



WE SHALL
OVERCOME

The American Civil Rights Movement

What Are Civil Rights?

- The rights that belong to “all persons” in the Constitution and Bill of Rights
 - Freedoms of speech, press, assembly, petition, and religion
 - Due Process Rights
 - Fair Trial



Civil War & Reconstruction

- 13 Amendment: Ending Slavery (1865)
 - 14th Amendment: defining citizenship (1868)
 - 15th Amendment: no voter discrimination (1870)
-
- The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments were made ineffective by Supreme Court Decisions and Jim Crow Laws

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

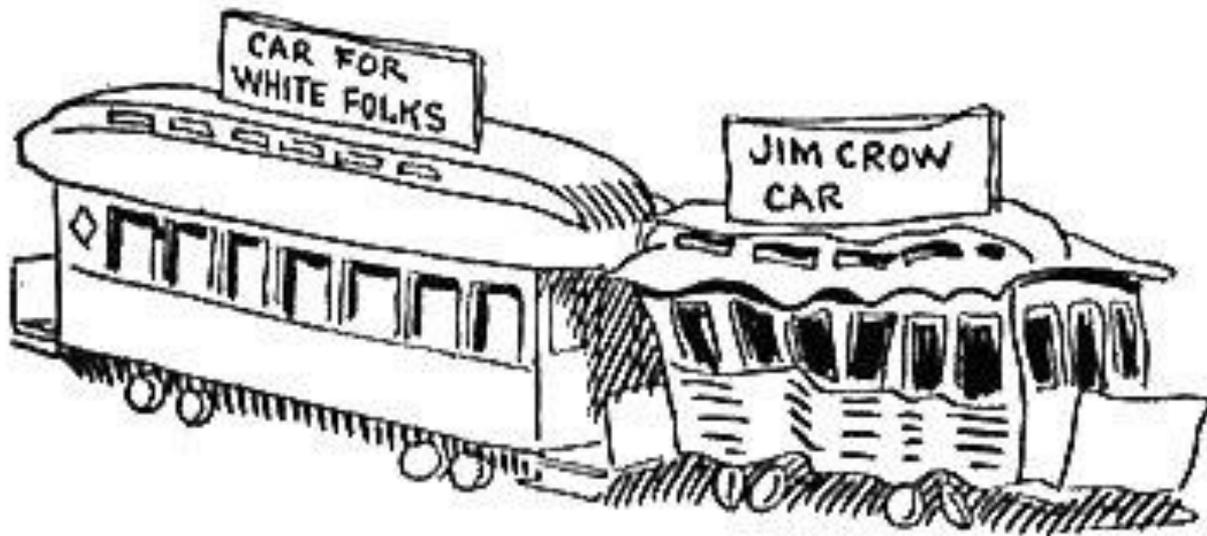
- Homer Plessy, a black businessman, took a seat in a white only railcar. He was arrested.
- Plessy argued the segregation violated of the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause
- The Court disagreed. Separate, equal cars are not discrimination – according to the Court.
- **Separate But Equal** became the standard for public facilities in the US
- Segregation by race/color became constitutional



Separate But Equal became the standard for public facilities in the US

“Jim Crow” Laws

- Plessy v. Ferguson decision meant that States could pass laws that furthered segregation. These were known as “Jim Crow” laws.





Even the Memphis Zoo had segregated days for visitors!



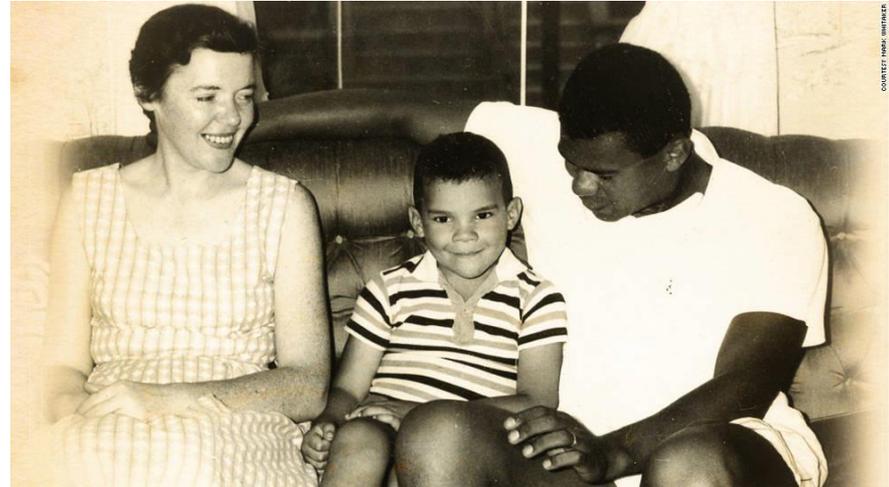
The division of “black” and “white” reached into every aspect of public life, and gave one group total power over the other.

EXAMPLES OF JIM CROW:

Florida:

Intermarriage: All marriages between a white person and a negro, or between a white person and a person of negro descent to the fourth generation inclusive, are hereby forever prohibited. Florida

Cohabitation: Any negro man and white woman, or any white man and negro woman, who are not married to each other, who shall habitually live in and occupy in the nighttime the same room shall each be punished by imprisonment not exceeding twelve (12) months, or by fine not exceeding five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. Florida



Burial: The officer in charge shall not bury, or allow to be buried, any colored persons upon ground set apart or used for the burial of white persons. Georgia



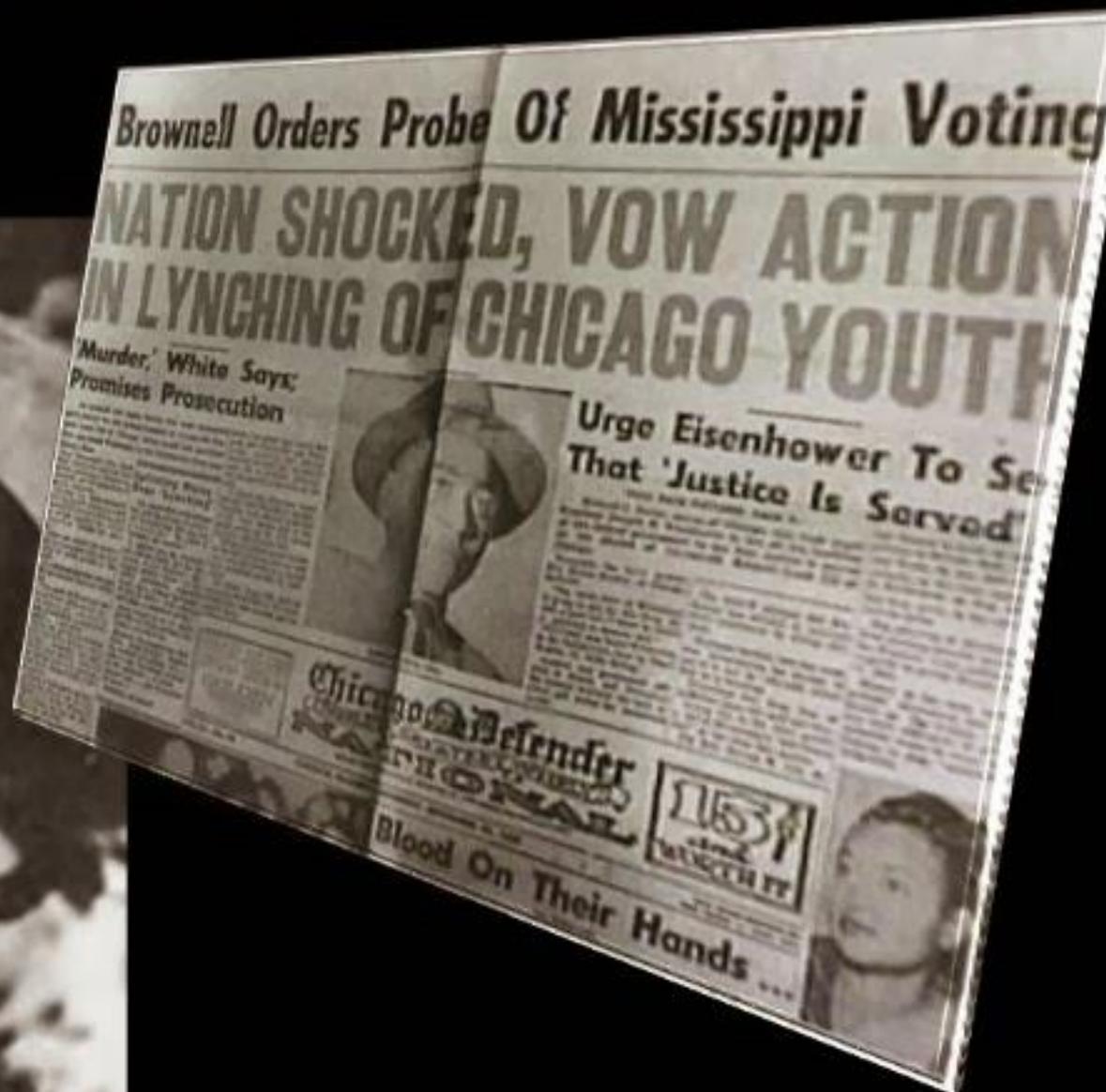
Do the dead care about skin color?



