



# **Chapter 27 – Walking into Freedom Land**

## **The Civil Rights Movement, 1941-1973**

Mr. Muller - APUSH

**Aim: Why was the Civil Rights movement so 'uncivil'?**

**Do Now:** “We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of “separate but equal” has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.”

-Earl Warren, Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, May 17, 1954

“Why is it that in the twelve years that have passed since the end of World War II, the United States which was so far in the lead has been losing its lead to the Russians. . . .

“Our people have been led to believe in the enormous fallacy that the highest purpose of the American social order is to multiply the enjoyment of consumer goods. As a result, our public institutions, particularly those having to do with education and research, have been . . . scandalously starved.

“With prosperity acting as a narcotic . . . our public life has been increasingly doped and without purpose. With the President in a kind of partial retirement . . . we drift, with no one to state our purposes and to make policy.”

—Walter Lippmann, journalist, essay written six days after *Sputnik*, October 1957

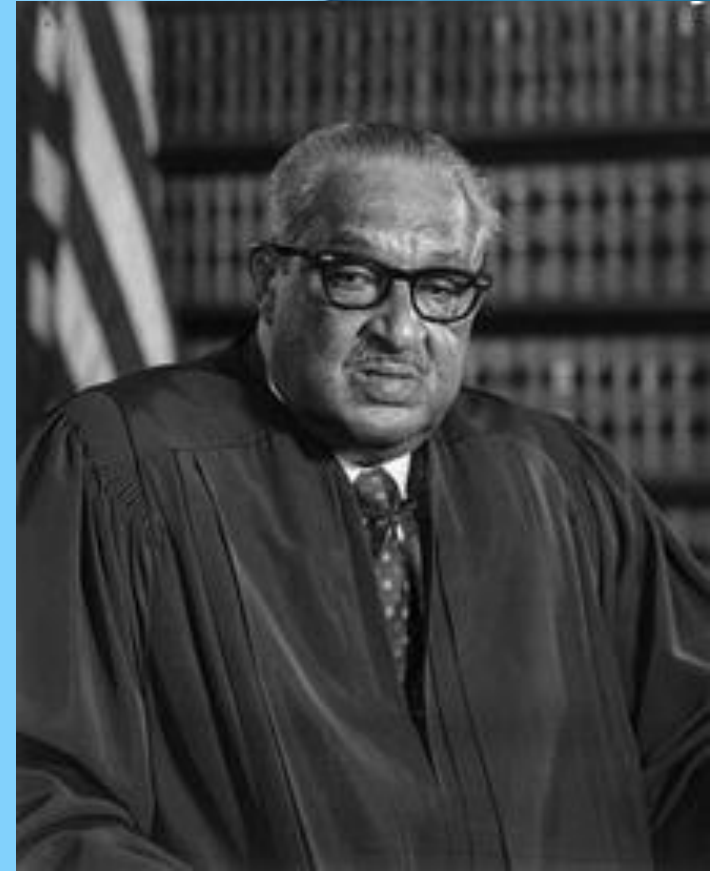
3. Which of the following would most likely support the recommendations of this excerpt?
  - (A) Building more suburban shopping centers
  - (B) Increasing the sales of televisions
  - (C) Creating the National Aeronautic and Space Administration
  - (D) Expanding tax breaks for American corporations
  
4. Which of the following took the most criticism after the shocking success of Russia's *Sputnik*?
  - (A) American educational system
  - (B) United States Air Force
  - (C) Television programming
  - (D) United States Congress

# Civil Rights Movement

- Since the end of Reconstruction after the Civil War, African Americans still faced discrimination, especially in the Jim Crow South.
- Much of the **South was Segregated (separated by race)**.
- Many African Americans lived in poor neighborhoods and had low-income jobs.
- Many **African Americans will fight for de-segregation**

