

3. Civil Rights

- **Civil Rights**

- : Rights protecting individuals' freedom

- : Treated same regardless of race, gender, religion,

- : All rights rooted in 14th Amendment (1868)

- [States cannot make laws that take away rights given to all citizens by federal gov.
States cannot discriminate against any person.]

1. African Americans & Slavery

- **African Americans**

- : Before 1863, US Constitution protected slavery & made equality impossible.

- : Slaves were not citizens of the US.

- : Not entitled to rights & privileges of citizenship.



Peter, a man who was enslaved in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1863, whose scars were the result of violent abuse from a plantation overseer.

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavery_in_the_United_States)

Slave transport in Africa

2. Ending Constitutional Servitude

1) Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation (1863) & 13th, 14th & 15th Amendments

① 13th Amendment (1865)

- Some slaves already freed during Civil War

This amendment freed other slaves & abolished slavery.

② 15th Amendment (1870)

- No citizen can be refused the right to vote simply because of race/color or because that person was once a slave.

③ Radical Republicans

- Republicans with strong antislavery stance

- Gave African Americans full equality before the law

- Anti-Ku Klux Klan Act (1872)

[It is federal crime to deprive individual of rights, privileges & immunities secured by Constitution or by a federal law.]



First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emancipation_Proclamation)

2) Ineffectiveness of Civil Rights Laws

- Civil rights acts of 1870s did not secure equality for African Americans in their civil rights

① **Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)** effectively nullified these cases.

- When Reconstruction abruptly ended in 1877 & federal troops were withdrawn, southern state govts began to be more anti-African Americans.

- **Homer Plessy** (African American in Louisiana) boarded a train in New Orleans.

- Conductor told him to leave car for nonwhites.

- Plessy went to court. Such act contrary to 14th Amendment

- **Supreme Court**

- : Segregation alone did not violate Constitution.

Separation does not necessarily mean inferiority of either race to the other.

- Separate-but-equal doctrine

- : This doctrine accepted as equal protection clause in 14th Amendment.

② **Jim Crow laws**

- Segregation of races, particularly in public facilities.
- Separate seats in theaters, restaurants, public toilets, waiting rooms,
- : “Separate” was the rule, but “equal” was never enforced.

③ **Voting Barriers**

- After federal troops were gone, southern politicians regained control of state govts.
- : By arguing that political party primaries were private, southern whites only allowed to exclude African Americans (**white primary**)

- **Grandfather clause**

- : If you cannot prove that your grandfather voted before 1867, you cannot vote.

- **Poll taxes**

- : Required payment of a fee (tax) to vote
- : Poor African Americans could not vote easily

- **Literary tests**

- : Tests to read, recite & interpret complicated texts such as state constitution

3. End of Separate-but-Equal Doctrine

- o **Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (1954)**

- : Separate elementary schools operated by Topeka Board of Education under an 1879 Kansas law

- : Oliver Brown's daughter, **Linda** (third grader), had to take school bus to go to her segregated black school.

- : A white school only seven blocks from her house by walk.

- : Linda was refused enrollment & directed to segregated schools.

- Brown called for Topeka school district to change its policy of racial segregation.

- o **Supreme Court**

- : Separation implies inferiority. Separate schools are inherently unequal.

- : **Separation is unconstitutional.**

4. Reactions to School Integration

- **White fight**

- : Some schools were 100% nonwhite.

- : White parents sent their children to newly-established private schools known as “**segregation academies.**”

- : Arkansas’s **Governor (Orval Faubus)** used state’s National Guard to block integration of Central High School in Little Rock (1957).

- : Alabama’s **Governor (George Wallace)** tried to prevent two African students from enrolling at Uni of Alabama.

- Kennedy sent Alabama National Guard to force him back.





Alabama Governor (George Wallace) standing against desegregation while being confronted by Deputy U.S. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach at the University of Alabama in 1963. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Wallace)

5. Civil Rights Movement

1) Rosa Parks

: 43 –year old African American woman boarded a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama (1955).

→ Parks was asked to move to back of the bus.

→ She refused

→ She was arrested & fined \$10.

→ African Americans boycotted Montgomery bus line.