The Blind: The board of trustees shall...maintain a separate building...on separate ground for the admission, care, instruction, and support of all blind persons of the colored or black race. Louisiana

Comedian Dave Chappelle skit about a "blind racist"

The Emmett Till Case - 1955





Emmett Louis Till, 14, who was kidnaped by two white men and found slain in Greenwood, Miss., is shown with his mother, Mrs. Mamie Bradley of Chicago.

Negro Boy Was Killed For 'Wolf Whistle'

The settlement was expected to put an end to the strike which had taken many of the 129,000

workers off their jobs.

The UAW said it would try to get all of its members back as soon as possible.

The agreement was patterned closely after the Ford and General Motors contracts reached in early June.

The provisions included a Ford-GM type layoff plan which guarantees employees 60 to 65 per cent of regular take-home pay for up to 26 weeks of idleness.

Chrysler and the UAW stepped behind an assurance of retroactivity which had been part of the settlement beyond the strike deadline last midnight.

Chrysler finally agreed to start paying 3 cents per hour per employee with a first final retroactive today—three months after Ford and GM started paying into their trust funds.

But benefits under the Chrysler plan will become available next June 1, the same as at the other two big three companies.

The shutouts at Fiat affected 20,000 UAW low multi-plant workers but disappointed to become available in all of Chrysler's 61 plants. Chrysler has plants in Michigan, Ohio, Delaware and California.

Most of this company and 120 United Auto Workers negotiations returned to the bargaining table after only six days' stoppage as the strike began.

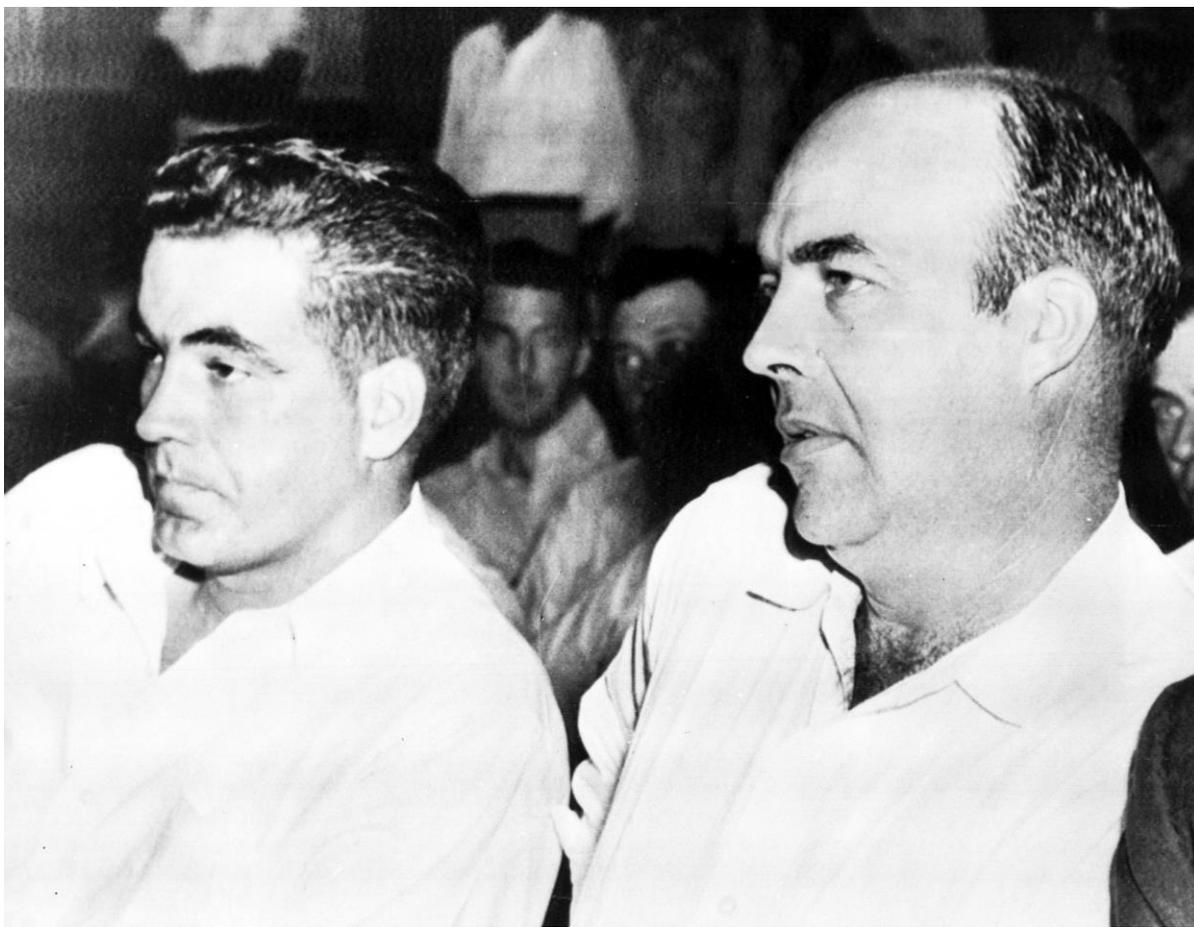
When the settlement had been

Poster Girl



Julene Kay Lake, 13, is ready for trip in after being selected of Missuslar Dystro

According to Carolyn Bryant, the 14 year old boy “whistled at her” while buying bubble-gum at a store owned by Bryant’s husband.



Carolyn Bryant's husband Roy, and his half brother killed Emmett for whistling at Ms. Bryant.



The two men beat and shot Emmett Till.

They then tied a 75lb fan around his neck and threw him in a river.

THREE DAYS LATER, TILL'S BODY WAS PULLED FROM THE TALLAHATCHIE RIVER





Till's mother insisted on having an open casket funeral.

She wanted the world to see what had been done to her son.



