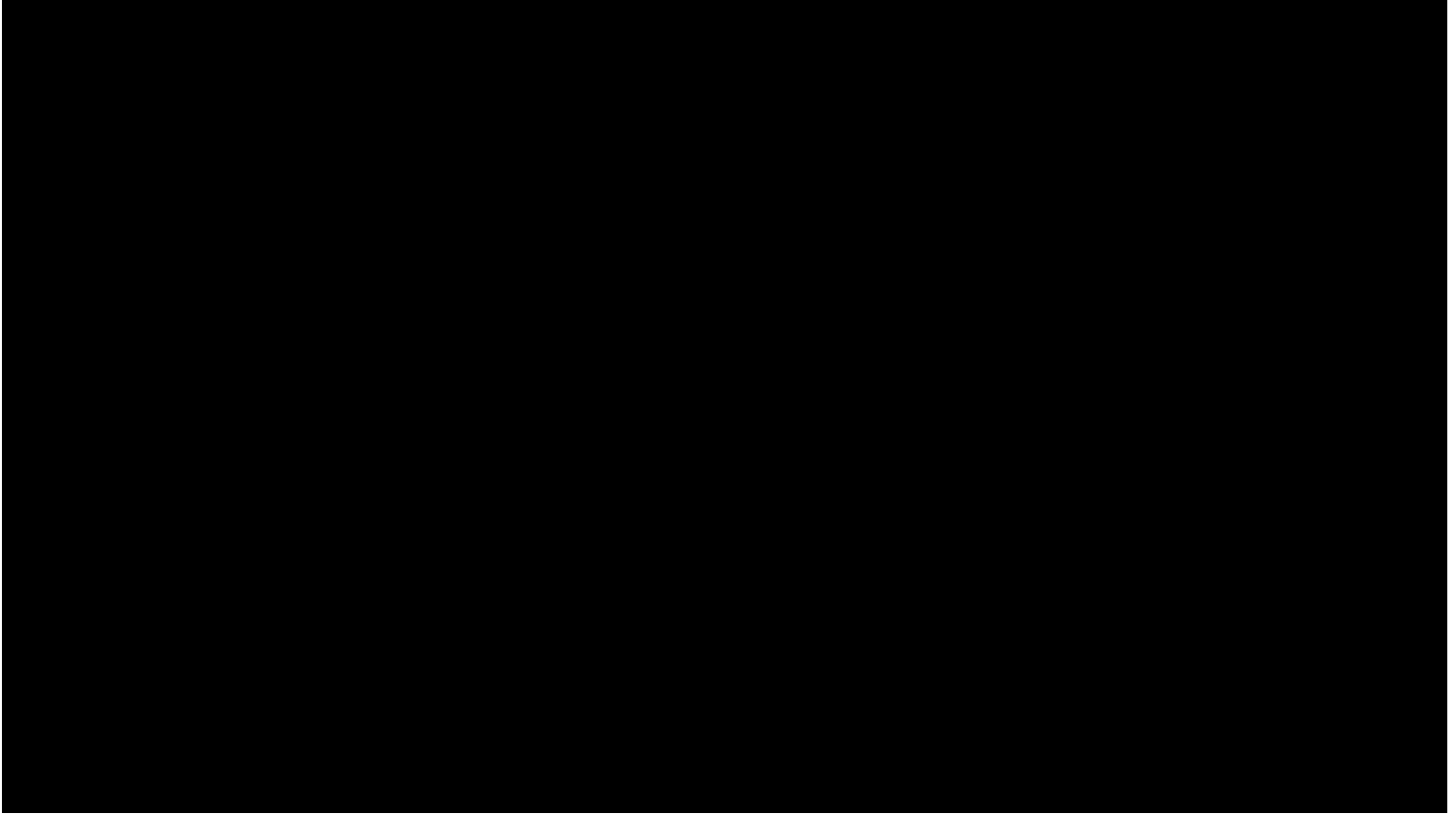
"There comes a time when people get tired... tired of being segregated and humiliated, tired of being kicked about by the brutal feet of oppression. We have no alternative but to protest." -
Martin Luther King, Jr. 26 yr old Baptist Minister



BUS BOYCOTT

- refusal to use the entire bus system until it ends segregation
- initiated by Rosa Parks in 1955
- 50,000 Af. Americans will boycott for a year
- 1956: Supreme Court ruled that bus segregation was illegal

Optional but recommended review of Rosa Parks



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMACKNh5MuY>



think

CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE

In what ways was this event significant?



IMPORTANT!

IMPACT

encouraged a new group of leaders

gave minority groups hope

supported the tactic of non-violent civil disobedience

RESISTANCE IN LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

- 1957
- Governor Orval Faubus announces blatant defiance of integration
 - called Arkansas **National Guard** in to stand outside Central High School to block 9 African American students that were supposed to attend
- mobs also met out front to prevent the entry of the students



"The Arkansas National Guardsmen glared at me with a mean look and I was very frightened and didn't know what to do. I turned around and the crowd came toward me. They moved closer and closer. Somebody started yelling 'Lynch her! Lynch her!' I tried to see a friendly face somewhere in the mob - someone who maybe would help. I looked into the face of an old woman and it seemed a kind face, but when I looked at her again, she spit on me."



