

Unit 4: Lesson 26: How did the Civil Rights Movement Use the Constitution to Achieve Its Goals?

Overview: Consider how the 14th Amendment & other parts of the Constitution made the Civil Rights Movement possible.

1. Explain the significance of major landmark Supreme Court cases.
2. Explain the importance of the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment and its various interpretations at different times in our history.

What was the significance of the Plessy v. Ferguson decision?

Laws passed in the _____ (upheld by both state and federal courts) following Reconstruction once again reduced African American rights reducing them to second-class citizens. In _____ v. Ferguson (1896) the U.S. Supreme Court established the separate but equal doctrine that was to deny blacks equal rights for more than half a century. The ruling established the legal basis for racial _____, which required blacks to use separate schools & public facilities. The ruling in Plessy came down despite claims that segregation violated the 14th Amendment _____ clause.

What were the consequences of Plessy v. Ferguson?

National Association for the _____ of Colored People (NAACP) established 1909... _____ bus boycott, 1955-56 _____ Parks arrested when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white man. The result was a _____-day boycott of the bus company, which ended when the _____ Court ordered the end of _____ on the city buses

What was the significance of Brown v. Board of Education?

This landmark Court decision overturned Plessy ending _____ of public schools "with all _____ speed."

How did the civil rights movement use the tactics of nonviolent direct action?

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. organized the Southern _____ Leadership Conference (SCLC) to teach the principles of _____ direct action known as _____ disobedience
 ... the open violation of unjust laws, together with the willingness to accept the consequences through passive or _____ resistance. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) some 70,000 black and white students organized _____ - _____ in an attempt to force social change.

What were the origins of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

_____ Rights Act 1964 (the most far-reaching civil rights legislation in history) was introduced by President J.F. _____. It outlawed discrimination in hotels, restaurants, and other places of public _____ using the _____ clause of Article I, Section 8.

Heart of _____ Hotel v. United States (1964)
http://www.oyez.org/cases/1960-1969/1964/1964_515

How did the civil rights movement use constitutional rights to achieve its objectives?

The civil rights movement would not have been possible without the rights of the _____ Amendment: freedom of _____, the press, assembly, and _____ for the redress of grievances.

How did court decisions during the 1950s and 60s extend constitutional due process protections?

During the 50's and 60's the Court continued securing the _____ rights for minorities using the 14th Amendment _____ clause to _____ the protections of the _____ of Rights to extend, or apply to the _____.

Critical Reflection:



Photo on page 136... Why was it necessary to send federal troops into Arkansas Little Rock Central High School?