Brownell Orders Probe Of Mississippi Voting NATION SHOCKED, VOW ACTION IN LYNCHING OF CHICAGO YOUTH

'Murder,' White Says; Promises Prosecution

An armed and dangerous mob that assaulted the life of a young Negro youth for the sake of the franchise of Mississippi has been branded a "murder" by the United States Justice Dept. in a letter to the state attorney general in Chicago, where he is expected to file a criminal complaint against the mob.



Urge Eisenhower To See That 'Justice Is Served'

THAT JUSTICE BE SERVED is the plea of the United States Justice Dept. in a letter to the state attorney general in Chicago, where he is expected to file a criminal complaint against the mob.

Chicago's first Negro youth, who was shot and killed by a mob of white men in Mississippi, has been branded a "murder" by the United States Justice Dept. in a letter to the state attorney general in Chicago, where he is expected to file a criminal complaint against the mob.

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Chicago Defender
 CHICAGO'S GREAT NEGRO PAPER
NATIONAL
 15¢ WORTH IT



'rotest Mississippi Shame'

Blood On Their Hands ...

An Editorial

The killing of Emmett Till, Negro youth of Chicago, Mississippi, has shocked the nation and has brought to the attention of the world the horror of the lynchings in the South. The United States Justice Dept. in a letter to the state attorney general in Chicago, where he is expected to file a criminal complaint against the mob.

Mother's Tears Greet Son Who Died a Martyr

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Brownell Orders Voting Probe

WASHINGTON — The Justice Dept. has ordered a probe into the voting process in Mississippi, following the death of a young Negro youth.

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1905 - GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY - 1955

Jackson Calls Tills' Death Crime Worse Than Lynching

Speaking along another line, Dr. Jackson advised Negroes to pursue a nonviolent course in their fight for equal rights.



Mrs. MALLIE CARPER

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Mrs. Carper On KXLW Program

Monday, September 23, KXLW broadcast a special program featuring Mrs. Mallie Carper, widow of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

NOTICE!
 American Red Cross
 First Aid Class
 WILL BEGIN MON., SEPT. 19 at 7 P.M.

Chicago's first Negro youth, who was shot and killed by a mob of white men in Mississippi, has been branded a "murder" by the United States Justice Dept. in a letter to the state attorney general in Chicago, where he is expected to file a criminal complaint against the mob.

Newspapers from all over the country covered the story.

It brought national attention to the horrors of the Jim Crow South.

Death in Delta, trial gave life to rights movement

By Bartholomew Sullivan
The Commercial Appeal

MONEY, Miss. — Emmett Louis Till would have been 54 this year if he hadn't been abducted from here one Sunday morning 40 years ago, then beaten to death for wolf-whistling at a white woman.

Whole histories, plays and documentaries have memorialized the life of the 14-year-old Chicago kid doomed for breaching



knew from the words of the spirit that . . . the world would never stop crying for Emmett Till."

Former Memphian Clenora Hudson-Weems, an English professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia and author of *Emmett Till: Sacrificial Lamb of the Civil Rights Movement*, said the child-killing case was the catalyst for the whole movement.

As a child of 10, she remembered, she saw the pictures of the bloated corpse. "It was so horrific, I didn't want to remember it, but it kept resurfacing," she said.

Hudson-Weems has organized this week's four-day conference on the civil and human rights of African-



Emmett Till's death was a major factor in the start of the civil rights movement in the South.

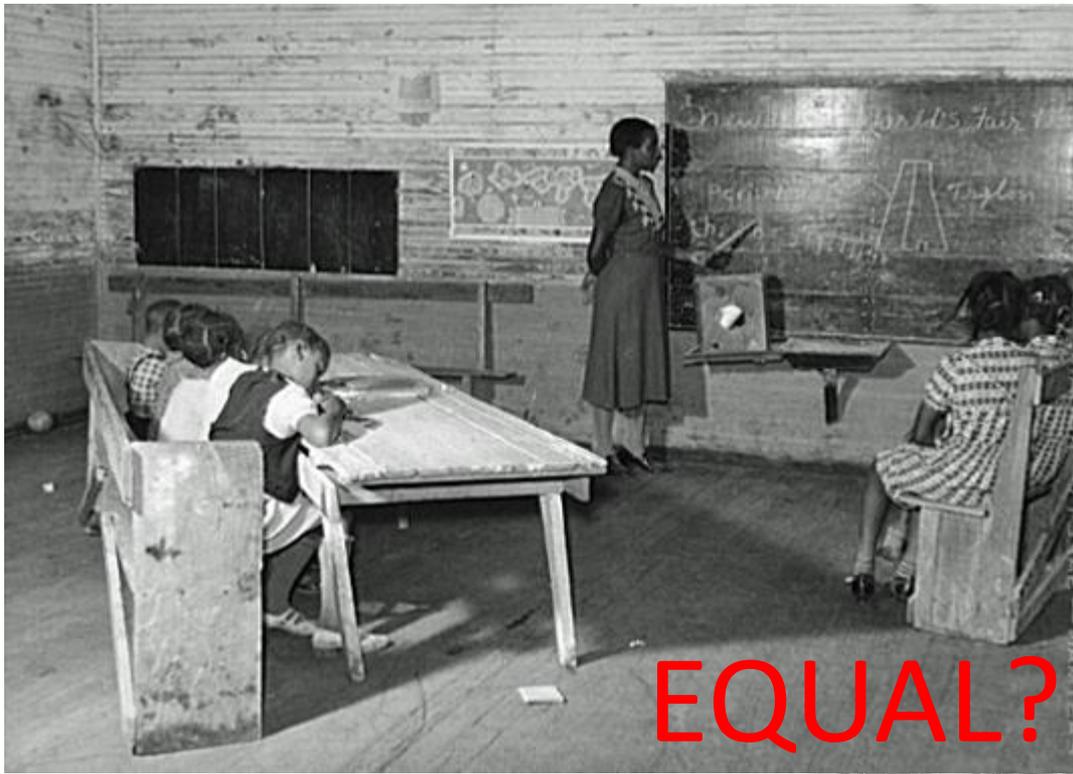
Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1953)

- Linda Brown and other African-American students were denied entry into an all-white public school near their homes
- They could only attend an inferior “colored” school further from their homes
- The Court was asked whether this violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment
- This court case challenged the notion of “separate but equal”



Linda Brown

1939 "black" school



1939 "white" school

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times.

LATE CITY EDITION

Fair and cool today. Mostly sunny,
continued cool tomorrow.
Temperature Range Today—Max., 68; Min., 52
Temperature Yesterday—Max., 69; Min., 43
Pub. C. S. Washburn, Business Editor, Page 12

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FIVE CENTS

HIGH COURT BANS SCHOOL SEGREGATION; 9-TO-0 DECISION GRANTS TIME TO COMPLY

STATE THE TOPEKA JOURNAL Home Edition
By Hearst Publications, Inc.
Topeka, Kansas, Monday, May 17, 1954—Twenty-four Pages School City Page FIVE CENTS

SCHOOL SEGREGATION BANNED

Supreme Court Refutes Doctrine of Separate but Equal Education



Serving the State University of Iowa Campus and Iowa City

The Daily Iowan

The Weather
Forecast for the week ending May 18, 1954: Partly cloudy with showers and rain. High 60, low 40.

Segregation Held Unconstitutional

High Court Votes 9-0 For Decision

Students Hear Segregation News

McCarthy-Army Feud Halted Until Monday

Adams Listens to McCarthy



The Supreme Court delivered a 9-0 unanimous decision against school segregation.