--Elizabeth Eckford
speaking about her first
day trying to attend
Central High School



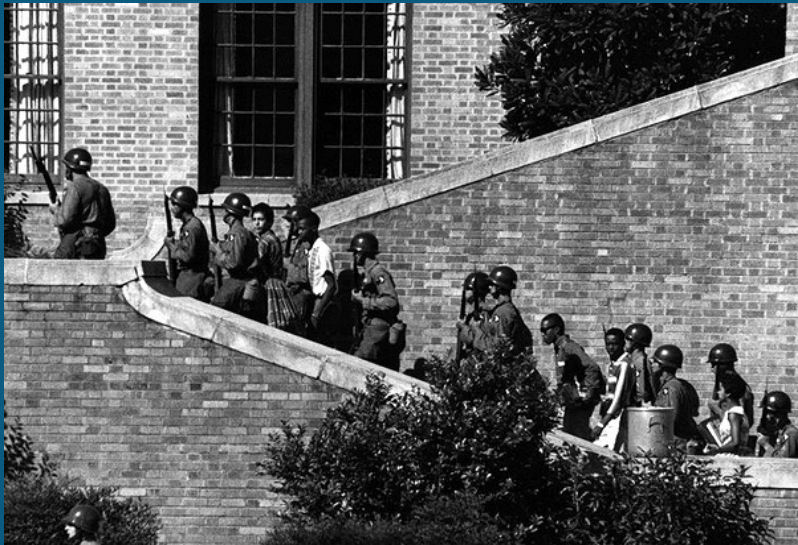
LIFE





AL HIGH SCHOOL

- Eisenhower saw these actions as a direct challenge to the Constitution & his authority as President
 - Placed National Guard under federal command
 - Sent 1,000 members of the 101st Airborne
 - Students entered under heavily armed guard
- **SIGNIFICANCE: First time since Reconstruction that fed troops had provided protection for black Americans against racial violence**
- Fall 1958: Faubus closed all of Little Rock's high schools rather than permit integration!
- Fed. court struck down this act
- Four of the nine students returned, under police protection, after the schools were reopened in 1959.





think

CAUSE & CONSEQUENCE

What was most notable about the footage of the event?



IMPORTANT!

IMPACT

- Millions of viewers (*This had not been possible at any previous point in world history. It is one thing to hear about mistreatment – it is another to SEE it!*)
- Left a national and international audience with unforgettable images
- There was a **vivid contrast** between angry forces of white supremacy and the quiet, dignified resistance of the Black American students.

The positive effect this **vivid contrast in behaviors** had on **public support** for **Civil Rights** was well understood by leaders like **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

The Theory of Non-Violence

- Early influences = Gandhi and Thoreau
- NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH PASSIVE ACCEPTANCE
- Rationale: Demonstrates righteousness of cause because it reveals CONTRAST



*Surprisingly, many at the time described it as “too confrontational”
But in many ways, activists want a form of confrontation in order to make the issue well-known. But the reality oftentimes was beyond expectations.*

The Theory of Non-Violence - IMPORTANT
REQUIRED



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74XJJ3Tq5ew>

NOTE!!!!!!

THE EXPLANATION OFFERED BY MLK
EMPHASIZES THAT IT IS THE **MOST**
EFFECTIVE APPROACH
TO ACHIEVING THE ULTIMATE GOAL.

“... ORGANIZED non-violent resistant is the STRONGEST APPROACH to fighting oppression.”

“Does not mean PASSIVE acceptance.
It is ACTIVE, even if it is *passive* physically.”

“It is the method of the **strong man**, not the weak man.”

MLK's thoughts on the role of using *legislation* in changing hearts & behaviors?

Eisenhower: "I do not believe that prejudices, even palpably unjustifiable prejudices, will succumb to compulsion." - Eisenhower

MLK: "[Changing hearts is paramount but in the meantime] ... though morality cannot be legislated, behavior can be regulated."

SIGNIFICANCE

IMPORTANT!

“The movement needed to win the support of morally decent and compassionate people... [and eventually] Americans of conscience in the name of decency would demand federal intervention and legislation.” - MLK

- The nonviolent measures helped Black American activists **win supporters across the country and throughout the world.**
 - Many with **moderate** or **indifferent** positions became supporters.
- Remained **main approach** for most civil rights activity during this time period

In your reading!

Sit-Ins

- In 1960, new tactic added to peaceful activists' strategy: **the sit-in movement.**
- What was it?
 - At the start, Black and white students would sit at whites-only lunch counters. When service was refused, the students sat patiently. Despite threats and intimidation, the students sat quietly and waited to be served.
- Keep in Mind:
 - No one participated in a sit-in of this sort **without seriousness of purpose.** The instructions were simple: sit quietly and wait to be served. But participants would be jeered and threatened, pelted with food, hot coffee, or other objects. Angry onlookers tried to provoke fights (that never came). In the event of a physical attack, the student would curl up into a ball on the floor and take the punishment. **Any violent reaction on behalf of the demonstrators would undermine the spirit of the sit-in.**

think

COULD YOU DO IT?

Excerpt from instructions for protesters:

- Dress in your Sunday best.
- Be respectful to employees and police.
- Do not resist arrest!
- Remember, journalists are everywhere!
- If cursed, do not curse back.
- If pushed, do no push back.
- If struck, do not strike back, but evidence love and good will at all times.
- If another person is being attacked, do not arise to go to his defense, but pray for the oppressor and use moral and spiritual force to carry on the struggle for justice.



*What are the strengths
of this tactic?*

*What are the
weaknesses?*

Could you do it?

The Sit-In Movement

REQUIRED



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f82cAuXM4IE>

Sit-Ins

In your reading!

- **SIGNIFICANCE:**
 - With the help of media, it exposed **brutality & mob violence** being used against such a peaceful group
 - **It strengthened the position of civil rights activists & led to more support for the movement**

By the end of the movement, 70,000 students had participated in the sit-ins and 3,600 had done jail time as a result.

Some evidence of growing support: Sit-ins in Nashville led to expulsion of 500 students, until 400 professors threatened to resign!

