The Civil Rights Movement

What are Civil Rights???
We hear about the Civil Rights movement and all the great leaders and events involved, but I want to know what our civil rights are.
The Civil Rights Movement

- **Your civil rights are the protections and privileges of personal liberty given to all American citizens by law**, as specified in the Constitution, and the amendments to the Constitution.
- Knowing your rights is the first step towards protecting them.
- Civil Rights refer to positive actions a government should take to create equal conditions for all Americans.
- The term “civil rights” is often associated with the protection of minority groups, such as African American, Hispanics, and women.
Almost exactly nine months after World War II ended, “the cry of the baby was heard across the land,” as historian Landon Jones later described the trend. More babies were born in 1946 than ever before: 3.4 million, 20 percent more than in 1945. This was the beginning of the so-called “baby boom.” In 1947, another 3.8 million babies were born; 3.9 million were born in 1952; and more than 4 million were born every year from 1954 until 1964, when the boom finally tapered off. By then, there were 76.4 million “baby boomers” in the United States. They made up almost 40 percent of the nation’s population.
The Civil Rights Movement

Stop & Jot: What explains this baby boom???
The Civil Rights Movement

- Some historians have argued that it was a part of a desire for normalcy after 16 years of depression and war.
- Others have argued that it was a part of a Cold War campaign to fight communism by outnumbering communists.
- Many people in the postwar era looked forward to having children because they were confident that the future would be one of comfort and prosperity.
- Many Americans felt certain that they could give their families all the material things that they themselves had done without.
The Civil Rights Movement

GI Bill

- It was intended to provide financial aid to veterans returning from WWII.
- The Bill gave veterans funding for education, home loans, unemployment insurance, job counseling and the construction of veterans’ hospital facilities.
- More Veterans started to attend college
The Civil Rights Movement

- At the beginning of the 1960s, many Americans believed they were standing at the dawn of a golden age.
- On January 20, 1961, the handsome and charismatic John F. Kennedy became president of the United States.
- His confidence that, as one historian put it, “the government possessed big answers to big problems” seemed to set the tone for the rest of the decade.
- However, that golden age never materialized. On the contrary, by the end of the 1960s it seemed that the nation was falling apart.
The Civil Rights Movement

The Counterculture Movement of the 1960s

- The 1960s were a period when long-held values and norms of behavior seemed to break down, particularly among the young.
- Many college-age men and women became political activists and were the driving force behind the civil rights and antiwar movements.
- Other young people simply “dropped out” and separated themselves from mainstream culture through their appearance and lifestyle.
- Attitudes toward sexuality appeared to loosen, and women began to openly protest the traditional roles of housewife and mother that society had assigned to them.
The Civil Rights Movement

- During his presidential campaign in 1960, John F. Kennedy had promised the most ambitious domestic agenda since the New Deal: the “New Frontier,” a package of laws and reforms that sought to eliminate injustice and inequality in the United States.

- But the New Frontier ran into problems right away: The Democrats’ Congressional majority depended on a group of Southerners who loathed the plan’s interventionist liberalism and did all they could to block it.
The Civil Rights Movement

Great Society

• It was not until 1964, after Kennedy was shot, that President Lyndon B. Johnson could muster the political capital to enact his own expansive program of reforms.

• That year, Johnson declared that he would make the United States into a “Great Society” in which he wanted to end poverty and racial injustice.

• He developed a set of programs that would give poor people “a hand up, not a handout.”

• LBJ sponsored the largest reform agenda since Roosevelt’s New Deal.
The War on Poverty is the unofficial name for legislation first introduced by United States President Lyndon B. Johnson during his State of the Union address on January 8, 1964.

This legislation was proposed by Johnson in response to a national poverty rate of around nineteen percent. (Currently at 13.5%)

The speech led the United States Congress to pass the Economic Opportunity Act, which established the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) to administer the local application of federal funds targeted against poverty.
The Civil Rights Movement

Poverty Guideline

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $4,160 for each additional person.

