**The Early Civil Rights Movement**

**President Truman**

* 1946 Truman appoints the Committee on Civil Rights
* 1948 Truman desegregates the armed services & banned racial discrimination in hiring federal employees

**African American Civil Rights**

**Emmett Till**

* 1955
* 14-year-old
* abducted and murdered by two white men while visiting his uncle in LeFlore County, Mississippi.
* His murder sparked outrage among African Americans that helped spur advances in civil rights.

**Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka**

* May 17, 1954

 - Supreme Court Case

 - Reverses Plessy v. Ferguson 1896 (separate but equal

 - Chief Justice Earl Warren

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

**Rosa Parks**

* arrested 1st of December 1955
* Rosa not the first African-American to be arrested for this "crime.”
* first to be arrested who was well known
* once the secretary to the president of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People).
* On December 1, 1955, one voice in Montgomery, Alabama, quietly and resolutely said “No.” That single “no” kindled a fire that had burned from a decades-long tradition of activism and lit the way to the most influential boycott in this nation’s history.

**Montgomery Bus Boycott**

* December 2, 1955 Black Leaders call for a Bus Boycott
* Blacks stop taking the bus

 - organize carpools

 - bus line loses money

 - downtown stores lose money

**Martin Luther King Jr.**

* Rises to a leadership position
* nonviolent protest based on

 - Gandhi

 - Thoreau

 - Christianity

* leads the SCLC
* Southern Christian Leadership Conference

**Boycott Ends**

* Supreme Court Rules the laws unconstitutional and buses must desegregate!

 - December 1956

 - boycott lasted 13 months

* The bus company resumes full service

**Boycott Violence**

* Someone fires into King’s home
* Five white men attack a 15-year-old black girl at a Montgomery bus stop
* Rosa Jordan is shot in both legs while riding a Montgomery bus
* Four churches and two homes are bombed: Bell Street Baptist, Hutchinson Street Baptist, First Baptist and Mount Olive Baptist, plus the homes of the Revs. Robert Graetz and Ralph Abernathy. An unexploded bomb is found on the porch of King’s parsonage.

**The Little Rock Nine**

**The order to Desegregate**

* 1957 Central High
* Little Rock Nine: nine students chosen To desegregate the school
* Gov. Orval Faubus calls in the National Guard to stop them
* Eisenhower sends in Federal troops to desegregate the school.

**The Anti-War Movement**

**Doves vs. Hawks**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Doves** | **Hawks** |
| questioned the war. They included liberal politicians and students who saw the conflict as a localized civil war. |  supported Johnson’s war policies. They were mostly conservatives who believed the war was crucial to a U.S. Cold War victory.  |

**Public Opinion Regarding the Vietnam War**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Media’s Impact**  | **Hawks and Doves**  | **Antiwar Movement**  |
| * Reporters and television crews went on patrol with the soldiers.
* Television brought scenes of firefights and burning villages into America’s living rooms.
* Criticized the government’s reports about the war
 | * **Doves**—people opposed to the war
* **Hawks**—people who supported the war’s goals
* Both criticized the war effort.
* Hawks wanted more troops and bombing.
* Doves opposed the war for many reasons.
 | * Movement attracted a broad range of participants
* Much antiwar activity took place on college campuses.
* Most vocal group—Students for a Democratic Society.
* Antiwar protesters made up a small percentage of the U.S. population.
 |

**Reasons that Doves Opposed the War**

* Argued that Vietnam was not crucial to American national security
* Argued that the United States was fighting against the wishes of a majority of Vietnamese
* Argued that the war was draining needed resources from Great Society programs
* Argued that it was unfair for African Americans to fight for democracy in a foreign land when discrimination continued at home
* Argued that Johnson’s policies were too extreme

**Public Opinion and Opposition**

* As more troops died and no clear victory emerged, increasing numbers of Americans opposed the Vietnam War.
* Many people opposed the policies of the draft.
	+ More than 1.5 million young men were drafted during the Vietnam War.
	+ Many argued the draft unfairly gave deferments to students.
	+ Most of the **draftees** came from a poor or working-class background.
* The number of African Americans fighting in Vietnam was disproportionately high.
	+ African Americans were less likely than whites to become commissioned officers.
	+ They were more likely to serve, and die, in combat positions.
* Inequalities in the draft led to widespread resistance against the war.
	+ In 1969, the draft was restructured to introduce a lottery system.
* Students’ opposition to the war grew.
* Colleges and universities became centers of antiwar activism.
* Most upper middle-class students opposed
the war; working-class students generally supported the war.
* Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) campaigned to end the war in Vietnam.