Freedom Riders

- In 1960, the Supreme Court expanded its earlier ban on segregation of busses. Bus station waiting rooms and restaurants that served interstate travelers could not be segregated either. However, **these rulings were not enforced in the segregated South.**
- Freedom Riders were groups of white and black American civil rights activists who participated in *Freedom Rides*, bus trips through the American South in 1961 to protest that continued segregation.



- “Deliberately violating Jim Crow laws in order to test and challenge a segregated interstate travel system, the Freedom Riders met with bitter racism and mob violence along the way, sorely testing their belief in nonviolent activism.” – [click here for more](#)

Freedom Riders



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dJqA6PQRh3U>

Freedom Riders: The Strategy



Visit this link for video shown in class: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KREQGwC_cFY

Jim Zwerg - REQUIRED



“We will take hitting. We’ll take beatings. We’re willing to accept death. But we are going to keep coming until we can ride from anywhere in the South to anyplace else in the South, as Americans, without anyone making any comment,” said Jim Zwerg after being attacked and knocked unconscious by a mob in Montgomery, (Williams, 155).

Visit this link for clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5wjYnSL2m0>

Young Witness of the Freedom Riders



Click here for link skipped in class if interested:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1EDOL9II0s>

Freedom Riders

- SIGNIFICANCE:
 - Again, called national and international attention to southern disregard for federal law and the use of violence being used in America to enforce segregation



Not in your notes

John F. Kennedy and brother Robert Kennedy

- While JFK did commit himself to Civil Rights after 1961, his brother was relatively more committed to Civil Rights.
- "Bobby" Kennedy was the Attorney General
- Bobby sent federal marshals to protect Freedom Riders & pushed Interstate Commerce Commission to prohibit segregation in all transportation



James Meredith at Ole Miss & Federal Response

Not in your notes

- James Meredith attempted to enroll at the all-white University of Mississippi in 1962.
- State officials attempted to defy the Supreme Court decision provoking a constitutional crisis between Mississippi and the federal government.
- Chaos soon broke out on the Ole Miss campus as a mob of more than 2,000 students and others formed to block his way.



- **The riots ended in two dead, hundreds wounded and many others arrested, after the the Kennedy administration called out some 31,000 National Guardsmen and other federal forces to enforce order.**

next goal...

BIRMINGHAM

- April 1963: lawful march led by King
- Aim: Turn media attention to expose the regions failure to desegregate
- Police Chief Bull Conner used fire hoses, dogs, police brutality against peaceful protesters



IMPORTANT!

SIGNIFICANCE:

- JFK sent federal marshals to Alabama = signaled Kennedy's growing support
- Pushed Kennedy to finally deliver a **Civil Rights Bill** to Congress and publicly address it as a huge concern of the country
- Remained bitterly divided (church burnings and bombings increased)



next goal...

BIRMINGHAM



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z7FtmhIcfWo>

Optional but strongly recommended 4 minute video clip!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zgFUROFzMw>