However, segregation did not suddenly disappear in the South.

Resistance to integration continued long after the Brown decision.



Supreme Court of the United States

No. 1 ———, October Term, 1954

Mrs. Richard Lawton, Mrs. Sadie Emmanuel et al.,
Appellants,
vs.
The Board of Education of the City of Topeka,
Appellee,
Cherokee County, Kansas.

"WE CONCLUDE THAT, IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, THE DOCTRINE OF 'SEPARATE BUT EQUAL' HAS NO PLACE."

- Chief Justice Warren

Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of Kansas.
Based on the transcript of the record from the United States

Even the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court was not immune to threats.

Segregation was the law of the South, and many people didn't want change.



The Montgomery Bus Boycott 1955-56

- December 1955: Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man in Montgomery, AL. She was arrested & prosecuted
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led a 13 month boycott of the city buses and organized car pools and private taxi services
- King was arrested and his home was bombed



Montgomery Bus Boycott

- Case went to federal court
- Court ruled segregation on the buses violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment
- Buses were desegregated
- Proved that litigation and boycotts could overturn Jim Crow Laws



Gov. Orval Faubus



Gov. Orval Faubus publically proclaimed he would continue with segregation as long as possible



He ordered the Arkansas National guard to prevent nine (9) African-American students from entering Little Rock High School

The governor also refused to protect the students from the angry mob that gathered outside of the school...

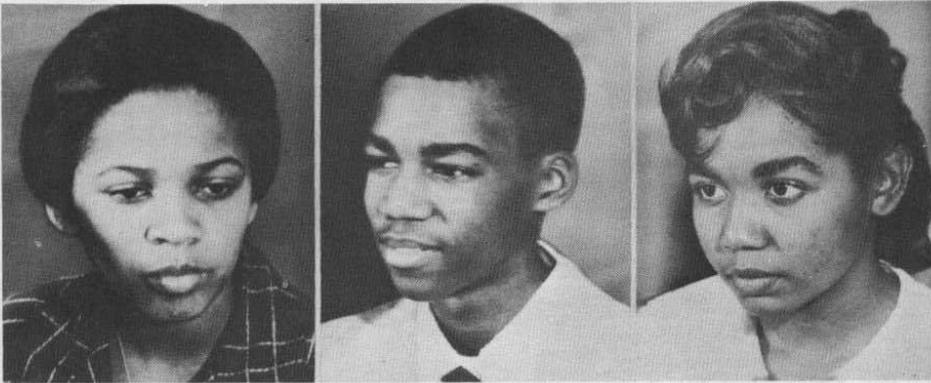






Little Rock Nine

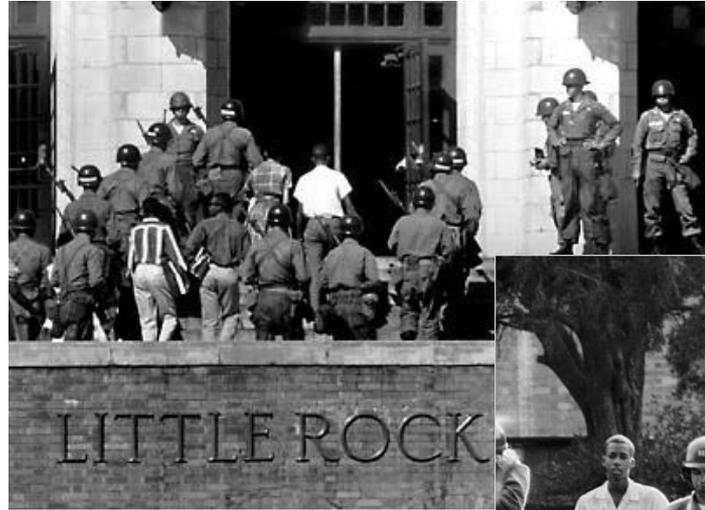
- Nine African-American students who tried to desegregate Little Rock High School



The Little Rock Nine (top to bottom, left to right), Gloria Ray, Terrance Roberts, and Melba Patillo; Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, and Minnijean Brown; Jefferson Thomas, Carlotta Walls, and Thelma Mothershed.

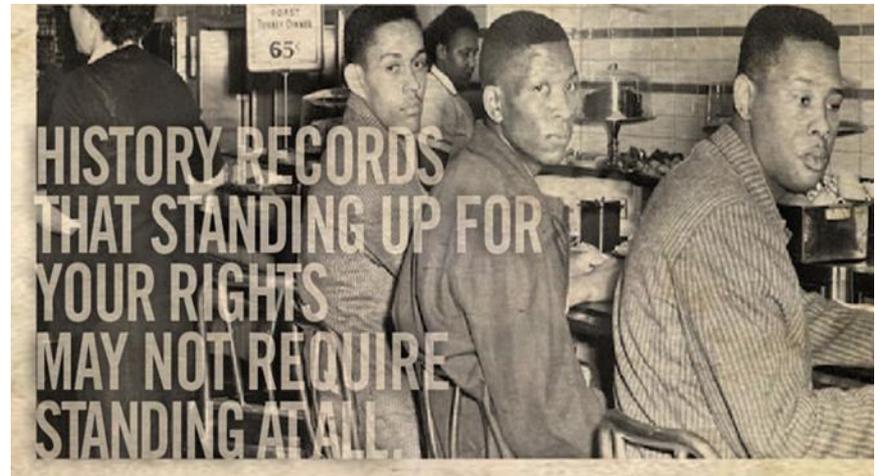
Eisenhower's Response

- President Eisenhower ordered federal troops to guard Little Rock 9 and desegregate the school by force if needed
- Gov. Faubus tried to close the school to delay
- Supreme Court ordered the school desegregate immediately
- 82nd Airborne Rangers stationed at the school for a year



Southern Sit-ins

- 1960: African-American and white students held a sit-in at “whites only” lunch counters in North Carolina





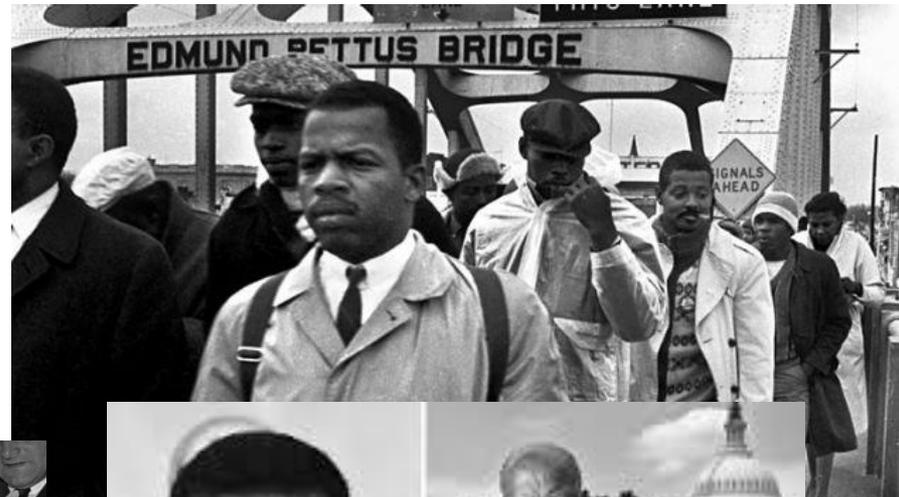
Students were heckled and covered in condiments by the crowd, and were later arrested;

