

# **Civil Rights and Social Progress**

(1945 - 2014)

“Never Doubt the power of a small group of dedicated citizens to change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

## **The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1868)**

“ No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of any citizen of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

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*The subject of Civil Rights involves many volatile issues. To many Americans, the Civil Rights Movement conjures up images of America’s proudest moments, and her most shameful. The struggle for equality on behalf of all Americans has existed throughout our nation’s history, and will continue throughout your lifetime.*

*The role that Americans expect the government to play in their lives has gone through many changes as well. The trend we started in the Progressive Era, and continued with the New Deal, is taken further with each new generation. As a society, we have tackled such sensitive issues as race relations, redistribution of wealth, equal rights for women, gay rights, environmental concerns, and consumer safety, to name just a few. In this unit, we will explore the changes that have taken place over the last half-century as well as the roads not taken.*

### **Unit Objectives:**

- ◆ Explain the purpose and goals of the civil rights struggles.
- ◆ Identify and explain the tactics and techniques used to achieve social progress.
- ◆ Identify key figures and events of the civil rights movements.
- ◆ Recognize civil rights struggles in America today.

### **Terms/Events**

Plessy Vs. Ferguson  
Brown vs. Board of Education (1 & 2)  
Montgomery Bus Boycott  
Little Rock 9  
The Albany Movement  
Sit-ins/ boycotts  
Freedom Rides  
Birmingham Campaign  
March on Washington (1963)

Freedom Summer  
Civil Rights Act of 1964  
March on Selma  
Voting Rights Act of 1965  
Roe vs. Wade  
Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)  
Stonewall  
Clean Air Act/ Clean Water Act

Black Power  
Busing  
Silent Spring  
Title IX  
Murder of Cheney, Goodman, and Schwerner  
Unsafe at any Speed

### **People**

A. Philip Randolph  
Jackie Robinson  
Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Harry S. Truman  
Emmitt Till  
Martin Luther King Jr.  
Rosa Parks  
John Lewis  
Medgar Evers

Eugene “Bull” Connor  
George Wallace  
Malcolm X  
Huey Newton  
Bobby Seale  
John F. Kennedy  
Robert Kennedy  
Lyndon B. Johnson  
Stokely Carmichael

Jesse Jackson  
Al Sharpton  
Louis Farrakahn  
Ralph Nader  
Rachel Carson  
Betty Friedan  
Gloria Steinem  
Phyllis Schlafly  
Cesar Chavez

## Organizations

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)  
 United Negro Improvement Association (UNIA)  
 Congress on Racial Equality (CORE)

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)  
 Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)  
 Nation of Islam  
 The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense

The American Indian Movement (AIM)  
 National Organization for Women (NOW)  
 Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)  
 Greenpeace

## Questions you should be able to speak intelligently about:

- Why was non-violence such an important tactic?
- Why didn't SNCC join the SCLC?
- How (and why) does SNCC change?
- Why was it so important to have help from white students?
- How did Malcolm X contribute to the Mvt?
- Why did so much violence erupt in the late 60s?
- Why were civil rights efforts more effective in the South than in the North?
- Why did the focus shift from integration to voting rights?
- Who's a better civil rights leader: Martin or Malcolm? Why?
- What was the women's liberation movement trying to change?
- What were some of the successes and failures of the American Indian Movement? (environmental movement? Consumer rights movement?)
- During the "conservative revolution" of the 80s, 90s, and 00s, how have things improved? How are they getting worse?
- Be able to discuss both the arguments for and the arguments against "affirmative action."
- Be able to discuss the similarities and differences between all of the movements we've talked about.