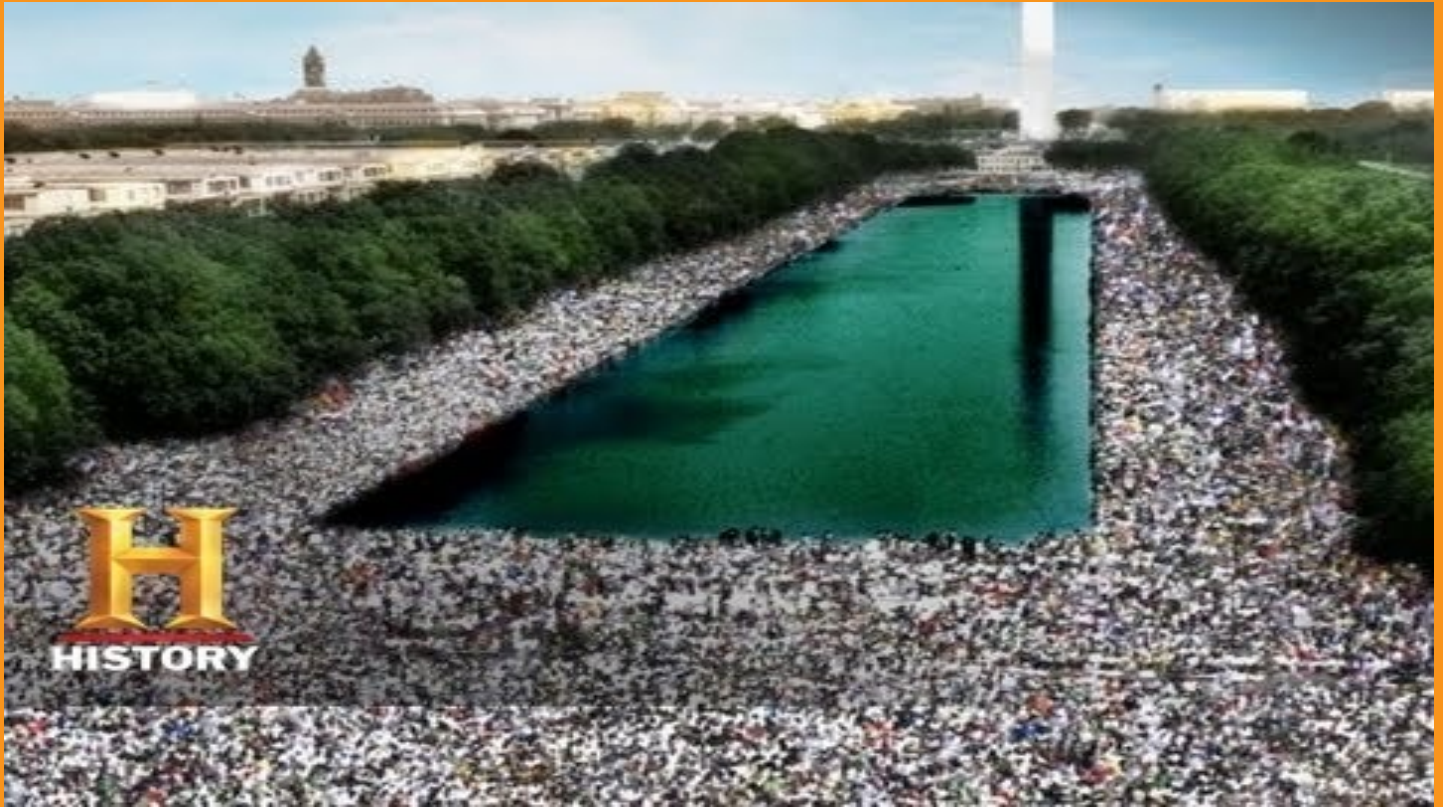
Famous March on Washington

- In 1963, Americans marched together to the federal capital to push support for the Civil Rights Bill
- 200,000 black Americans and 50,000 white Americans participated



Optional but strongly recommended 4 minute video clip!

"Bet You Didn't Know" regarding the Famous March on Washington

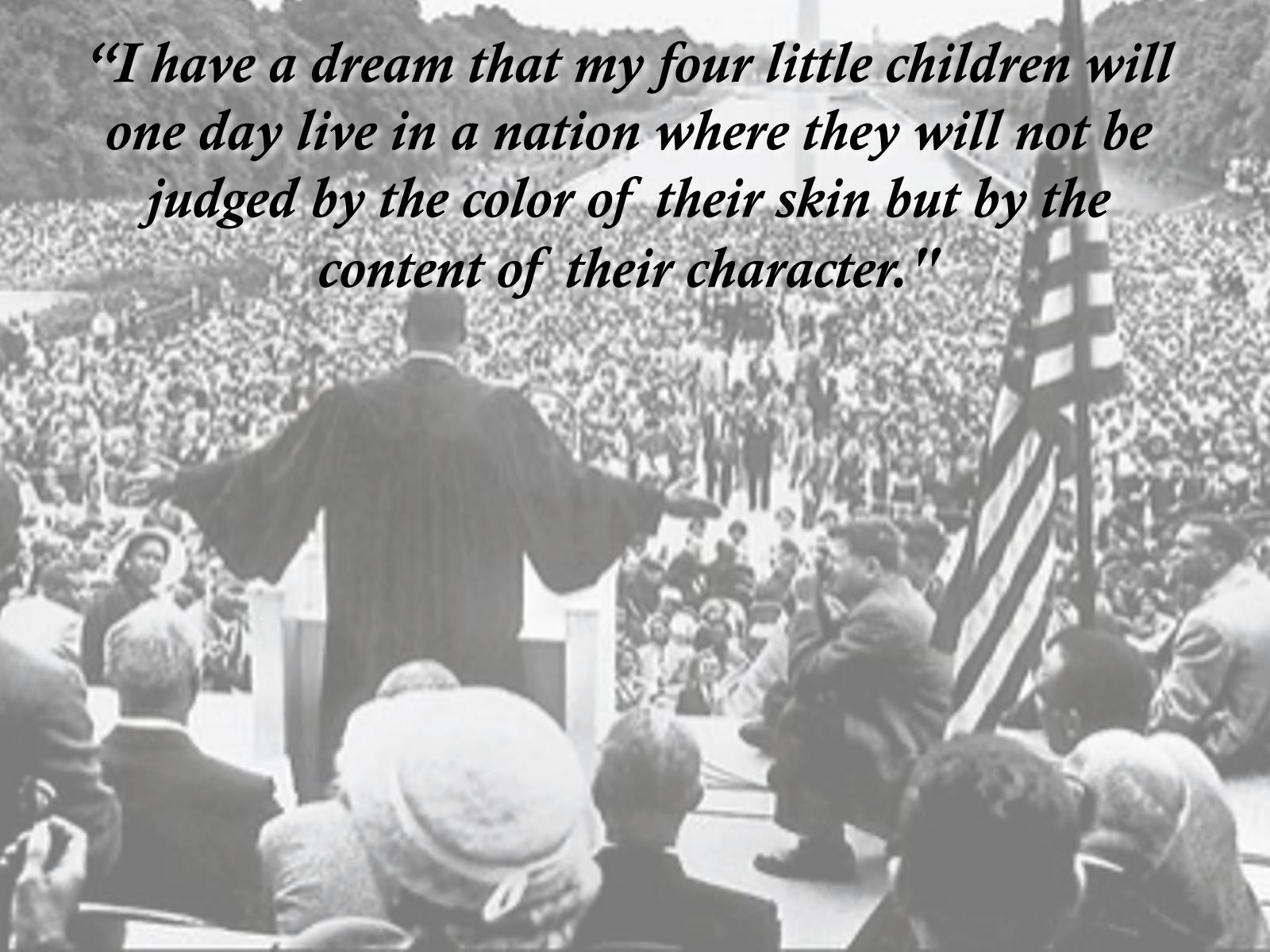


Optional but strongly recommended 3 minute video clip!

Martin Luther King's Famous Speech – If you've never heard it you should listen! You can see presentation for full speech!



“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.”



