

Knowledge Organiser – Civil Rights in the USA

Black Lives Matter 2020



Black Lives Matter Plaza is now the name of the street in Washington DC leading up the White House.

"In a racist society it is not enough to be non-racist. We must be anti-racist."
Angela Davis



Jim Crow Laws	Laws to keep black and white people apart: segregated black and white people in places like trains, shops, churches, parks and schools.	NAACP CORE SNCC	Civil Rights group: National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People Civil Rights group: Congress of Racial Equality Civil Rights group: Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee
Brown Versus Topeka	Linda Brown's parents went to the Supreme Court to challenge segregated education. 17 May 1954 the decision to ban school segregation was announced.	Freedom Summer	They established 30 Freedom schools in towns throughout Mississippi to help people train for the literacy tests Three project volunteers were murdered.
Montgomery Bus Boycott	381 day bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama. it ended when segregation was declared unconstitutional by the U.S Supreme Court	Civil Rights Act	Ended segregation in public places and banned employment discrimination.
Rosa Parks	Refusal to give up her seat on a bus sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott.	Voting Rights Act	Removed barriers to black enfranchisement in the South, banning literacy tests and voting taxes.
Martin Luther King	Baptist minister who played a key role in the American Civil Rights movement from the mid 1950s until his assassination in 1968.	Malcolm X	African American leader in the civil rights movement.
Little Rock High	9 black students, led by Elizabeth Eckford tried to enrol at Little Rock High School, Arkansas. The President had to send in the National Guard to protect the students from racist abuse and violence.	Black Power Movement	Occurred in the 1960s and 70s. It wanted black people to have more pride in their heritage. They called for 'land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice and peace.'
Emmett Till	A 14 year old African American who was murdered in Mississippi in 1955.	Black Lives Matter Founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's murderer. A global organisation which demands an "affirmation of black peoples humanity and a recognition of our contribution to this society and our resilience in the face of deadly oppression."	
Ku Klux Klan	Violent, white group. Used terror to oppress black people in the South.		
White Citizens Councils	Formed to campaign against Civil Rights groups such as NAACP. They wanted to prevent black people from voting.	George Floyd	Murdered by a police officer in Minnesota. Demonstrations spread across the US and 50 countries worldwide.

TIMELINE OF MAJOR EVENTS

1865 Slavery was banned in the USA	1875 Supreme Court Ruling: National government would not intervene in state voting	1896 Supreme Court Ruling: states could introduce segregation laws	1954 Brown versus Topeka case	1955-56 Montgomery Bus Boycott	1957 Little Rock High	1961 First freedom ride	1963 Birmingham demonstrations	1963 March on Washington	1964 Civil Rights Act	1964 Freedom Summer	1965 Voting Rights Act	1965 Malcolm X assassinated	1968 Martin Luther King assassinated	2009 Barack Obama became the first black president of the USA: served 2 terms	2013 Black Lives Matter formed	2020 Murder of George Floyd
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