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On July 30 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signs Medicare, a health insurance program for elderly Americans, into law.

The Medicare program, providing hospital and medical insurance for Americans age 65 or older, was signed into law as an amendment to the Social Security Act of 1935.

Some 19 million people enrolled in Medicare when it went into effect in 1966.

In 1972, eligibility for the program was extended to Americans under 65 with certain disabilities and people of all ages with permanent kidney disease requiring dialysis or transplant.
The Civil Rights Movement

- Medicare is funded entirely by the federal government and paid for in part through payroll taxes.
- Medicare is currently a source of controversy due to the enormous strain it puts on the federal budget.
- Throughout its history, the program also has been plagued by fraud-committed by patients, doctors and hospitals-that has cost taxpayers billions of dollars.
The Civil Rights Movement

- Medicaid, a state and federally funded program that offers health coverage to certain low-income people, was also signed into law by President Johnson on July 30, 1965, as an amendment to the Social Security Act.

- Stop & Jot: Why do some people worry about the effect of Medicare on the future economy???

Think: baby boomers
The Civil Rights Movement

- The movement against U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War began small—among peace activists and leftist intellectuals on college campuses—but gained national prominence in 1965, after the United States began bombing North Vietnam in earnest.

- Anti-war marches and other protests, such as the ones organized by Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), attracted a widening base of support over the next three years, peaking in early 1968 after the successful Tet Offensive by North Vietnamese troops proved that war’s end was nowhere in sight.
The Civil Rights Movement

Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)

- A small but outspoken liberal minority was making its voice heard by the end of 1965.
- This minority included many students as well as prominent artists and intellectuals and members of the hippie movement, a growing number of young people who rejected authority and embraced the drug culture.
The Civil Rights Movement
Democratic Convention of 1968

- At the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, tens of thousands of Vietnam War protesters battle police in the streets, while the Democratic Party falls apart over an internal disagreement concerning its stance on Vietnam. Over the course of 24 hours, the predominant American line of thought on the Cold War with the Soviet Union was shattered.

- Democratic delegates from across the country were split on the question of Vietnam.
The Civil Rights Movement

- As the debate intensified, fights broke out on the convention floor, and delegates and reporters were beaten and knocked to the ground. Eventually, the delegates on the side of the status quo, championed by then-Vice President Hubert Humphrey, won out, but the events of the convention had seriously weakened the party, which went on to lose the following election.
The Civil Rights Movement

- Meanwhile, on the streets of Chicago, several thousand anti-war protesters gathered to show their support for the U.S. withdrawal of troops from Vietnam.
- Chicago Mayor Richard Daley deployed 12,000 police officers and called in another 15,000 state and federal officers to contain the protesters.
- The situation then rapidly spiraled out of control, with the policemen severely beating and gassing the demonstrators, as well as newsmen and doctors who had come to help.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_9OJnRnZjU
The Civil Rights Movement

- By November 1967, American troop strength in Vietnam was approaching 500,000 and U.S. casualties had reached 15,058 killed and 109,527 wounded.
- The Vietnam War was costing the U.S. some $25 billion per year, and disillusionment was beginning to reach greater sections of the taxpaying public.
- More casualties were reported in Vietnam every day, even as U.S. commanders demanded more troops.
- Under the draft system, as many as 40,000 young men were called into service each month, adding fuel to the fire of the anti-war movement.
The Civil Rights Movement

- As we learned before anti-war protests were led mainly by young, college aged students who were preaching peace instead of war.
- There were many confrontations between protesters and the police & military, often becoming violent.
- Television changed many minds.
- Millions of Americans watched body bags leave the Asian rice paddies every night in their living rooms.

[Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVNUlOUlMeo]
The Civil Rights Movement

Anti-war protests (Kent State & Jackson State)

- When Nixon publicly announced the Cambodian incursion, it set off a wave of antiwar demonstrations.