BIG IDEA: Remember: *In the decades after WWII, civil rights leaders relied **on legal and legislative challenges to dismantle segregation**. But in the early 1960s, activists impatient for change turned to a new strategy: **non-violent direct action**. The Sit-Ins and Freedom Riders are just two examples of this.*



**Then, after a
moment of hope,
JFK is
assassinated in
November of
1963.**

**The nation finds
itself devastated.**

But V.P. **Lyndon Johnson** takes over as President and carries on Civil Rights legislation

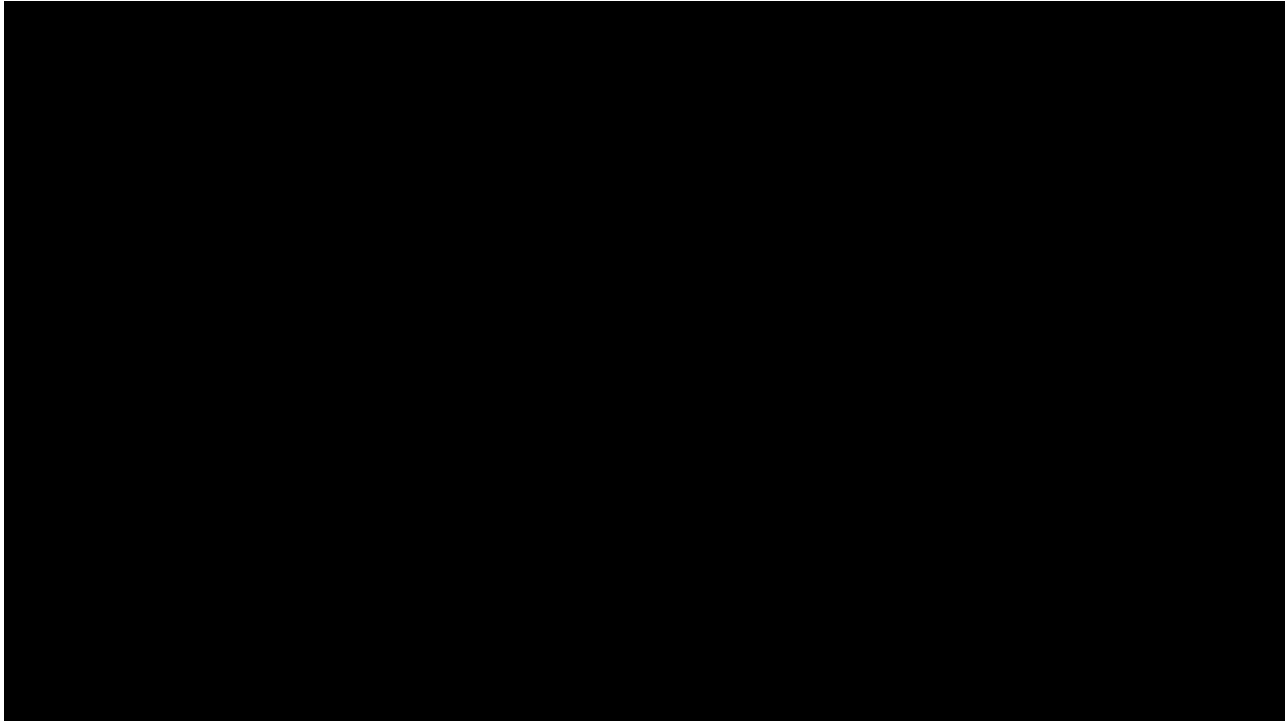
Jackie Kennedy below, just hours after her husband had been killed (and with his blood still on her clothes) ☹



Optional video about swearing in the President

LBJ carries on: The Civil Rights Act of 1964

Optional video about the Civil Rights of 1964.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6x0l_vkjozc&t=11s

The Civil Rights Act of 1964

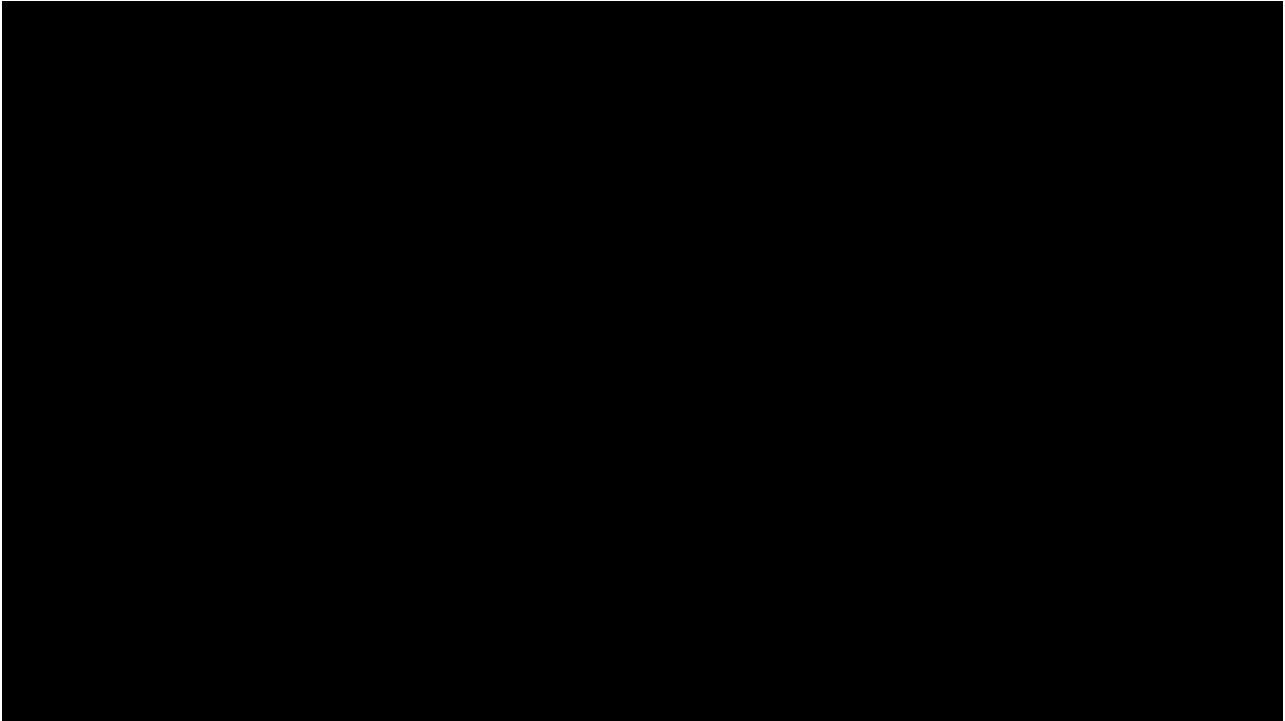
- Made it illegal to discriminate in areas of housing, employment, school
- Unfortunately, it failed to secure voting rights for blacks. In most of South, blacks still denied right to register to vote (faulty literacy tests, threats, etc.)

