Civil Rights Movement Study Guide

1. Plessy vs. Ferguson
2. Major Supreme Court decision that allowed the segregation of facilities as long as they were equal.
3. Supported the Jim Crow Laws, mainly in the southern states.
4. De Jure Segregation
   1. Segregation that exists by law that is created.
5. De Facto Segregation
   1. Segregation that exists by practice, custom or tradition
6. **Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)**
   1. Organization founded in 1942 by James Farmer and George Houser.
   2. Worked for equality for everyone unaffected by a person’s race, sex, or disability.
   3. Created the “**Freedom Rides**” after the Civil Rights Act was passed.
      1. Where African Americans challenged the federal governments enforcement of bus laws.
      2. They went on bus rides from Washington DC to New Orleans and defied segregation laws.
      3. They sat in the front on white only busses, and used white only restrooms.
      4. They proved that it was unconstitutional to segregate facilities and busses.
7. **Jackie Robinson**
   1. Famous baseball player that played for the Brooklyn Dodgers.
   2. First African American to play in Major League Baseball. Helped spark the Civil Rights Movement
8. **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)**
   1. One of the oldest Civil Rights organizations in the US founded in 1909.
   2. Fought for freedom of speech, criticism, manhood, suffrage. Had some of the best lawyers that worked for them.
   3. One of the lawyers was Thurgood Marshall.
9. **Thurgood Marshall (NAACP Lawyer)**
   1. Lawyer that was chosen in the court case Brown vs. Board of Education
   2. After the court case Brown vs. Board and other prominent cases he becomes **the first ever African American on Supreme Court Justice**
10. **Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, KS**
    1. Challenged the Plessy vs. Ferguson case, “separate but equal”
    2. Challenged that segregated public facilities violated the US Constitution.
    3. All 9 Court Justices on Supreme Court Agreed
    4. Earl Warren was the Chief Justice, “Does segregation in public schools deprive minority children equal educational opportunities? We believe it does”
11. **Hernandez vs. Texas**
    1. Ended the exclusion of Mexican Americans from trial juries.
    2. First Supreme Court decision ruling against discrimination against a group other than blacks.
12. **Brown II**
    1. This called for “deliberate speed” and desegregates schools immediately nationwide.
13. **Central High School – Little Rock Arkansas**
    1. First school district to allow blacks and whites together.
    2. 9 Students enrolled voluntarily
    3. Arkansas Governor, Orval Faubus did not like this. He called out the Arkansas National Guard to not let the student in the school.
    4. Eisenhower sent federal troops to enforce the Supreme Court’s decision. They protected the 9
14. **Civil Rights Act of 1957**
    1. Signed into law by President Eisenhower
    2. Established the US Civil Rights Commission which gave power to investigate violations of Civil Rights
    3. Gave the Attorney General power to protect African American voting rights
    4. This was the first Civil Rights bill passed by Congress since Reconstruction.
15. **Rosa Parks**
    1. Boarded a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in an empty seat. It was law for a African American to give up their seat to whites in Montgomery.
    2. She was asked by bus driver to get up for a white passenger. She refused and was arrested.
    3. She helps spark the Civil Rights movement.
    4. As a result, Civil Rights activists organize a one day bus boycott (Refusal to ride busses)
    5. They called this the Montgomery Bus Boycott
    6. While in Parks was in prison, the NAACP began creating the movement.
16. **Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA)**
    1. Created after Rosa Parks got arrested. Also during the Montgomery Bus Boycott
    2. They sponsored the Bus Boycott in Montgomery, Alabama.
    3. Their leader was Martin Luther King Jr.
    4. Proved that segregated busses was unconstitutional
17. **Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)**
    1. Created by Ella Baker a former veteran
    2. This helped young African American activists a youth Civil Rights organization
18. **Martin Luther King Jr. - Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) -** 
    1. Baptist Minister who pushed for non-violent protests and sit-ins.
       1. **Sit in** – nonviolent technique employed to desegregate lunch counters and businesses