- A protest at Kent State University resulted in the killing of four students by Army National Guard troops.

- Another student rally at Jackson State College in Mississippi resulted in the death of two students and 12 wounded when police opened fire on a women’s dormitory.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The New **Women’s Rights Movement** of the 1960’s helped change the role of women in American society.
  - Creation of the National Organization for Women
  - More roles were found outside the house
  - Attempted to achieve economic and social equality.
- **The Equal Rights Amendment was NEVER ratified.**
- The starting point for contemporary feminism was the 1963 publication of Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*, which argued that women should be allowed to find their own identity, an identity not necessarily limited to the traditional roles of wife and mother.
- The number of women attending college skyrocketed during the 1960s.
The Civil Rights Movement

• NOW or the National Organization for Women was founded in 1966.
• Employers were still discriminating against women in terms of hiring women and unequal pay with men.
• Women’s rights advocates saw that these legal changes were not being enforced and worried that without a feminist pressure group, a type of “NAACP for women.”
• NOW was created in order to mobilize women, give women’s rights advocates the power to put pressure on employers and the government, and to promote full equality of the sexes.
• It hoped to increase the amount of women attending colleges and graduate schools, employed in professional jobs instead of domestic or secretarial work, and appointed to federal offices.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POXCESNqGHo
On March 22, 1972, the Equal Rights Amendment is passed by the U.S. Senate and sent to the states for ratification.

First proposed by the National Woman’s political party in 1923, the Equal Rights Amendment was to provide for the legal equality of the sexes and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex.

However, during the mid-1970s, a conservative backlash against feminism eroded support for the Equal Rights Amendment, which ultimately failed to achieve ratification by the requisite 38, or three-fourths, of the states.

Because of the rejection of the Equal Rights Amendment, sexual equality, with the notable exception of when it pertains to the right to vote, is not protected by the U.S. Constitution.
Why did President Lyndon B. Johnson launch his plans known as “The Great Society”?

A. To improve the United States space program
B. To deregulate business and advocate laissez-faire economic policy
C. To reduce defense spending and decrease nuclear weapons
D. To end poverty and racial discrimination
Environmental Movement

- By the 1960s and ’70s, as scientific knowledge of the causes and consequences of environmental degradation was becoming more extensive and sophisticated, there was increasing concern among some scientists, intellectuals, and activists about the Earth’s ability to absorb the detritus of human economic activity and, indeed, to sustain human life.

- This concern contributed to the growth of grassroots environmental activism and the formation of environmental (“green”) political parties in a number of Western democracies.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The **American Indian Movement**, (AIM), militant American Indian civil rights organization.
- Its original **purpose was to help Indians in urban ghettos who had been displaced by government programs that had the effect of forcing them from the reservations.**
- Its goals eventually encompassed the entire spectrum of Indian demands—economic independence, revitalization of traditional culture, protection of legal rights, and, most especially, autonomy over tribal areas and the restoration of lands that they believed had been illegally seized.
The Civil Rights Movement

- Mexican-American **Cesar Chavez** was a **prominent union leader and labor organizer**.
- Hardened by his early experience as a migrant worker, Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962.
- His union joined with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee in its first strike against grape growers in California, and the two organizations later merged to become the United Farm Workers.
- Stressing **nonviolent methods**, Chavez drew attention for his causes via **boycotts, marches and hunger strikes**. Despite conflicts with the Teamsters union and legal barriers, he was able to secure raises and improve conditions for farm workers in California, Texas, Arizona and Florida.

[http://www.history.com/topics/cesar-chavez](http://www.history.com/topics/cesar-chavez)
The Civil Rights Movement

- The **NAACP** was a major contributor in the fight for equal rights during the American Civil Rights movement.

