

## TIMELINE OF THE STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

African Americans Struggle for Equality	Other Events in the United States
1910. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is organized to struggle for civil rights in the United States.	1910. William H. Taft is President. The Boy Scouts of America are founded. Women campaign for the right to vote.
1948. Thurgood Marshall of the NAACP launches a legal attack on school segregation.	1948. Harry S. Truman is elected President. Segregation ends in the American armed forces.
1955. Start of the Montgomery, Alabama Bus Boycott	1955. Dwight Eisenhower is President. The Brooklyn Dodgers win the World Series.
1960. Black students begin to "sit-in" at segregated lunch counters.	1960. John F. Kennedy defeats Richard M. Nixon and is elected President.
1961. Interracial teams of Freedom Riders challenge segregated buses and terminals	1961. The U.S. supports an invasion of Cuba that fails. The Yankees win the World Series.
1962. James Meridith integrates the University of Mississippi.	1962. School prayers declared unconstitutional. U.S. blockades Cuba to block Soviet nuclear missiles.
1963. Campaign to integrate Birmingham, Alabama. March on Washington for Civil Rights	1963. President Kennedy is murdered in Texas. Lyndon Johnson is new President.
1964. Freedom Summer. Student campaign to register black voters in the south. Martin Luther King, Jr. wins Nobel Peace Prize.	1964. U.S. troops and war ships are in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic. Lyndon Johnson is elected President.
1968. Martin Luther King, Jr. is murdered while organizing sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee.	1968. Richard M. Nixon is elected President. Many Americans protest against the War in Vietnam.

## CHANGES IN THE LAW IN THE UNITED STATES

- 1896- In Plessy v. Ferguson decision the Supreme Court declares that segregation is legal. "Separate but Equal" becomes the law of the United States.
- 1954- In Brown v. the Topeka, Kansas Board of Education, the Supreme Court declares that segregated schools can never be equal.
- 1957- President Eisenhower sends federal troops into Little Rock, Arkansas to protect black students integrating Central high School.
- 1957- The first Civil Rights law is passed since just after the Civil War. It sets up a commission to investigate violations of civil rights.
- 1961- Federal Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity will encourage companies that do business with the federal government to hire black employees.
- 1964- The 24th amendment to the Constitution outlaws poll taxes in federal elections. Taxes on voting was a way that southern states tried to prevent poor blacks from voting.
- 1964- Civil Rights Act prohibits (prevents) segregation in public accommodations and employment.
- 1965- Voting Rights Act: the federal government will protect the right of blacks and other minorities to register and vote.