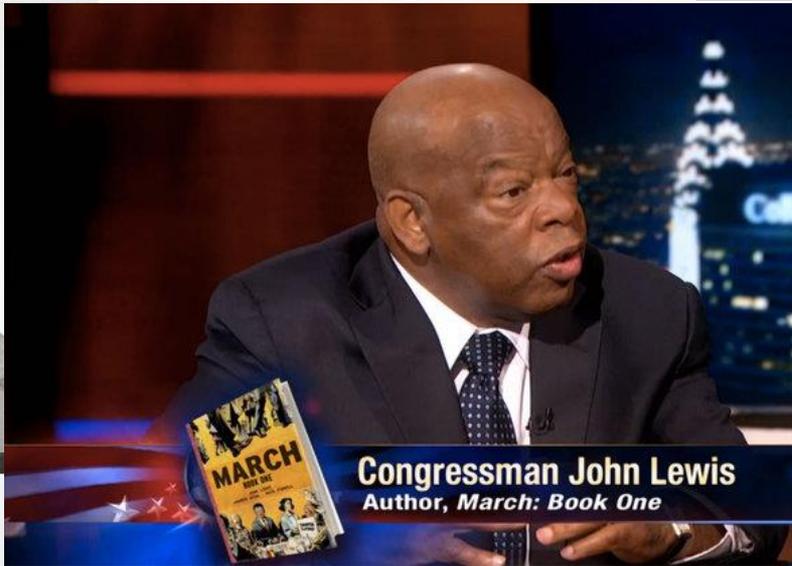
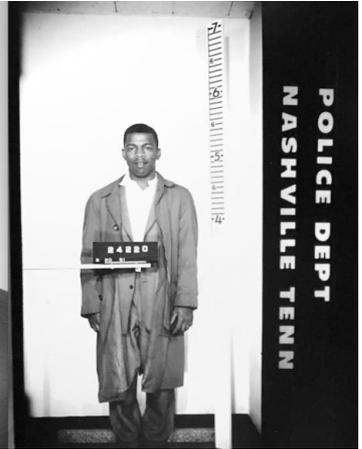
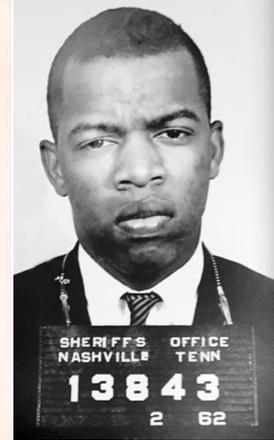
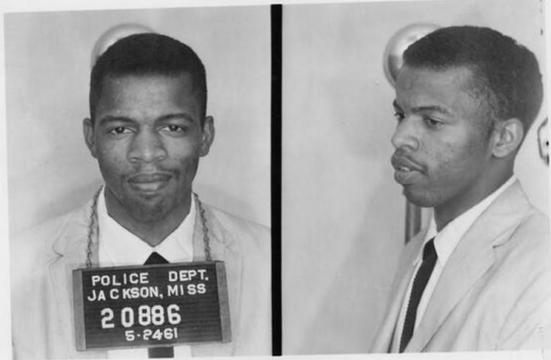


Violence against protestors also occurred...

John Lewis

- He was a student organizer of sit ins, Freedom Rides, marches, etc...





Future Georgia Congressman and Medal of Freedom recipient, John Lewis, was arrested multiple times for protesting segregation and Jim Crow.



Congressman Lewis has been arrested over 45 times, and continues to protest civil rights violations even today – and he still gets arrested, even though his protests are non-violent.



Congressman Lewis with James Zwerg after being beaten for marching in Selma, Alabama.

Some face Parchman—P-77 6-14-61

Arrested riders now stand at 110

JACKSON, Miss., June 14—(AP)—The number of "freedom riders" stood at 110 today while plans were laid to move those still in jail here to the state penitentiary.

Since May 24—three weeks ago—today—110 have been convicted here of breach of peace charges, 24 have been released on bond, four have paid fines, and 24 are free on bond.

HE SAID HE told no one he was from Mississippi, and the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) gave him \$20 to get from Chicago to Nashville, Tenn., and \$15 to get from Nashville to Jackson.

"They are making fools of some Negroes," he said.

He said one of the white women freedom riders told him on the bus trip she had been to Cuba and

FREEDOM RIDERS

THREATENED.
ATTACKED.
JAILED.

1961: attempt to focus attention on segregated bus in interstate travel

Students boarded buses in NY and Chicago and rode through the South



Continued

In Alabama, on Day 11, they were met with heavy protests. One bus was set on fire and some of the Freedom Riders were beat up.



When the other bus arrived, Bull Connor, a police official, let the KKK and the mob do whatever they wanted to the Freedom Riders from 15 minutes.





Similar violence occurred at various stops throughout the each trip.



Many of the freedom riders were white college students from northern states.
Newspapers brought the stories of violence to the whole country.
Suddenly, white parents in the north had to worry about Jim Crow too...

SUNNY AND MILD
Alabama: Clear to partly cloudy to-
day, tonight and Wednesday.
Montgomery: Sunny and mild today
with Wednesday.
Weather Map Page 3-A1

ALABAMA JOURNAL

Central and Southeast Alabama's Largest Evening Newspaper

Latest Edition
EVENING TIME
IS READING TIME

1916 YEAR—NO. 272

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONTGOMERY, ALA., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1956

UNITED PRESS

20 PAGES

PRICE FIVE CENTS

BUS SEGREGATION IS KNOCKED OUT

U.N. Observer Group Enters Suez Sector

Takeoff Time Of First Units Is Postponed

By MAX HARRIS
LONDON (AP)—A 13-man team of U.N. observers, headed by the late Gen. Sir John Gort, is to leave for the Suez Canal zone today to watch over the ceasefire between Israeli and Egyptian forces.
But the departure of the first U.N. police unit for Egypt was postponed. U.N. spokesmen said the reason was "flight times and other factors."
At the same time, however, a more definite departure time for the police unit is being sought. It is expected to leave for Egypt tomorrow.

EGYPT CONSENTS TO REVIEW
U.N. observers were told yesterday by Egyptian officials that they had agreed to allow the police unit to enter only territory under Egyptian control. The unit is expected to leave for Egypt tomorrow.



LEADERS IN CHURCH MEETING

Three of the principal figures at the Alabama Baptist Convention now in progress here are pictured above. Left to right are Dr. W. F. Powell, Dr. A. H. Boyd and Rev. R. C. Edge.

STATE CONVENTION OPENS Baptists Urged to Live 'Extraordinary' Lives

By JOE KOEHN
The leader of Alabama's 120,000 Baptists this morning warned his fellow churchmen that Christians must "lead the life" of being ordinary if they hope to change the condition of the world.
Speaking at the opening session of the Alabama Baptist State Convention in the Ritz Hotel, L. E. Lynn, convention president, pointed out that a Christian must be "different" from the life around him if he is to retain the power of the

Traffic Kills 5 on Weekend

The long Veterans Day weekend in Alabama ended at midnight last night with five traffic fatalities reported in the highway patrol.
This was below the average for possible weekends despite abnormally heavy traffic reported by public safety director Bill Epler.
Patrolmen had been out at 10 points on state roads since 4 p.m. Friday. Sleeping motorists to urge careful driving. They were alerted by passing on state circular safety messages from Gov.



Hungary Issue Given Priority On U.N. Agenda

Steering Group Ignores Warning By Red Delegate

By MAX HARRIS
UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (AP)—Despite Soviet objections, the U.N.'s powerful steering committee cleared the way today for priority debate on the Hungarian situation at the regular session of the General Assembly.
The 15-nation committee voted 11 to 2 to place the Hungarian problem on the agenda of the Assembly so it can follow up the action taken in the recent emergency Assembly. Only the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia voted against the debate. Egypt abstained.
The steering committee recommended unanimously that the Middle East problem be placed on the 79-nation Assembly's agenda.