Nothing "could more eloquently honor President Kennedy's memory than the earliest possible passage of the Civil Rights Bill." - LBJ



LBJ carries on: The Civil Rights Act of 1964

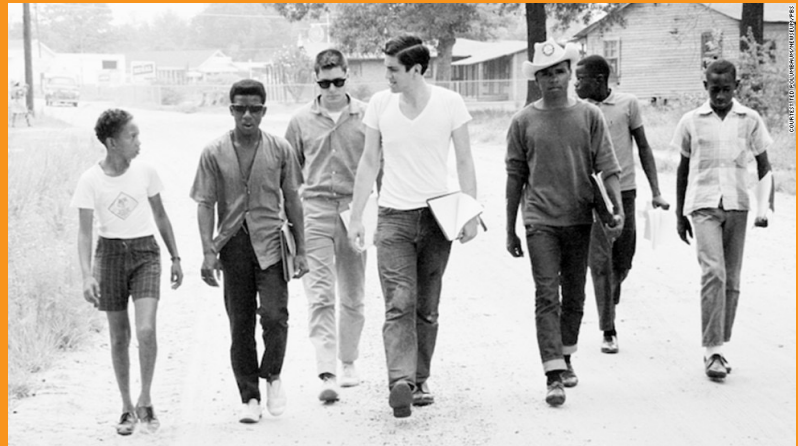
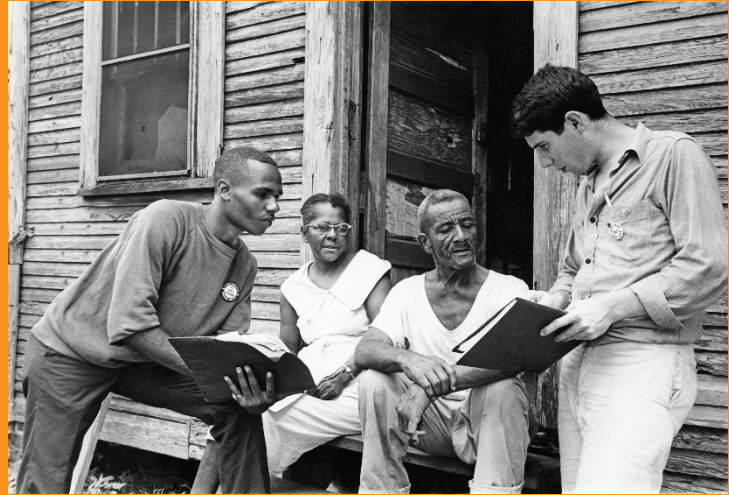
Optional video about the Civil Rights of 1964.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6x0l_vkjozc&t=11s

Freedom Summer 1964

- **AIM:** Voter registration drive aimed at increasing black voter registration in Mississippi
- **Who involved:** CORE (Congress on Racial Equality), SNCC (Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee), black Mississippians and 1,000+ out-of-state white volunteers
- **SIGNIFICANCE:** The Ku Klux Klan, police and state and local authorities carried out a series of violent attacks against the activists, including arson, beatings, false arrest and the murder of at least three people.



Freedom Summer 1964

- SIGNIFICANCE *continued*:
 - But 430,000 black Americans would be registered to vote in 20 months



Selma, Alabama

*But many still faced trouble obtaining voting rights.
In Selma, only 2.4% of the population was registered to vote!*

*In response, MLK & others organized additional marches.
They wanted to target areas where discrimination was worst.*

**AIM IN SELMA: Bring national attention to
unconstitutional denial of voting rights.**



Selma, Alabama

Who involved? MLK

King personally visited President twice to explain what they were fighting for.

CHALLENGES: Early attempts were terrorized or blocked.

On their first try, demonstrators were terrorized with tear gas, guns, horses, and beatings by the Alabama State Troopers

On their second try when King led another attempt 2 days later, they were turned around when state troopers again blocked the road. That night, a group of segregationists fatally beat a protester, the young white minister James Reeb.

This was called **Bloody Sunday** by the media.









Selma, Alabama

GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION:

- The President offered the protection of 2,000 army troops, 100 FBI agents, another 100 fed marshals to ensure sure they made it without violence or interference.



Selma, Alabama

- Started with 4,000 people; ending with 25,000!
- GOAL MET:
 - 1) moral high road brought out the evilness of their opposition
 - 2) brought change and awareness to the public opinion
 - 3) put pressure on the government for immediate change.
- SIGNIFICANCE: **IMPORTANT!**
 - **The historic march, and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s participation in it, raised awareness of the difficulties faced by black voters, and the need for a national Voting Rights Act.**

IMPORTANT!

VOTING RIGHTS ACT & 24th AMENDMENT

“The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men...”
President Johnson.