- Though other civil rights groups emerged in the 1950s and 1960s, the NAACP retained a prominent role within the movement, co-organizing the 1963 March on Washington, and successfully lobbying for legislation that resulted in the 1964 Civil Rights Act and 1965 Voting Act.
The Civil Rights Movement

- On May 17, 1954 the United States Supreme Court handed down its ruling in the landmark case of Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas.
- The Court’s unanimous decision overturned provisions of the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson decision, which had allowed for “separate but equal” public facilities, including public schools in the United States.
- Declaring that “separate educational facilities are inherently unequal,” the Brown v. Board decision helped break the back of state-sponsored segregation, and provided a spark to the American civil rights movement.
- http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/brown-v-board-of-education-of-topeka
Massive Resistance

- Southerners reacted to desegregation with this.
- Some whites worked through local governments and organizations to obstruct desegregation and produced delays.
The Civil Rights Movement

Rosa Parks

- United States civil rights leader who refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama, (December 1, 1955) triggering the national Civil Rights Movement.

"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right."
—Rosa Parks
The Civil Rights Movement

Did you know???

- Nine months before Rosa Parks' arrest for refusing to give up her bus seat, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin (1939-) was arrested in Montgomery for the same act. The city's black leaders prepared to protest, until it was discovered Colvin was pregnant and deemed an inappropriate symbol for their cause.
The Supreme Court decided in the case, *Brown v. Board of Education* that:

A. Students had to attend school by accordance of the law.

B. Having students segregated by race in schools was unconstitutional.

C. Segregation was constitutional as long as the facilities in question were equal.

D. Students had to obey the rules of their schools even if it went against religious beliefs.
Cesar Chavez created the United Farm Workers Organization Committee in 1966 primarily to:

A. Secure voting rights for Mexican Americans
B. Improve working conditions for migrant workers
C. Provide legal assistance to illegal aliens
D. Increase income for factory farmers
The Civil Rights Movement

- The **Montgomery Bus Boycott**, in which **African Americans refused to ride city buses** in Montgomery, Alabama, **to protest segregated seating**, took place from December 5, 1955, to December 20, 1956, and is regarded as the first large-scale demonstration against segregation in the U.S.

- On December 1, 1955, four days before the boycott began, Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, refused to yield her seat to a white man on a Montgomery bus.

- She was arrested and fined. The boycott of public buses by blacks in Montgomery began on the day of Parks’ court hearing and lasted 381 days.

- The **U.S. Supreme Court ultimately ordered Montgomery to integrate its bus system**, and one of the leaders of the boycott, a young pastor named Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-68), emerged as a prominent national leader of the American civil rights movement in the wake of the action.

- [http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/montgomery-bus-boycott](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/montgomery-bus-boycott)
The Civil Rights Movement

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

- U.S. Baptist minister and civil rights leader.
- A noted orator, he opposed discrimination against blacks by organizing nonviolent resistance and peaceful mass demonstrations.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is an African-American civil rights organization.
- SCLC, which is closely associated with its first president, Martin Luther King Jr, had a large role in the American Civil Rights Movement.
- After the successful Montgomery Bus Boycott, the SCLC was formed in New Orleans.
In a key event of the American Civil Rights Movement, nine black students enrolled at formerly all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in September 1957, testing a landmark 1954 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that declared segregation in public schools unconstitutional.

The court had mandated that all public schools in the country be integrated “with all deliberate speed” in its decision related to the groundbreaking case Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka.

On September 4, 1957, the first day of classes at Central High, Governor Orval Faubus of Arkansas called in the state National Guard to bar the black students’ entry into the school.

