

Civil Rights Overview

President	Actions/ nature of CRM	Responses of federal/state authorities	Opposition	Other/Context
Truman Democrat 1945 - 1953	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rise in black consciousness = NAACP membership rose from 50,000 to 450,000 during war FEPC was created in 1941 after protests from Randolph. CORE was established in 1942 by James Farmer. Responsible for the Journey of Reconciliation in 1947 to test the Morgan Vs Virginia ruling of 1946 and the segregation of interstate travel NAACP focused on litigation to put an end to plessy vs ferguson 1896 - separate by equal. NAACP won cases like Henderson Vs United states which prevented segregation of railroad dining cars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1940 Truman had given a speech about the brotherhood of men. 1946 Truman set up 'The president's commission on Civil Rights.' Truman campaigned for Civil Rights legislation from congress but was unsuccessful 1947 Truman established the liberal committee on Civil Rights hose 1947 report - to Secure these rights - called for federal government to end segregation, lynching and the poll tax. Truman issued an executive order in 1948 to end desegregation in the armed forces and to guarantee fair employment in federal bureaucracy. Truman set up the Committee on Government Contract Compliance in 1951 which pressued companies with federal contracts to end discrimination, The supreme court was able to erode Jim Crow but had no powers of enforcement. National of Islam was established in 1930 Urban League started in New York in 1910. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congress was unsupportive of change. State and local government was unhelpful - by 1952 only 11 states had fair employment practices. The deep south remained adamantly opposed to improvement in black lives. Rival of the KKK led some AAs to flee to northern cities. Democrats became divided over issues of Civil Rights such as Strom Thurmond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soldiers returning from WWII - had experienced more equality in Europe During the war, 1.4 million AAs migrated to northern cities e.g. Detroit - Ghettos Cold war - bad for American international image for them to appear racist Dejure and Defacto existed Red cross refused to take blood from AAs AAs were 10% of the population Rise in black consciousness - Chicago defender newspaper, double V campaign, Film Negro Soldier - intended to reduce prejudice. Adam Clayton Powell was an early AA member of the House of Representatives. Black sportsmen had some recognition e.g. Jackie Robinson, a baseball player, won the MVP in 1949. AAs benefitted disproportionately poorly from the 1944 GI bill.
Eisenhower Republican 1953 - 1961	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil rights movement began to grow, more public. Much of the campaigning under Truman had been in the courts, now the media had grown so it was more visible. CORE grew to 53 chapters 1955 - 1956 - Montgomery bus boycott by the NAACP. The specifically selected Rosa Parks to lead this protests. Showed that non-violent protest was effective The NAACP won the supreme court case Browder v Gayle which desegregated the buses. Sit ins began in 1960 in Woolworths. Black students leg this. 70,000 others began to participate across the south. It led to Woolworths desegregating in 1961. They inspired similar events. Led to the creation of the SNCC NAACP and Thurgood Marshall campaigned for the Brown Vs Board ruling of 1954 on grounds of psychological damage. 70% of schools desegregated in Washington DC. NAACP sent 9 AA students to Little Rock in Arkansas in 1957 to test brown VS Board. Led to riots. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From 1952 the democrats campaigned on a Civil Rights platform, which did lead to dealignment of the party. The 1952 Republican party platform declared commitment to both racial equality and state rights. The 1956 Republican platform retained commitment to equality but excluded state rights. Republicans like Earl Warren helped to generate change eg. Brown vs Board in 1954 Nixon as VP was liberal on race and instrumental in passing Civil Rights legislation Eisenhower was disinterested in CR Brown Vs Board 1954 - supreme court support for Civil Rights and desegregation of schools. Campaigned for by NAACP. However, not total victory as no set date for desegregation was given. Led to Brown II which didn't help speed up the process as too vague. Deep south ignored Brown Vs Board. Led to the Southern Manifesto. IKE - talked about ending segregation, but did little to enact it. He set up the committee on government contracts but this had no teeth. He feared rushing change due to damaging social cohesion. He did nothing for Emmett Till in 1955 or Autherine Lucy 1956 who was expelled. IKE only sent federal forces to Little Rock when the situation forced it. Congress passed two Civil Rights Acts, as supported by IKE - 1957 and 1960. Nixon had visited ghana and was inspired. He had met MLK. He worked hard on CR Bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most southern democrats opposed the Civil Rights of AAs Some democrats supported due to the increasing Black voter