A few months later: President Johnson signed the **Voting Rights Acts** into law in the same room where President Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation

- **VOTING RIGHTS ACT:**

- Helped to eliminate methods that had been used to suppress the right to vote (e.g., literacy tests, grandfather clause)
- Allowed for federal oversight of registration/elections in areas where there has been a record of voter suppression

- **24TH AMENDMENT:**

- Outlawed poll taxes in federal elections



President Johnson & Dr. Martin Luther King
Voting Rights Act, 1965

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nrpLVgO7l4>

think

Why do you think some parts of the movement became violent?

What do you think the impact of division in the movement was?

RISE OF BLACK NATIONALISM

- Though this was progress, many were still understandably angry at slow pace of change & other issues still not addressed (especially violence and unequal protection under the law)



RISE OF BLACK NATIONALISM

- **Notable Civil Rights Figure & Organization:**

- **Malcolm X**, who joined the **Nation of Islam**

- NOTE: Should not be confused with the global religion of Islam that emerged in the Middle East. The Nation of Islam is a distinct religion that emerged in US.

- **Leader: Elijah Muhammad**

- **Preached:**

- **Separation of the races**
- **Enemy = white society**
- **Black Nationalism - unity, pride and self-determination for Black Americans**

- *Note: The Nation of Islam is not representative of all the Black Nationalism movements.*

Nation of Islam:

Preached adherence to a strict moral code and reliance on other African Americans.

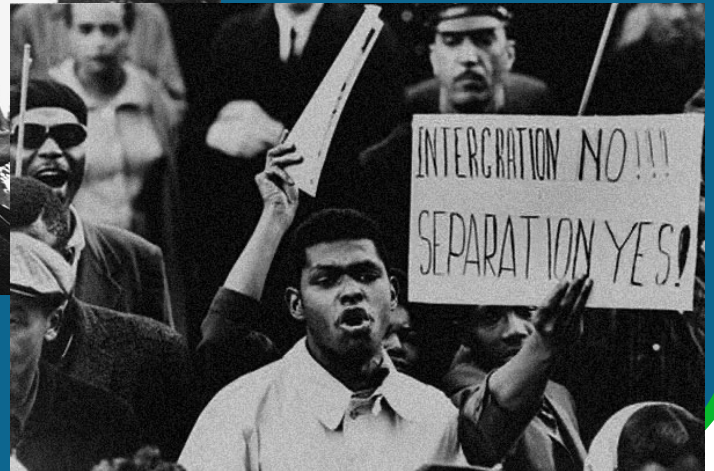
Integration was not a goal.

Rather, the Nation of Islam wanted black people to set up their own schools, churches, and support networks. Malcolm X promoted the establishment of a separate state for African Americans in which they could rely on themselves to provide solutions to their own problems. Violence was not to be initiated but violence was justified in self-defense.

RISE OF BLACK NATIONALISM & THE BLACK POWER MOVEMENT

- Influenced some groups like the SNCC that had been interracial organizations
 - *No longer allowed white members*

The Black Power movement helped to popularize the values of autonomy and independence among African Americans in the 1960s and '70s. The movement pushed for Black **self-determination** in politics, economics, education, and culture, by and for Black communities, not yet free from oppression. In some cases, this meant advocating **separatism**.

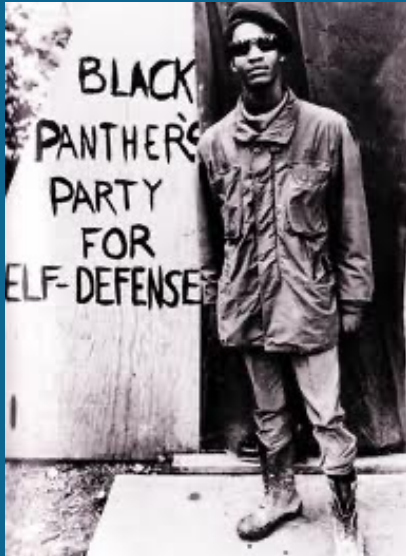


MALCOLM X

" The white man has taught the black people in this country to hate themselves as inferior, to hate each other, to be divided against each other. The brainwashed black man can never learn to stand on his own two feet until he is on his own. **We must learn to become our own producers, manufacturers and traders; we must have industry of our own, to employ our own.** The white man resists this because he wants to keep the black man under his thumb and jurisdiction in white society. He wants to keep the black man always dependent and begging - for jobs, food, clothes, shelter, education. The white man doesn't want to lose somebody to be supreme over.

I am for violence if non-violence means we continue postponing a solution to the American black man's problems. If we must use violence to get the black man his human rights in this country then I am for violence." - Malcolm X

RISE OF BLACK NATIONALISM & THE BLACK POWER MOVEMENT

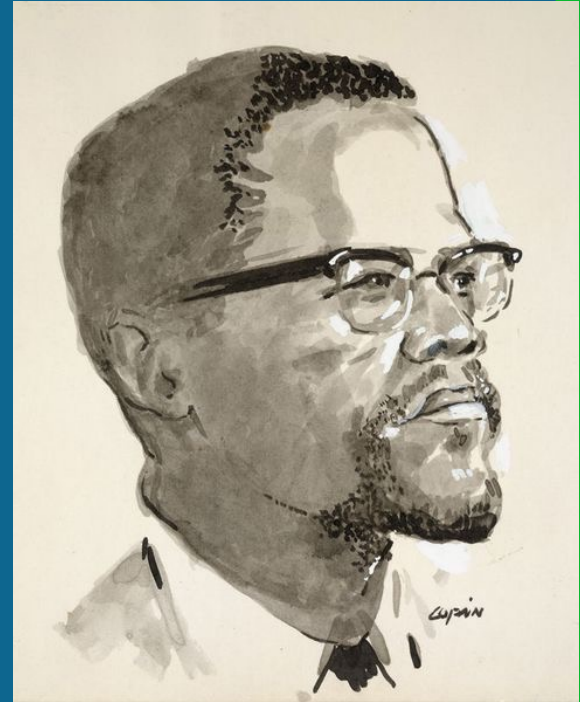


- Also led to emergence of new organizations
- **Black Panthers** (originally called the *Black Panther Party for Self-Defense*):
 - Founded to combat police brutality, exercise self-defense, demanded federal assistance to rebuild ghettos