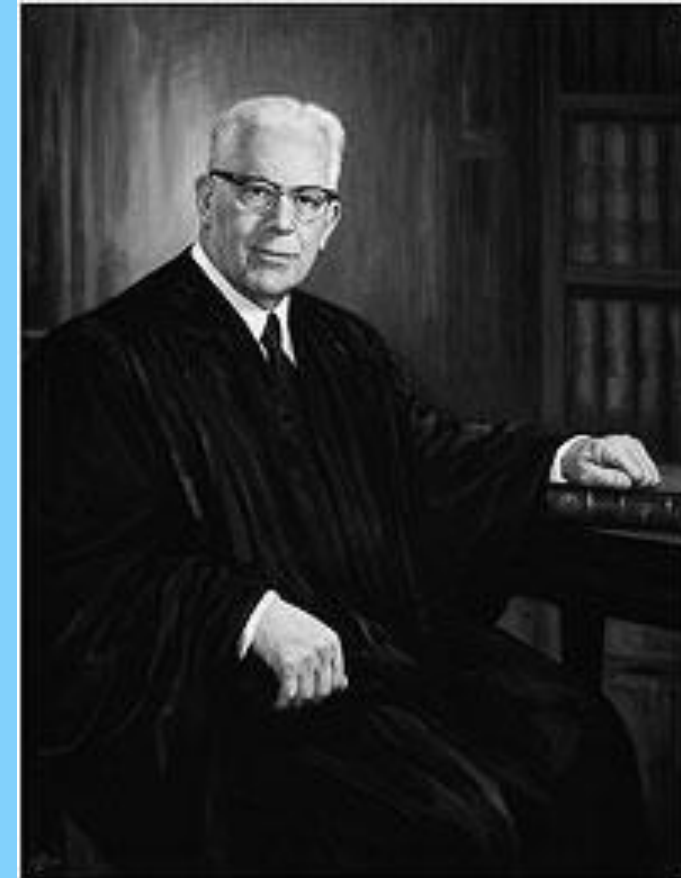
# Struggle for Equality

- **The goal of the civil rights movement is equality**
- **N.A.A.C.P** – National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is an **organization who fights for the equal rights of all people regardless of race or color.**
- Legal Defense and Education Fund of the N.A.A.C.P was led by a lawyer named Thurgood Marshall. Thurgood Marshall and his team of lawyers would use the law to show the country that separate was not equal → Then first A.A. supreme court judge!



# Truman administration

- **De-segregates the armed forces.**
- **Appoints Earl Warren to Supreme Court.**
  - **Warren Court → serves until 1969. He resides over many cases that positively impacted the rights of African Americans**



# Civil Rights Movement

- Since Reconstruction ended the issue of civil rights was slow to progress
  - **Jim Crow** laws throughout the South
  - **De facto discrimination** in the North
- Seeds of Change
  - WW2: New civil rights organizations such as **CORE** & increase in NAACP membership
  - Truman **desegregated military** and introduces civil rights proposals
- **Brown v. Board of Education (1954)** ruled “separate facilities are **inherently unequal**”
  - **Plessy v. Ferguson** was unconstitutional
  - ruled that schools must be desegregated with “all deliberate speed”



# Important Supreme Court Case

- **Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas:**
  - **Linda Brown wants to attend an all-white public school** in Topeka, rather than an all-black.
  - Plessey vs. Ferguson (1896), made separate but equal public facilities legal. Linda Brown **was denied entrance to school** (public facility)
  - At hearing, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)supported Brown in her case.
  - **Final ruling → Separate but equal is NOT LEGAL!**





# Brown vs. Board of Education

- The case of **Brown vs. Board of Education** overturns the Supreme Court case of **Plessy vs. Ferguson**.