importance, and the racism and segregation was causing stagnation in the economy in the south. Brown VS board led to a white backlash and the revitalisation of the KKK and white citizens councils - numbers up to 250,000. Governor Faubus sent National Guard to keep little rock 9 out of school. Southern Manifesto - 101 southern democrats. Lost year - schools closed in the south to prevent integration Strom Thurmond filibuster against the 1957 CR Bill for 24 hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growing role of the media and increase in TV ownership meant that the CRM was much more visible. Levittown - still had restrictions on selling to AAs Malcolm X and the Hate that Hate Produced was 1959 - result of continued pressures on Northern Cities and increasing use of police brutality. Only 7000 of mississippi 900,000 AAs could vote. Nixon had visited ghana and was inspired. He had met MLK. He worked hard on CR Bill
JFK - democrat 1961 - 1963	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued use of the sit ins and the mass action under IKE. Freedom Rides - 1961 - organised by CORE - testing Morgan Vs Virginia by riding interstate buses. 13 people - AA and white. They aimed to provoke violence to get reaction from media/public. It worked. Birmingham - 1963 - SCLC and King - Public safety commissioner Bull Connor reacted violently. When MLK was in prison the decision was made to use children in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JFK promises in the New Frontier Speech to end 'ignorance and injustice' Bobby Kennedy supported Freedom Riders JFK responded to the March on Washington and Birmingham with a Civil Rights Bill in 1963 JFK made a huge number of black appointments to the federal bureaucracy and appointed 5 AA black federal judges. JFK made the EEOC to ensure equality of federal contracts JFK brought 57 cases against illegal violations of black voter 	<p>Racists attacking the Freedom riders in 1961 Vlotence in bombingham</p> <p>KKK bombing church</p> <p>NAACP official Medgar Evers murdered in 1963 - 2 all white juries failed to find the murdered guilty.</p> <p>George Wallace campaign on an increasingly racist</p>	<p>Role of Media - Birmingham, Freedom Rides, March on Washington.</p> <p>Tension was growing in the north with a rise in separatism.</p> <p>Ghetto housing was poor, but they couldn't afford to live outside ghetto.</p> <p>Ghetto schools were poor - Only 32% of ghetto students</p>

	<p>the protest. Worked. Led to it being broadcast on news.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 1963 Philip Randolph established the March on Washington with the 'big 6' CRM groups. Crowd of 250,000 attended. NOI gained popularity in the North Albany 1962 - led by SNCC but less direction than sit ins- too many targets e.g. parks, restaurants, libraries. Laurie Pritchett didn't treat them badly = no media attention. King went in to support but this was resented by SNCC. Within a year Albany was desegregated. 	<p>registration in south</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JFK called MLK's wife when campaigning = helped to secure Black vote. James Meredith and Ol' Miss - trying to enrol at university - Bobby Kennedy sent 500 marshals to aid. JFK then sent National Guard and US army regulars. JFK took the moral lead over race. JFK reacted slowly - and was reactionary not proactive. 	<p>platform in order to win the election for Governor in 1962</p> <p>63% of Americans considered the freedom riders to be provoking violence.</p> <p>Southern Democrats put a halt to the Civil Rights Bill.</p>	<p>finished high school compared to 52% o white children.</p> <p>Increased automation decreased the number of factory jobs and increased the amount of black unemployment.</p> <p>SOME ghettos had 70% youth black unemployment.</p>
<p>Johnson 1963 - 1969</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MLK and SCLC staged the Selma Campaign where only 23 of the 30,000 population could vote. Sheriff Jim Clark was violent towards peaceful protest marchers. Led to Bloody Sunday. The 1964 Act revolutionized the South and meant campaigning needed to be different. Increased radicalisation of AAs in the north. 1964- Freedom summer- 41 schools to help train for literacy tests - SNCC voter registration campaign in mississippi - lack of federal protection. 1968 - CORE excluded white members and said that black people had the right to defend themselves - radicalising. 1966 - SNCC leader Stokely Carmichael called for the burning of every courthouse in Mississippi and 'Black Power' While King's followers chanted 'Freedom Now'. Huge divisions in the movement. Black power movement meant different things to different people - including black supremacy, black pride, black economic power. The Black Panthers were the most famous black power group - they were set up in 1966 by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale. They encouraged separatism. They had 5,000 ghetto members and advocated self help. They established clinics on health and legal advice and a free breakfast programme in California. They tailed police cars to track brutality. They were admired by 64% of Black Americans. MLK - Poor People's Campaign - MLK realised solving the problem of de jure in