Date	Homework	Topic	Targets and Objectives
Mon 4/28	None	Cold War Test	
Tues 4/29	21.1 (700-top of 703)	The Early Civil Rights Movement	Explain the details surrounding, and significance of, each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Segregation</li> <li>• <i>Plessy vs. Ferguson</i></li> <li>• <i>Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka</i></li> <li>• The NAACP legal strategy</li> </ul>
Wed 4/30	None	Computer Testing	None

Thu 5/1	21.1 (703-end)	The Early Civil Rights Movement	<p>Explain the details surrounding, and significance of, each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resistance to the <i>Brown</i> decision</li> <li>• The Crisis in Little Rock</li> <li>• The Montgomery Bus Boycott</li> <li>• Rosa Parks</li> <li>• Martin Luther King Jr.</li> </ul> <p>Compare and contrast the SCLC and SNCC. What strategies did the movement focus on after Montgomery?</p>
Fri 5/2	None	Freedom Riders	Guest Speaker
Mon 5/5	None	Vietnam Veteran speaker	None
Tues 5/6	None	Civil Rights Heroes	
Wed 5/7		No School	
Thu 5/8	21.2	Triumphs of the Civil Rights Movement	<p>What were the Freedom Riders trying to do? How'd they try to do it? How'd it go? Explain (who? what? when? how? Why was it significant? etc.) for both James Meredith and the clash in Birmingham</p>
Fri 5/9	21.2	Triumphs of the Civil Rights Movement	<p>Explain (who? what? when? how? Why was it significant? etc.) of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The March on Washington</li> <li>• The Civil Rights Act</li> <li>• Freedom Summer</li> <li>• Fannie Lou Hamer and the MFDP</li> <li>• The campaign in Selma</li> <li>• The Voting Rights Act of 1965</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Mon 5/12	21.3	What Now? Changes and Challenges to the movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What were the significant civil rights issues remaining after 1965?</li> <li>• Explain both "de facto" and "de jure" segregation, and other civil rights issues in the north.</li> <li>• Why did violence erupt in many northern cities in the late sixties?</li> <li>• Describe the idea of black nationalism as expressed by Malcolm X and the Nation of Islam. How does this compare with the ideas of King and the SCLC?</li> <li>• Explain Stokely Carmichael and the Black Power Movement. How does this compare to King and the SCLC?</li> <li>• Who were the Black Panthers, what did they do, and how do they compare to the others?</li> <li>• Why was 1968 such an important turning point?</li> <li>• Explain what affirmative action is, and the arguments both for and against such programs?</li> </ul>

Tue 5/13	23.1	Latino and Native American Movements	Compare and contrast Cesar Chavez with MLK What issues were Latinos trying to address? How did they try to enact change? Wow well did that go? What were Native American reformers hoping to change? How did they try to change things? Compare AIM to other organizations we've discussed.
Wed 5/14	23.2	The Feminist Movement	Compare Betty Friedan with other civil rights leaders. What does the term feminism mean? What issues were/are feminists hoping to change? How does NOW compare to other organizations we've discussed? What gains have been made by the feminist movement so far? What did the Supreme Court decide in <i>Roe v. Wade</i> , and what was the impact of that decision? What was the Equal Rights Amendment? What arguments supported and opposed it? How'd it turn out? Explain the successes and failures of the feminist movement?
Thu 5/15	24.4	Environmentalism, Consumer Advocacy, and the Gay Rights Movement	Explain the role of Rachel Carson and her book <i>Silent Spring</i> in starting the modern environmental movement. What issues were environmentalists working to change? What did they try to do? How'd it go? Explain Ralph Nader and his role in creating a consumer advocacy movement? Explain the origins of the Gay Rights Movement. What role did Stonewall play in this movement? What were Gay rights activists hoping to change? How'd they try to enact change? How'd that go? How do organizations like GLAAD, PFLAG, and GLSN compare to other organizations we've discussed?
Fri 5/16	None	Civil Rights Issues in Modern America	Open discussion on affirmative action, recent court cases, local and regional issues, whatever the class wants to get into. I suppose we can even get into the Clippers if thats still a thing.
Mon 5/19	None	Review	
Tue 5/20	None	Civil Rights Test	