# INTEGRATION

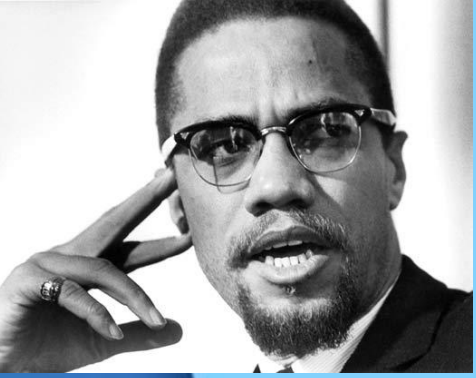
- The case of Brown vs. Board of Education forced the integration (mixing) of schools.
- **Integration means the mixing of different ethnic groups.**
- Many southern governors refused to follow the federal law.
- President Eisenhower was forced to use the army to escort black students to school.
- The use of the army showed that the federal government could make significant efforts in the protection of people's civil rights.



# Change was Slow: Movement Continues

- “**Southern Manifesto**” signed by 101 members of Congress condemned the Brown Supreme Court decision
- Governor **Orval Faubus** used state’s national guard to prevent **Little Rock 9** from attending **Little Rock Central High**
- Images of southern defiance pressured Eisenhower to send **federal troops** to escort the Little Rock 9
  - President has a constitutional duty to uphold federal authority
- In **Montgomery**, Alabama **Rosa Parks** arrest in 1955 sparked **bus boycott**
- **Martin Luther King** rises to prominence as the leader of the nonviolent movement
- The Bus Boycott will inspire other civil rights protests across the country





# Civil Rights Leaders



- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- believes in non-violent peaceful protest → Mohandas Gandhi
- believes in using Civil Disobedience: intentionally breaking a law to prove how it's unjust!

- Malcolm X :“By Any Means Necessary”

- did not believe in non-violent protest
- believed that African Americans must fight for their rights and if that meant using violence then they used violence

**\* Both leaders were assassinated \***

# Civil Rights Movement Radicalizes

- **Watts Riots (1965)** broke out following an arrest of a black motorist by white police officers
- **Malcolm X** joined the Nation of Islam. Emphasized black nationalism, self improvement, separatism.
- Leader of SNCC **Stokely Carmichael** called for “**Black Power**” (economic power, racial separatism)
- **Black Panthers** formed in Oakland by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale



# Montgomery Bus Boycott

- **Montgomery, Alabama 1955, Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white man and move to the back of the bus**
  - **Inspires a boycott of the busses throughout the city (MLK Jr. leads)**