Later in the month, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent in federal troops to escort the “Little Rock Nine” into the school, and they started their first full day of classes on September 25.

http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/central-high-school-integration
The Civil Rights Movement

Lunch counter sit-ins

- Despite advances in the fight for racial equality (including the landmark 1954 Supreme Court verdict in Brown v. Board of Education and the Montgomery Bus Boycott), segregation was still the norm across the southern United States in 1960.
- Early that year, a non-violent protest by young African-American students at a segregated Woolworth’s lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, sparked a sit-in movement that soon spread to college towns throughout the region.
- Though many of the protesters were arrested for trespassing, disorderly conduct or disturbing the peace, their actions made an immediate and lasting impact, forcing Woolworth’s and other establishments to change their segregationist policies.
The Civil Rights Movement

- 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.
- Often the participants would be jeered and threatened by local customers.
- Sometimes they would be pelted with food or ketchup.
- 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 reprisal would undermine the spirit of the sit-in. When the local police came to arrest the demonstrators, another line of students would take the vacated seats.
The Civil Rights Movement

- SIT-IN organizers believed that if the violence were only on the part of the white community, the world would see the righteousness of their cause.
- Before the end of the school year, over 1500 black demonstrators were arrested.
- But their sacrifice brought results.
- Slowly, but surely, restaurants throughout the South began to abandon their policies of segregation.
The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), formed to give younger blacks more of a voice in the civil rights movement, became one of the movement’s more radical branches.

In the wake of the early sit-ins at lunch counters closed to blacks, which started in February 1960 in Greensboro, North Carolina, Ella Baker, then director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), helped set up the first meeting of what became SNCC.

She was concerned that SCLC, led by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was out of touch with younger blacks who wanted the movement to make faster progress.

Baker encouraged those who formed SNCC to look beyond integration to broader social change and to view King’s principle of nonviolence more as a political tactic than as a way of life.
In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sent federal troops to Little Rock, Arkansas to:

A. Protect civil rights marchers
B. Help African Americans register to vote
C. End race riots resulting from a bus boycott
D. Enforce a Supreme Court ruling to desegregate public schools
The Civil Rights Movement

New Orleans school integration crisis

- In 1960 New Orleans integrated their school system at a slow and deliberate pace (only sending African American students to 2 public school).
- **Riots**, led by staunch segregationists **erupted throughout the city and student enrollments at the two desegregated schools dwindled**, as parents chose to enroll their children in the city’s private schools.
- **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T18uT2MgzMQ**
The Civil Rights Movement

Freedom Rides

- On May 4, 1961, a group of 13 African-American and white civil rights activists launched the Freedom Rides, a series of bus trips through the American South to protest segregation in interstate bus terminals.

- The Freedom Riders, who were recruited by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), a U.S. civil rights group, departed from Washington, D.C., and attempted to integrate facilities at bus terminals along the way into the Deep South.

- African-American Freedom Riders tried to use “whites-only” restrooms and lunch counters, and vice versa.

- The group encountered tremendous violence from white protestors along the route, but also drew international attention to their cause.

- Over the next few months, several hundred Freedom Riders engaged in similar actions.

- In September 1961, the Interstate Commerce Commission issued regulations prohibiting segregation in bus and train stations nationwide.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8CAKAXR-AM
The Civil Rights Movement

Integration of University of Mississippi
Ole Miss

- In late September **1962**, after a legal battle, an African-American man named James Meredith attempted to enroll at the University of Mississippi.
- Chaos briefly broke out on the Ole Miss campus, with riots ending in two dead, hundreds wounded and many others arrested, after the Kennedy administration called out some 31,000 National Guardsmen and other federal forces to enforce order.
- [http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/ole-miss-integration](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/ole-miss-integration)
“Letter from Birmingham Jail”

- The Letter from Birmingham Jail is an open letter written on April 16, 1963, by Martin Luther King Jr.
- The letter defends the strategy of nonviolent resistance to racism.
- It says that people have a moral responsibility to break unjust laws and to take direct action rather than waiting potentially forever for justice to come through the courts.
- Responding to being referred to as an "outsider," King writes, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere".
- The letter, written during the 1963 Birmingham campaign, was widely published, and became an important text for the American Civil Rights Movement.
March on Washington of 1963

On August 28, 1963, more than 200,000 Americans gathered in Washington, D.C., for a political rally known as the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

Organized by a number of civil rights and religious groups, the event was designed to shed light on the political and social challenges African Americans continued to face across the country.