Question Mark Put On Car Pool Case

A Negro leader said today a decision on whether to end the Montgomery bus boycott in view of the Supreme Court ruling outlawing bus segregation laws will be made at a noon meeting here tomorrow night.

Earlier, said the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Negroes will continue to boycott city buses and will use their car pool unless stopped by court order.
The Supreme Court's decision following city and state bus segregation laws left a big question mark hanging today over a hearing in state court on the city's attempt to halt a car pool used by Negroes during their long boycott against segregated city buses.
The hearing continued after a brief pause while opposing lawyers and Circuit Judge Eugene Carter read an Associated Press story announcing the Supreme Court's ruling.
There was no immediate indication whether the Negroes will continue their bus boycott. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., one of the boycott leaders, promised a statement later in the day.

Supreme Court Rejects Plea Of City, State

Tribunal Votes Unanimously Acts Unconstitutional

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court today after a 9-0 decision holding unconstitutional Alabama and Montgomery, Ala., laws requiring racial segregation on buses.
The decision, by a special three-judge U.S. District Court in Montgomery, was appealed by the city's Board of Commissioners.
Members of the City Commission, their attorneys, attorneys for the bus boycotters and the bus company management had an immediate conference on the decision, and by the Alabama Public Service Commission. Each filed separate appeals.
ACTION IS UNANNOUNCED
Today's Supreme Court action was unanimous.
The tribunal issued a brief order which said "the motion to affirm is granted and the judgment is affirmed."
The order cited the Supreme Court's 1946 decision in the public school segregation case and two later orders striking down race segregation in public parks and public golf links.
By affirming the special report of the Supreme Court, the tribunal said that it was outlawing racial segregation in all bus systems.
Some question had arisen earlier this year when the high tribunal simply dismissed an appeal

Bitter-End Rebels Still Defy Russians

VIENNA (AP)—The Hungarians (hundreds of thousands wandering aimlessly through the ruins of a once-beautiful city, finally ignoring their freedom, opening cold, hard eyes and the mental scars of the

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NO IMMEDIATE COMMENT HERE

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Dr. King

- Lead numerous marches and was often arrested



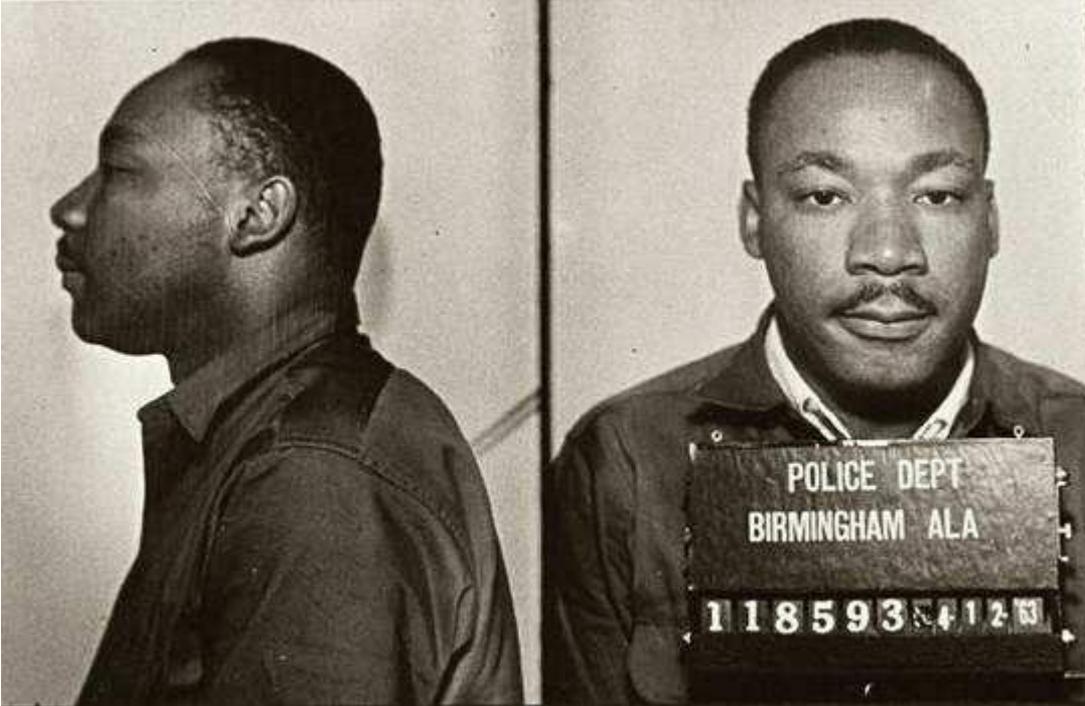


Police often turned dogs and fire hoses on the marchers, in an effort to intimidate them into giving up their fight...

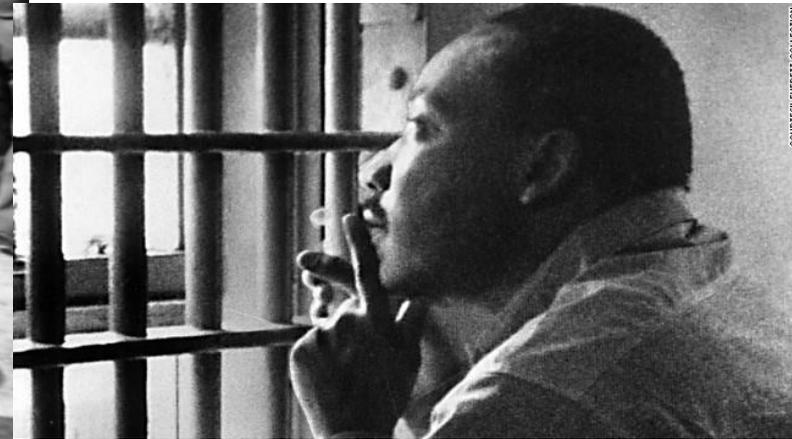




The march on Birmingham, Alabama was especially violent.



King's arrest made national news. The continued arrests of Civil Rights supporters actually helped further their cause because it brought their fight to the attention of mainstream America.



The Birmingham march was a turning point in the Civil Rights movement

TV reports of the violence in Birmingham made it difficult for average Americans to ignore segregation

Public outrage over police brutality forced Birmingham officials to end segregation

Events in Birmingham revealed the need for greater action by the national government



March on Washington, 1963

- MLK and others organized a march on Washington to pressure Congress to pass Civil Rights bill
- 250,000+ attended the march
- Largest civil rights demonstration in US