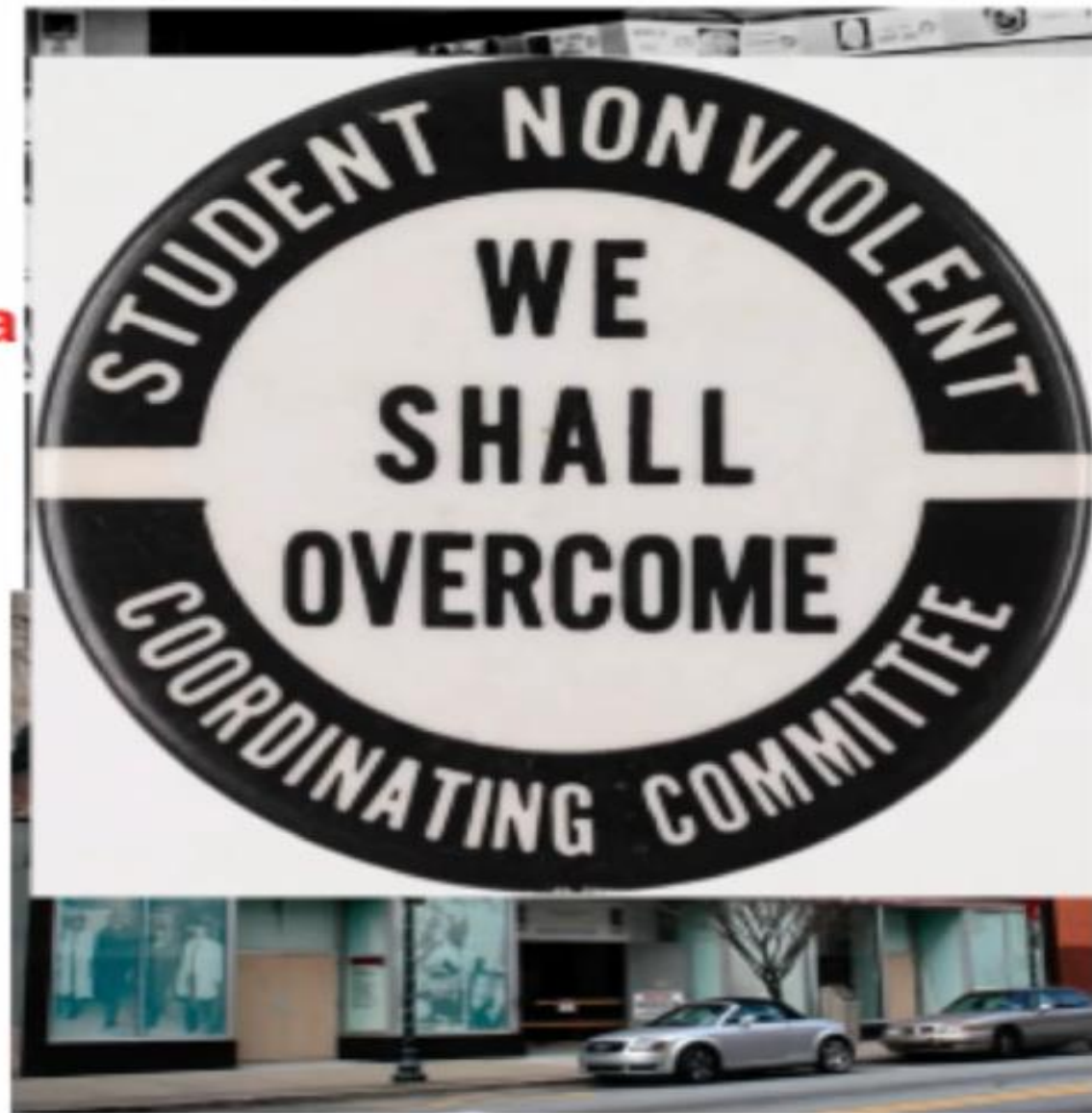


# Peaceful Protest

- Montgomery Bus Boycott
  - Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat so that a white man could sit down
  - In response, African Americans boycotted (or refused to use), the buses.
  - U.S. Supreme Court rules that the bus system must integrate and hire African American bus drivers.