“Dressed in black berets and black leather jackets, the Black Panthers organized armed citizen patrols of Oakland and other U.S. cities. The organization later declined as a result of internal tensions, deadly shootouts and FBI counterintelligence activities aimed at weakening the organization. By the early 1970s, FBI counterintelligence efforts, criminal activities and an internal rift between group members weakened the party as a political force. The Black Panthers did, however, start a number of popular community social programs, including free breakfast programs for school children and free health clinics in 13 African American communities across the United States.” – [History Channel](#)

MALCOLM X - 1963

- Had drastically increased popularity of Nation of Islam, however, in 1963 he grew disillusioned with the organization.
- Eventually split with NOI after pilgrimage to Mecca in 1964.
- Beliefs/focus evolved:
 - Adopted belief in orthodox Islam --> *strong sense that brotherhood of all people could exist*
 - Renounced separatist beliefs of NOI
 - Argued all people needed to come together
 - Transitioned too discussion civil rights in the US to human rights across the world
- Exposed corruption of NOI & started new organization: Muslim Mosque Inc.
- Was killed by NOI in 1965



CLARIFICATION

Black nationalists, however, should not be confused with the many non-racist African-American organizations that work for social justice and the elimination of institutional racism in America.

In addition, they should not be seen as equivalent to white supremacist groups – such as the Ku Klux Klan or neo-Nazis – in terms of their history of violence and terrorism.

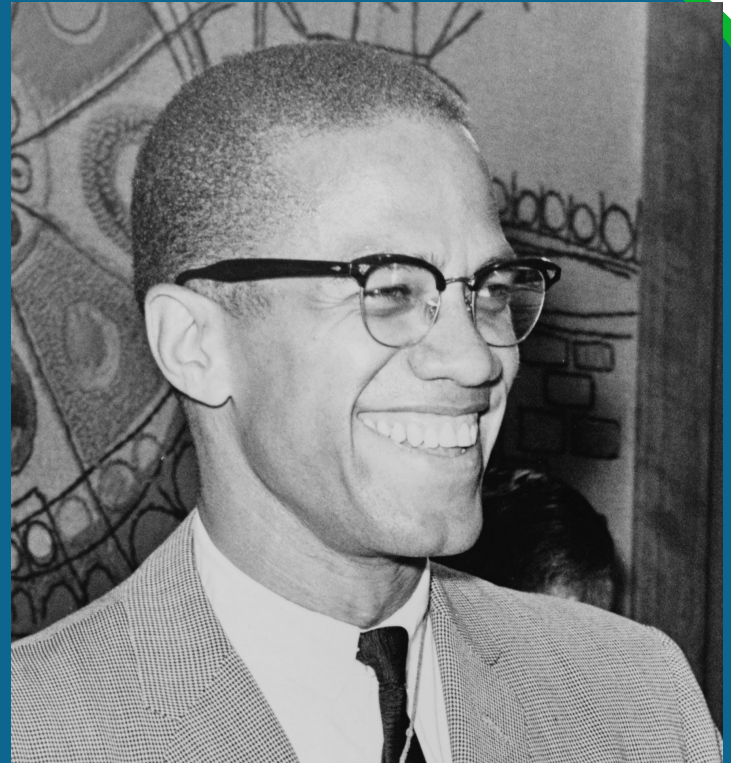
And, unlike white hate groups, they have made virtually no inroads into the mainstream political realm and have virtually no supporters among elected officials.

MALCOLM X - 1963

Recommended Documentary: The Lost Tapes – Malcolm X
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7MP_h3eQ1g

[Damion Thomas, a curator at the African American Museum at the Institution's screening of the film] this film is important because there are many misconceptions about Malcolm X and there are many ways that he has been interpreted. He adds that it is important to have competing notions about the charismatic leader because then people have an opportunity to think through complex issues.

"The reason people really have to understand Malcolm X, whether you agree with him or not, he was committed to the upliftment of black people, and I think that's the most important thing that we should know about Malcolm X," Thomas says.



"You see how his thoughts are evolving and my biggest takeaway was the great sense of loss at the end. This was a person who was on a journey and you may criticize various stages of that journey but where he was heading was really interesting and very important." - David Royle

MALCOLM X v. MLK “DEBATE”

Optional video comparing the views of MLK and Malcolm X. BUT REMEMBER, their views were more in alignment than they were in conflict by the end of his life.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4PqLKWuwyU>

MALCOLM X

Optional video



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWjIkhMZu7s>

Optional resources on the Malcolm X, the Nation of Islam and their split

Not required, but if you want more information on...

- Click here for a simple overview of the life of Malcolm X and The Nation of Islam.
- For a more extensive biography of Malcolm X click here.
- For more information on the division of the Nation of Islam over time click here, or its modifications over time click here.
- An assessment of why the Nation of Islam is now called a "hate-organization" by civil rights groups is provided here from the Southern Poverty Law Center.
- The official website of the NOI organization today is here.

Tragedy Strikes in 1968

Amidst the splintering of the movement, **Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968**

Riots will follow in many places - but not here where Robert Kennedy gave Ms. Kaz's favorite speech (well one of them)



*Optional but **STRONGLY** recommended*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoKzCff8Zbs>

Tragedy Strikes in 1968

Then, Robert Kennedy was assassinated June 4, 1968

IMPACT: These tragedies ended the hope that an inspirational leader could heal the nation's issues. The nation would turn their attention next to events in Vietnam.