**Increasing Protests**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Campus Violence**  | **Antiwar Movement**  | **Radical Protests**  |
| * Kent State University in Ohio
	+ 4 students were killed and 9 injured
* Jackson State College in Mississippi
	+ 2 students were killed and 9 wounded
 | * Polls showed that fifty percent of Americans opposed the war.
* Coalition of clergy, trade unionists, and veterans established a nationwide day of protest called Moratorium Day.
* 250,000 protesters made up the largest antiwar demonstration in U.S. history.
 | * Some antiwar groups turned to violent measures.
* The Weathermen set off more than 5,000 bombs and carried out the Days of Rage.
* Most antiwar protesters did not support extremist groups or terrorist measures.
 |

**Public Opinion and Opposition**

* At home, protests escalated.
* At Kent State University in Ohio, four students were shot by National Guardsmen.
* A similar confrontation at Jackson State University in Mississippi left two students dead.
* Counterprotests were held by those supporting Nixon and the war efforts.

**Protest Movements involving Native Americans**

**Effects of Urban Relocation, 1960s**

* Loss of Native culture & languages, yet kept touch with rural reservation
* Increased contact among different tribes; growth of pan-Indian identity
* Common experience of urban poverty & struggle
* Exposure to civil rights activism, successes

**American Indian Movement, 1968**

* Founded at Stillwater Prison; inspired by Black Panthers
* Urban Indians monitored Minneapolis police brutality on Franklin Avenue
* Made contact with traditional chiefs on reservations; fused urban and rural activism

**Alcatraz 1969**

* Indians of All Tribes occupies abandoned San Francisco Bay prison
* Cites law that unused federal property reverts to tribes
* First major national pan-Indian action

**Trail of Broken Treaties 1972**

* Caravan to Washington, DC for self-determination
* Unplanned occupation of BIA headquarters before 1972 election
* Nixon White House embarrassed by clashes

**The Feminist Movement**

* Civil Rights Act of 1964
	+ Outlawed job discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, AND GENDER
* National Organization for Women
* Organized by Betty Friedan and later run by Gloria Steinem
* Pushed for a Constitutional Amendment for women’s rights…the ERA
	+ Equal Rights Amendment

**Roe vs. Wade - 1973**

* Supreme Court rules that state’s cannot deny women the right to an abortion in the first 3 month of pregnancy.
* After three months the states have the rights to regulate abortion

**Edu**cational Amendments - TITLE IX

* Educational Rights for Women.
* Federally funded schools can not discriminate against women, must offer equal opportunities in:
	+ - Admissions
		- Course Offerings
		- Sports

**ERA (Equal Rights Amendment)**

* Constitutional Amendment for equal rights for women.
* Strong Opposition from “Stop-ERA” group.
* Led by Phyllis Schlafly
	+ Why?
* Didn’t want to lose traditional rights:
	+ Rights to alimony
	+ Right to single gender colleges
	+ Afraid of being included in Drafts
	+ May eliminate special protections in workforce
* Also
	+ Thought it gave Federal Govt too much power over state rights.
* 10 years of political debate and “fighting”
* Needs 38 states to ratify to become a Constitutional Amendment
* In 1982 it finally comes to a vote.
	+ - * + ….FAILS

**Immigration Reform Movements**

|  |
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| **Latinos Migrate to America** |
| Mexicans | WWII brings opportunity for farming in southwest |
| Puerto Ricans | Economic problems bring Puerto Ricans to NY |
| Cubans | Communism (Castro) brings Cubans to Miami |

**César Chávez**

* Fought for better working conditions
	+ UNITED FARM WORKERS (UFW)
* Boycotted grapes in California
	+ 17 million citizens participated
	+ Four years later they received higher wages and better working conditions