# Civil Rights Movement Grows: Grass Roots Movement

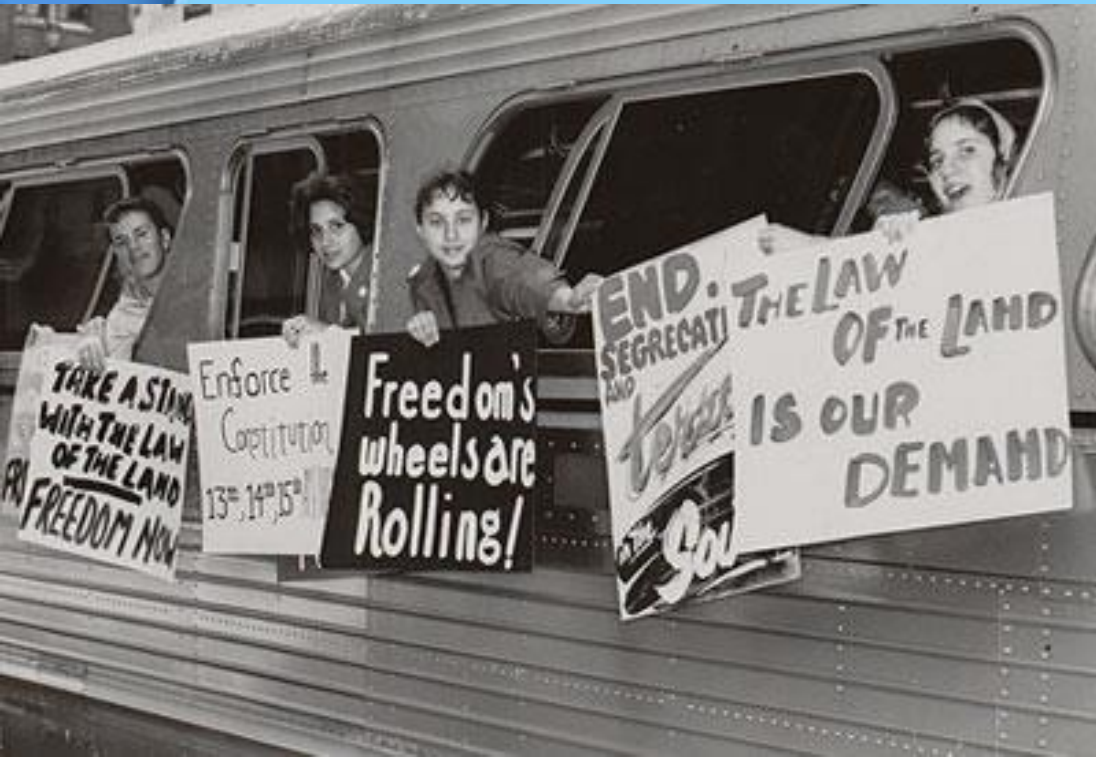
- **Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)** rooted in the black churches plays a key role in the civil rights movement
- In 1960 **Greensboro, North Carolina** college students start the “**sit-In**” **movement** after being denied service at a segregated lunch counter at **Woolworths**
- **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)** formed to help coordinate and organize the movement
- Various **grass roots movements** pressure for civil rights well into the 1960s.





# Other Forms of Peaceful Protests

- **Sit-Ins**: A form of protest in which people sit and refuse to leave
- **Freedom Riders**: People from the North rode buses from town to town throughout the South, trying to integrate bus terminals and register people to vote.



# Civil Rights Movement

- JFK was slow on the issue of civil rights
- Grassroots Movements kept the pressure up for change
- **Freedom Rides**: try to end segregation in bus facilities
- JFK sent troops to allow **James Meredith** to register at **Univ. of Miss.**
- MLK & other civil rights activists were thrown in jail in Birmingham, Alabama
  - **“Letter from a Birmingham Jail”**
- **March on Washington (1963)** of over 200,000 people (“I have a dream” speech)
- **Civil Rights Act (1964)**: segregation illegal in all public facilities & established **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission** that banned discrimination in employment



# Violent Protest

- **Black Panthers**: Urged African Americans to arm themselves. They argued that blacks must be prepared to fight (use violence) for their rights if necessary.
- **Watts Riots**: In Los Angeles, during 6 days in August 1965, rioters set fires to building and looted stores



# Affirmative Action

- Special programs set up to hire and promote minorities, women and others who had faced discrimination.



# Civil Rights: The Right to Vote



- Lack of voting rights remained a major problem
- **24<sup>th</sup> Amendment** outlawed collection of poll taxes
- **Freedom Summer** (1964) voter registration drive in Miss.
- **March from Selma to Montgomery** (1965) to advocate for voting rights was stopped by violence
  - LBJ sends in federal troops to protect the nonviolent civil rights marchers



**Voting Rights Act 1965** ended efforts to prevent African Americans from voting in the south (**literacy test banned**)

Growing frustration with the slow pace of change

# Civil Rights Results

- **Civil Rights Act of 1964** →
  - All Americans voting rights protected
  - Opens all public facilities to all races
  - Equal job opportunities for all Americans
- **Voting Rights Act of 1965** →
  - Ends literacy Tests (tests persons ability to read/write)
  - Examiners and voters must be registered in areas suspected of denying voters
  - Federal government could take legal action if states don't enforce the act.