The march, which became a key moment in the growing struggle for civil rights in the United States, culminated in Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech, a spirited call for racial justice and equality.

http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/march-on-washington
The Civil Rights Movement

24th Amendment

- Many Southern states adopted a poll tax in the late 1800s.
- This meant that even though the 15th Amendment gave former slaves the right to vote, many poor people, both blacks and whites, did not have enough money to vote.
- On January 23, 1964, the United States ratified the 24th Amendment to the Constitution, prohibiting any poll tax in elections for federal officials.
- Lyndon Johnson noted that: "There can be no one too poor to vote." Thanks to the 24th Amendment, the right of all U.S. citizens to freely cast their votes has been secured.
The Civil Rights Movement

Freedom Summer

- In 1964, civil rights organizations including the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) and Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) organized a voter registration drive, known as the Mississippi Summer Project, or Freedom Summer, aimed at dramatically increasing voter registration in Mississippi.

- The Freedom Summer, comprised of black Mississippian and more than 1,000 out-of-state, predominately white volunteers, faced constant abuse and harassment from Mississippi's white population.

- The Ku Klux Klan, police and even state and local authorities carried out a systematic series of violent attacks; including arson, beatings, false arrest and the murder of at least three civil rights activists.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The Civil Rights Act of 1964, which ended segregation in public places and banned employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, is considered one of the crowning legislative achievements of the civil rights movement.
- First proposed by President John F. Kennedy, it survived strong opposition from southern members of Congress and was then signed into law by Kennedy’s successor, Lyndon B. Johnson.
- In subsequent years, Congress expanded the act and also passed additional legislation aimed at bringing equality to African Americans, such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- [http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act](http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act)
Selma Marches

- In early **1965**, Martin Luther King Jr.’s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) made Selma, Alabama, the focus of its efforts to register black voters in the South.
- That March, protesters attempting to march from Selma to the state capital of Montgomery were *met with violent resistance* by state and local authorities.
- As the world watched, the protesters (under the protection of federalized National Guard troops) finally achieved their goal, walking around the clock for three days to reach Montgomery.
- The historic march, and King’s participation in it, greatly *helped raise awareness of the difficulty faced by black voters in the South*, and the need for a Voting Rights Act, passed later that year.
The Civil Rights Movement

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- Various discriminatory practices were used to prevent African Americans, particularly those in the South, from exercising their right to vote.

- The Voting Rights Act, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on August 6, 1965, aimed to overcome legal barriers at the state and local levels that prevented African Americans from exercising their right to vote under the 15th Amendment (1870) to the Constitution of the United States.
EXIT TICKET

The decision of Brown v. the Board of Education met resistance in all of the following locations except:

A. Little Rock, Arkansas
B. Ole Miss University
C. Tampa, Florida
D. New Orleans, Louisiana
The Civil Rights Movement

**Malcolm X**

- The Nation of Islam advocated the separation of white Americans and African Americans because of a belief that African Americans could not thrive in an atmosphere of white racism.
- Indeed, in a 1963 interview, Malcolm X, discussing the teachings of the head of the Nation of Islam in America, Elijah Muhammad, referred to white people as “devils” more than a dozen times.
- Rejecting the nonviolent strategy of other civil rights activists, he maintained that violence in the face of violence was appropriate.
The Civil Rights Movement

- In 1964, after a trip to Africa, Malcolm X left the Nation of Islam to found the Organization of Afro-American Unity with the goal of achieving freedom, justice, and equality “by any means necessary.”
- His views regarding black-white relations changed somewhat thereafter, but he remained fiercely committed to the cause of African American empowerment.
- On February 21, 1965, he was killed by members of the Nation of Islam.
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSm1t3Uv9QI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSm1t3Uv9QI)
The Civil Rights Movement