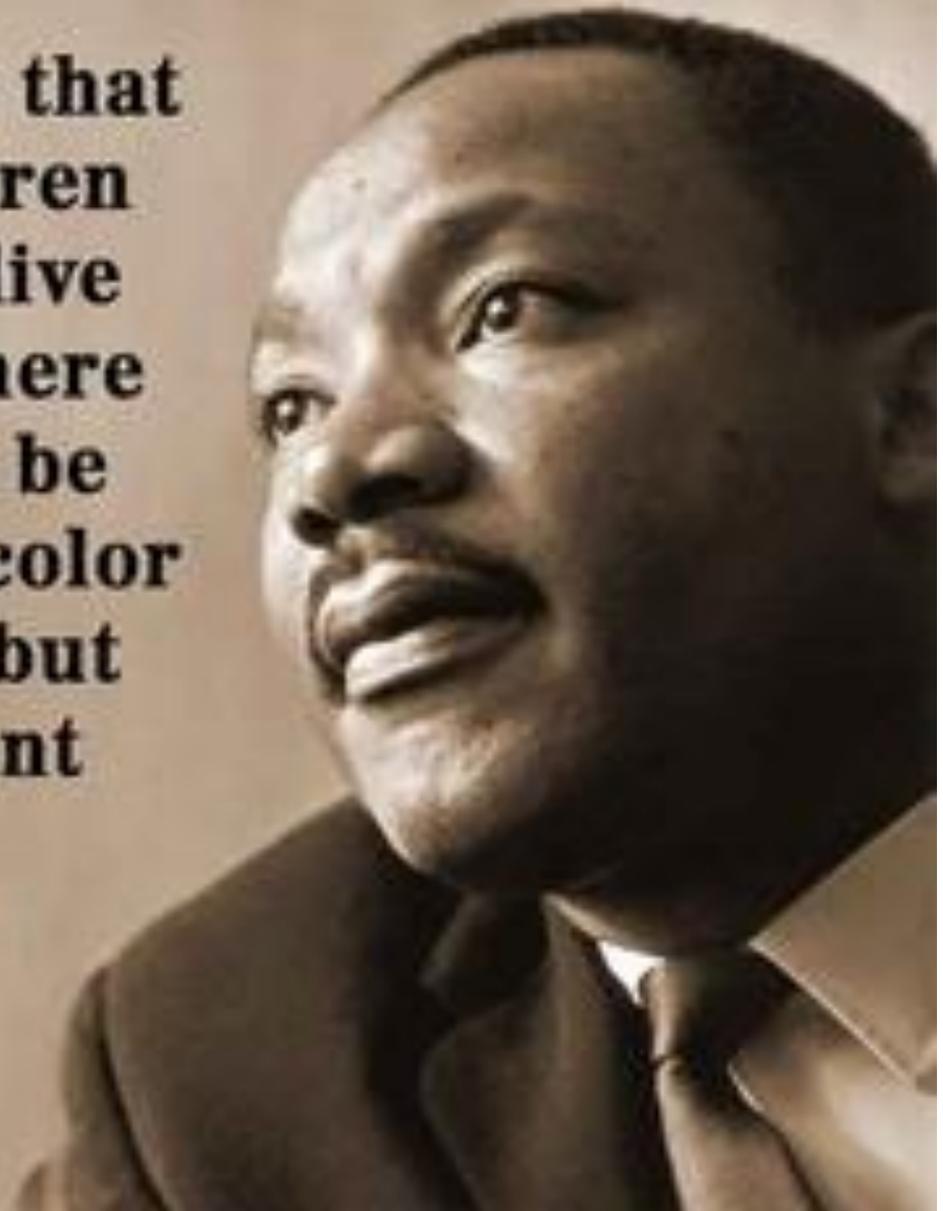
“I Have a Dream” Speech

- MLK delivered the speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial
- One of the most memorable and effective speeches of the movement



**I have a dream that
my four 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.**

**Martin Luther King Jr.
August 28, 1963**



March on Washington

- Culmination of the march was a meeting between MLK and JFK @ White House



JFK and Civil Rights

- Wanted MLK and others to move more slowly
- Worried about violence
- Supported the movement publically
- Assassinated before Civil Rights Act came up for vote



Those who make
peaceful revolution
impossible, make
violent revolution
inevitable.

John F. Kennedy



b&p

LBJ and Civil Rights



- LBJ was a Senator from TX & Majority Leader of Democratic Party
- Pushed Civil Rights Act of 1957 thru Senate
- Becomes Pres when JFK was killed
- Pushes for new legislation
- Uses death of JFK to spur action in Congress



Civil Rights Act of 1964

- LBJ pushes
- Southern Senators try to filibuster bill (talk it to death)
- Senate passes; bill becomes law





Civil Rights Act 1964

- Prohibits discrimination by race, color, religion or ethnic origin in:
 - Hotels
 - Restaurants
 - Stores
 - Etc...



Anyone involved in interstate commerce subject to law

Civil Rights Act 1964

- Cut off federal aid to any school district/State with segregated schools
- Gave Federal gov't power to register people to vote
- Established EEOC: **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**
- EEOC is given power to enforce the Act
- Any business involved in interstate commerce was subject to the law!

Selma, Alabama Marches

- 1965 MLK organized march demanding voting rights
- Demonstrators attacked by police
- Called “Bloody Sunday”
- LBJ introduces Voting Rights Act as a result