    2. **Leader of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA)**
    3. **Created the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)**
       1. Pushed nonviolent resistance to fight injustice
       2. Created protests: Prayer Pilgrimage in Washington DC
       3. SCLC Headquarters was bombed killing 4 young girls at the **16th street Baptist Church** in Birmingham, Alabama.
    4. Targeted Birmingham, Alabama because it was the most segregated city in the south
    5. The **SCLC and King did sit-ins and protests**; the city of Birmingham stopped it and arrested King.
    6. King writes a letter in prison about discrimination impact on his children, As a result schoolchildren join the, **“Freedom Marches.”**
    7. Police in Birmingham used dogs and fire hoses with high pressure water to put down nonviolent protests.
    8. As a result the new **President John F. Kennedy acts on Civil Rights**.
    9. Organized a March on Washington DC with the SCLC and the SNCC to push for Civil Rights.
    10. **March on Washington** King gave his “**I have a Dream Speech**.” – “All God’s children would be free and equal.”
    11. Sets up a March on Selma known **as “Bloody Sunday.”** Where whites attack marchers trying to cross a bridge from Montgomery to Selma.
    12. **King was assonated at** the age of 39 on a balcony outside his motel room by a high powered rifle by James Earl Ray.
19. **Civil Rights John F. Kennedy**
    1. On television he calls Civil Rights, a “moral issue”
    2. Kennedy decides to back Civil Rights
    3. He promised to give all Americans equal rights and opportunities
    4. His brother Robert Kennedy supports his laws that he creates.
    5. Assonated in Dallas, TX by Lee Harvey Oswald.
    6. Backed the Freedom Rides
    7. Said that, “Americans may not agree with the law, but they will obey it”
20. **Meredith Integrates “Ole Miss” helped by Medgar Evers**
    1. **James Meredith**
       1. An Air Force vet who wanted to go to an all-white college at Mississippi University.
       2. **Pushed by Medgar Evers** and the NAACP won a court case to make the college to desegregate.
       3. The governor of Mississippi, “Ross Barnett” tried to prevent this.
       4. Meredith arrived on campus with federal marshals to protect him.
       5. Meredith graduated from Ole Miss in 1963.
       6. 3 years later, Meredith and Evers both were shot and killed
21. **Civil Rights Act of 1964**
    1. He created a bill; however Southerners in the Senate did not want to pass it.
    2. Southern Senators did a **“FILLABUSTER”** or tactic giving long speeches to hold up passing laws. It did not work.
    3. **Civil Rights Act of 1964** 
       1. Banned segregation in public places.
       2. Made all schools desegregate,
       3. outlawed discrimination in the work place based on race, color, sex and national origin
       4. **Created the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)** 
          1. Enforced and investigated job discrimination
22. Civil Rights Lyndon B. Johnson
    1. **President Lyndon B. Johnson** takes JFK place after Assentation, and pushes for more Civil Rights.
    2. He created the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**
    3. Created the **Voting Rights Act of 1965**
    4. Pushed for the **24th Amendment –** banning a poll tax on poor African Americans
23. **Voting Rights Act of 1965**
    1. Act banned literacy tests
    2. It oversees voting registration and elections in states that had discrimination.
    3. This act sparked white Race Riots: Located in Newark, New Jersey – Detroit, Michigan – and Tulsa, OK.
    4. **Race Riots** created violence instead of nonviolent.
24. **Malcom X – Black Panther Party**
    1. X was to represent his lost African name.
    2. Led a life of drugs and crime till he was thrown in jail at age 21.
    3. Adopted Nation of Islam in prison, no drugs or alcohol. He became Islam’s most prominent minister.
    4. He broke away from the Nation of Islam, and began to be open to white and black integration.
    5. Malcom X was assonated by 3 Nation of Islam members shortly after.
    6. Malcom X had heirs to what he did:
       1. **Stokely Carmichael**
          1. SNCC leader that gave a speech for “BLACK POWER.” said that blacks needed to use their economic and political muscle to gain equality.
          2. Whites believed that meant black violence.
       2. **Huey Newton & Bobby Seale – Black Panther Party**
          1. ***Created the Black Panther Party,*** 
             1. Black Panthers protected people from abusive police, and created anti-poverty programs.
             2. Made free breakfasts for poor African Children
             3. Stormed the California capitol with shotguns wearing black leather coats.
             4. Wore “Afro’s” and called themselves “black” not Negros
             5. Led to violent confrontations with police.