→ Dr. Martin Luther King helped her.

2) **King's Nonviolence**

- Affected by Mahatma Gandhi

- Formed Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)

- Used peaceful tactics such as demonstrations, marches & sit-ins

- March on Washington (1963)

: March on Washington for Jobs + Freedom





Rosa Parks in 1955, with Martin Luther King, Jr. in the background
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks)



March on Washington

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_on_Washington)

- **Birmingham Protest**

- : Police Commissioner Eugen “Bull” Connor unleashed police dogs & used electric water cannon
- : People viewed the event on TV with horror

3) **Violent Approach: Black Power**

- Black Muslims & other African Americans supported more militant stance against King’s cultural assimilation.
- : African Americans should fight.

- **Malcolm Little (X)**

- : Black Muslim Minister
- : National Spokesman for **Nation of Islam**
- : Strong black nationalist
- : Three of his uncles died violently by white men
- : His father found dead and run over by a car
- : The "X" is brand that many slaves received on their upper arm.



Malcolm X in March, 1964
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_Little)

7. Modern Civil Rights Legislation

1) Civil Rights of 1964

- Most far-reaching bill on civil rights

: Stopped discrimination on the basis of race/color/religion/Gender/national origin

- ① Outlawed arbitrary discrimination in voter registration
- ② Barred discrimination in public accommodation (hotels & restaurants)
- ③ Authorized federal gov to sue to desegregate public schools
- ④ Withheld federal funds from programs in discriminatory manner
- ⑤ Equality of chances in employment
(Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC))

2) Voting Rights Act of 1965

- Ensured black voting rights once and for all

① Outlawed discriminatory voter-registration literacy tests

② Provided for federal registration of voters in areas that had less than 50% of eligible minority voters registered

: Within one week after the act was passed, 45 federal examiners sent to the South

3) Increased Political Participation by African Americans

- Large-scale voter-registration drives in the South

: 55.8% registered to vote (1980)

: Jesse Jackson

: General Colin Powell

: Barack Obama

8. Immigration & Civil Rights Agenda

- Immigrants face problems involved in living in a new, different political & cultural environment.
- : Most from Latin America or Asia.
- : Hispanics now overtaking African Americans
- : By 2050, minority groups collectively will constitute majority.
- : Most of them have to overcome language barriers & have to deal with discrimination because of their color, inability to speak English fluently or their customs.
- : Civil rights legislation passed during 1960s has done much to counter prejudice against immigrants.

9. Women's Struggle for Equal Rights

- Women have to struggle for equality

1) Feminism

- Movement that supports political, economic & social equality for women.
 - : First appeared around 1910
- [Lucretia Mott](#) and Elizabeth Stanton organized first women's rights convention in Seneca, New York.
- **Declaration of Sentiments**
 - : "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal."
- **15th Amendment** (1870)
 - : Right of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.
 - : Strong feminists wanted to add sex.
 - : More feminists did not want because of difficult passage of amendment.



Lucretia Mott (January 3, 1793 – November 11, 1880)
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucretia_Mott)

- **19th Amendment** (1920)

: Right of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex.

2) Modern Women's Movement

- **National Organization for Women** (NOW; 1966)

: Bring women into full participation in American society, exercising all the privileges & responsibilities in truly equal partnership with men

10. Other Issues

1) Affirmative Action (1961)

- A beneficial policy in educational admissions or job hiring

: Gives special compensatory treatment to traditionally disadvantaged groups

ex) Poor African American students to get admitted to good university.

2) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA; 1990)

- All public buildings & public services accessible to persons with disabilities.
- : Employers accommodate needs of workers with disabilities.
- : Ramps, handrails, wheelchair-accessible rest rooms, counters, drinking fountains & doorways etc

3) Gay & Lesbians

- **George Bush (Republican)**

- : Met with many gay leaders to discuss their issues
- : Oppose gay marriage & adoption
- : But appoint gay in a prominent position if qualified.

- **Tammy Baldwin**

- : gay Representative

- **Vermont** legislature passed a law that allows gay & lesbians couples to get married (1999).

- : Many Americans still hesitant to give full equality