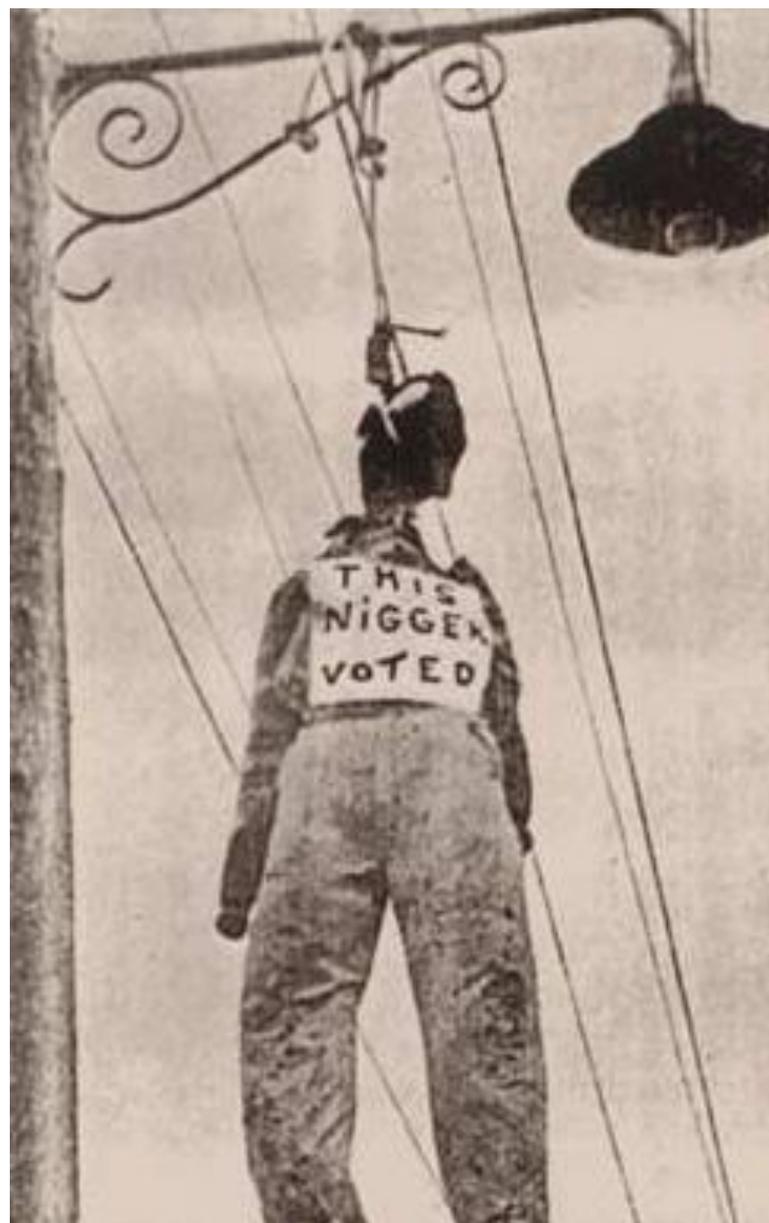
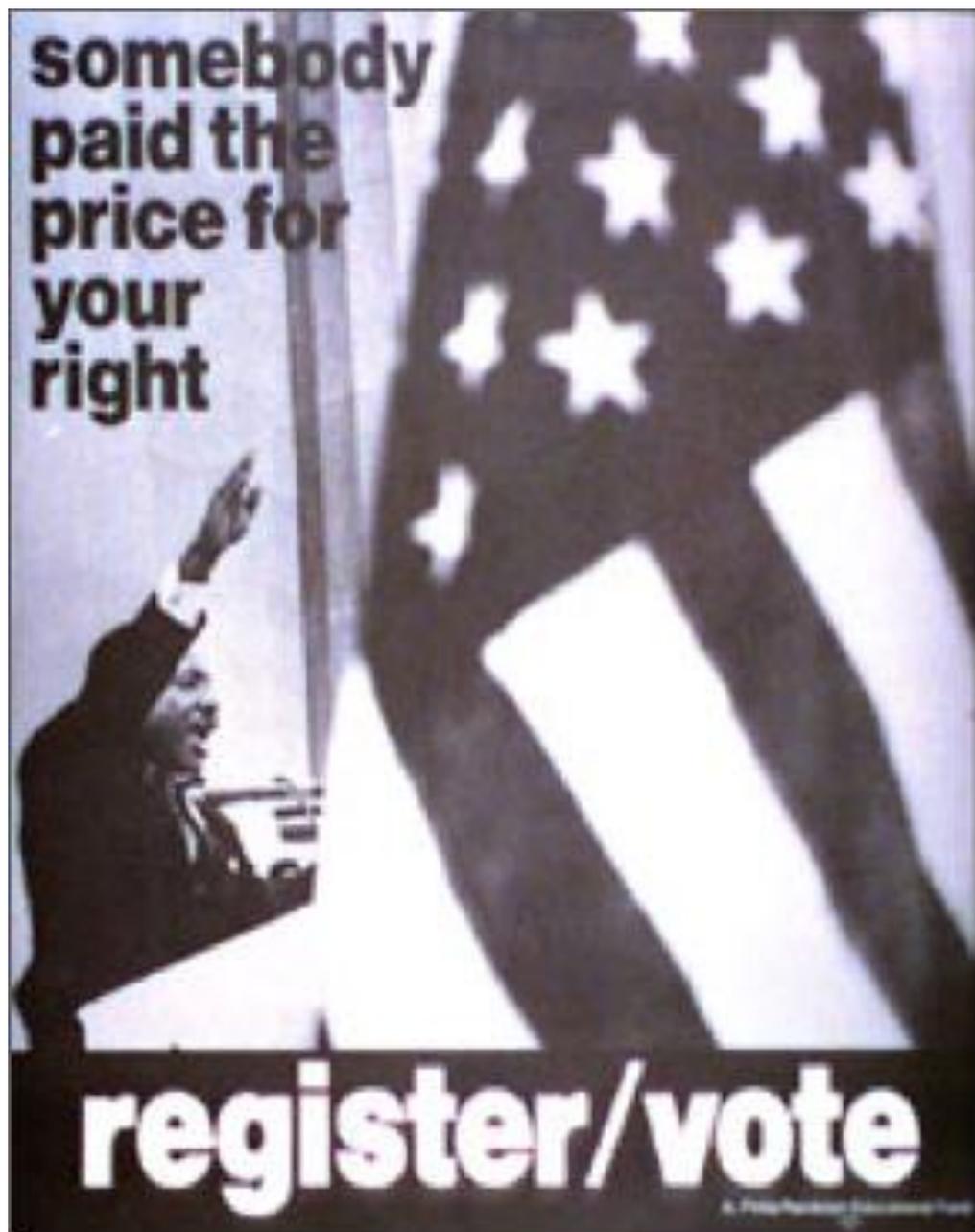




Voting Rights Act of 1965

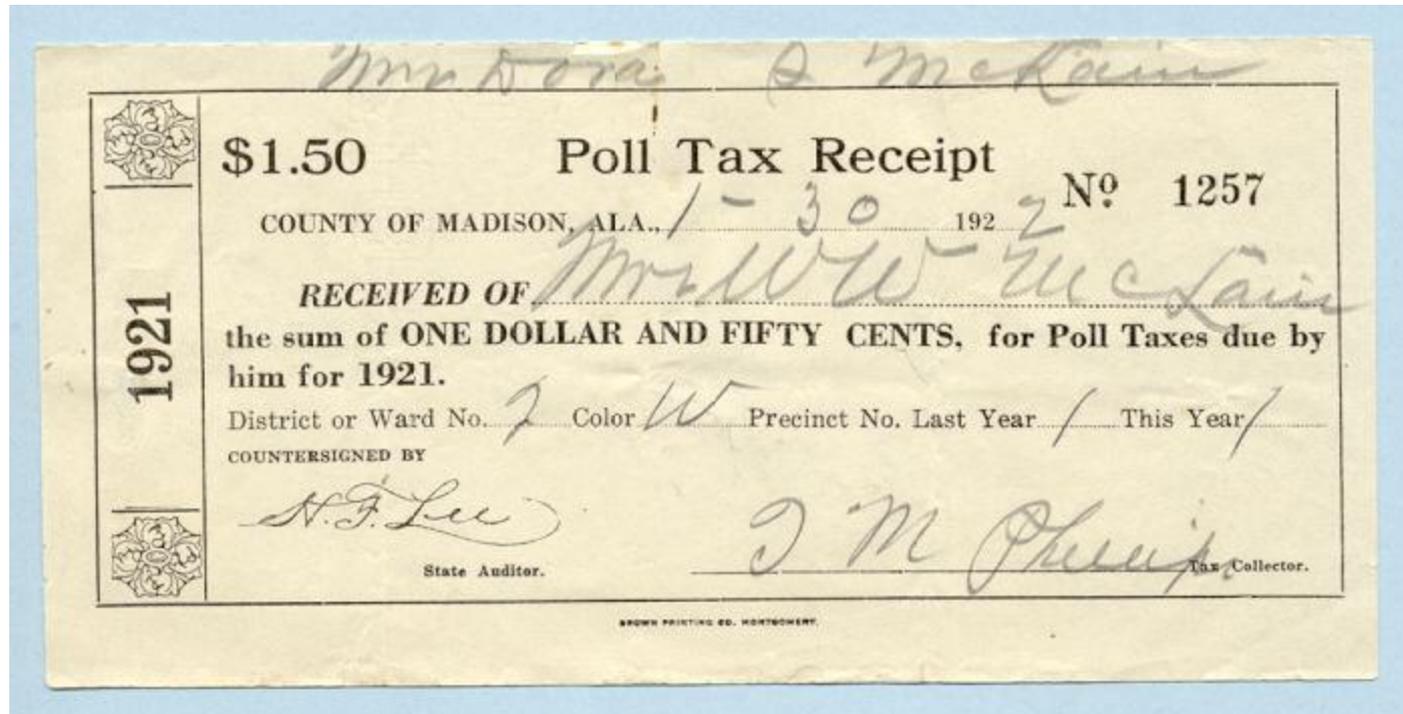
- Ended poll taxes
- Suspended literacy tests when used to prevent African-Americans from registering to vote
- Lead to substantial increase in # of African-Americans registered to vote





24th Amendment

- 1964
- Eliminated Poll Taxes in federal elections



24th Amendment

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax.

Could You Pass the Louisiana Voter Literacy Test?