Black Power

- Black Power emphasized racial pride, the creation of political and social institutions against oppression, and advancement of black collective interests.
- Within the chorus of voices calling for integration and legal equality were many that more stridently demanded empowerment and supported the idea of Black Power.
- Black Power meant a variety of things to different people, among them the creation of black political and cultural institutions to promote Black interests, resist oppression, and encourage racial pride.
- Stokely Carmichael became a powerful spokesman for the Black Power movement, often advocating armed self defense that broke from the nonviolent protest urged by Martin Luther King, Jr. and the NAACP.
- The Black Power movement influenced the development and strategies of other social justice movements, focusing on identity politics and structural inequality.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The Black Power movement's most public manifestation was the **Black Panther Party**, a group that followed the ideology of Malcolm X with a more militant edge.

- **Initially forming for the protection of African American neighborhoods from police brutality**, the Black Panther Party evolved to provide social services to improve health and alleviate poverty in the inner cities.
Harlem Riots

- On Thursday, July 16, 1964, James Powell was shot and killed by police Lieutenant Thomas Gilligan.
- The second bullet of three fired by Lieutenant Gilligan killed the 15-year-old African American in front of his friends and about a dozen other witnesses.
- The incident immediately rallied about 300 students from a nearby school who were informed by the principal.
- This incident set off six consecutive nights of rioting that affected the New York City neighborhoods of Harlem and Bedford-Stuyvesant.
- In total, 4,000 New Yorkers participated in the riots which led to attacks on the New York City Police Department, vandalism, and looting in stores. At the end of the conflict, reports counted one dead rioter, 118 injured, and 465 arrested.
The Civil Rights Movement

**Watts Riots Aug. 11, 1965**

- In the predominantly black Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles, racial tension reaches a breaking point after two white policemen scuffle with a black motorist suspected of drunken driving.

- A **crowd of spectators** gathered near the corner of Avalon Boulevard and 116th Street to watch the arrest and soon grew angry by what they believed to be yet another incident of racially motivated abuse by the police.

- A riot soon began, spurred on by residents of Watts who were embittered after years of economic and political isolation.

- The rioters eventually ranged over a 50-square-mile area of South Central Los Angeles, looting stores, torching buildings, and beating whites as snipers fired at police and firefighters.

- Finally, with the assistance of thousands of National Guardsmen, order was restored on August 16.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The five days of violence left 34 dead, 1,032 injured, nearly 4,000 arrested, and $40 million worth of property destroyed. The Watts riot was the worst urban riot in 20 years and foreshadowed the many rebellions to occur in ensuing years in Detroit, Newark, and other American cities.
The Civil Rights Movement

De Jure Segregation vs. De Facto Segregation

- The practice of segregating people by race and gender has taken two forms.

- **De jure segregation is separation enforced by law**, while **de facto segregation occurs when widespread individual preferences, sometimes backed up with private pressure, lead to separation.**

- De jure racial segregation was a practice designed to perpetuate racial subordination; de facto segregation of African Americans had similar effects, but sometimes could be defended as a result simply of private choice, itself an important American value.
The Civil Rights Movement

Desegregation busing

- The practice of transporting students to schools within or outside their local school districts as a means of rectifying racial segregation.
- Even though schools were technically supposed to be desegregated, many neighborhood schools stayed segregated due to de facto segregation.
- Busing was a way of making sure that whites and blacks attended the same schools together.
- Controversial.
The Civil Rights Movement

- The term "affirmative action" was first introduced by President Kennedy in 1961 as a method of redressing discrimination that had persisted in spite of civil rights laws and constitutional guarantees.
- It was developed and enforced for the first time by President Johnson.
- Focusing in particular on education and jobs, affirmative action policies required that active measures be taken to ensure that blacks and other minorities enjoyed the same opportunities for promotions, salary increases, career advancement, school admissions, scholarships, and financial aid that had been the nearly exclusive province of (as) whites.