the south did not create equality. He branched out to end broader poverty issues, including those in the north. MLK went to Chicago in 1966 to tackle poverty - It was failure for King as the ghetto apartment he was staying in was quickly refurbished by the landlord, on 30,000 attended a rally meant for 100,000. The Mayor, Daley, blamed King for a riot where £2 million in damages were caused after police turned off a fire hydrant. King left after being hit by a rock. His deputy Jesse Jackson put in place operation breadbasket which was an economic boycott instead. James Meredith and the Meredith March of 1966 - he was shot in 2 days of the march. King joined the marchers. Led to him being dragged from poverty campaign. King planned to bring the poor people of US to Washington to make hunger more visible. He was shot before this could take place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Johnson was active in supporting CR - genuinely upset when his black cook could not use gas station toilets. He thought it would help modernise the South. felt duty bound due to JFK. Johnson was crucial in passing CR legislation- he was a master of the senate - used Johnson treatment, JFK legacy and persuasion to help pass legislation. He appealed to southern white politicians. He referred to polls which showed support for change. Congress passed the 1964 Civil Rights Act - it gave federal and legal tools to end de jure segregation. It prohibited discrimination in public places and established the Equal Employment Commission but did nothing to help voting. 1965 Civil Rights Act - Voting Rights - stopped literacy tests for voting and replaced racist white southern registrars with federal registrars. Johnson had to send federal forces to Detroit in 1967 to restore order. Johnson put in place the Kerner commission to investigate cause of riots - blamed white racism above all. LBJ passed education Acts as part of Great Society which helped to speed up school desegregation and helped black colleges in the south which saw an increase in the number of Middle Class Black Americans. Great society legislation caused a 34% fall in black unemployment and 25% fall in black poverty 1968 Civil Rights Act - fairer housing practices. Following King's Chicago campaign Johnson made \$4 million in federal funding available, but this was not enough. 	<p>Selma - Jim Clark - Bloody Sunday - Beating up on protesters. Tear gas. Snakes.</p> <p>Opposition of state voting registrars e.g. Mississippi in 1964 - 17,000 AA went to vote after the Freedom summer, only 1,600 approved.</p> <p>J Edgar Hoover and the FBI described the black panthers as the greatest internal threat to security.</p>	<p>JFK legacy made it 'easier' for CR Act to be passed.</p> <p>1964 - 1968 - long hot summers - riots in the Northern Cities impacted 100 American Cities.</p> <p>Watts Riot of 1965 - 34 died - \$40 million in damage.</p> <p>1967 - Newark ghetto riot - 26 died, 1,500 injured.</p> <p>1967 - Detroit riot - 40 died, 2,000 injured, 5,000 left homeless</p> <p>Riots caused as 30% still lived below poverty line</p> <p>MLK assassination in 1968 sparked more protests and riots.</p> <p>AAs were increasingly radicalised by the influence of X and separatism, ghetto conditions, the feeling that CRM did little to help the north.</p> <p>Malcolm X was assassinated by 2 gunmen from the NOI during a meeting with the Organisation of Afro American Unity (OAAU).</p> <p>Black power declined due to the hostile authorities and the disagreements over its aims. It contributed to black pride and culture and kept black issues on the agenda.</p> <p>1967 - MLK's book - where do we go from here?</p>

<p>Nixon Republican 1969 - 1974</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Panthers declined due to the restoration of Law and Order • SNCC reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supreme court ruled in favour of bussing in 1971 and 1973 in order to combat de facto segregation. • Nixon disagreed with Bussing and ordered the Justice department to stop responding to the rulings. • Democrats wanted to push busing so Nixon appointed supreme court justices who would work in his favour - this led to the Milliken v Bradley ruling which ended bussing in Detroit. • Nixon disliked but used affirmative action and the Philadelphia plan. • 1969 - 28 Black Panthers killed and hundreds imprisoned. • Spiro Agnew pursued school desegregation - 1970 - less than 10% of schools were segregated. • Shirley Chisholm became the first black woman elected to congress in 1968. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of Americans disapproved of Bussing • Nixon had promised to slow the pace of change in the south with the Southern Strategy. 	<p>Rise of the Silent Majority</p> <p>Restoration of social conservatism</p> <p>Nixon didn't have the same funds LBJ had to support AAs.</p> <p>Liberals has less support for AAs after the 1968 riots.</p> <p>Increasing number of AAs attending university - increasing number of courses relating to AAs e.g. Black Studies.</p>
<p>Ford and Carter</p>	<p><u>New south</u> The rise of the new south:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of black federal employees in professional positions rose from 19.2% to 42% by 1978. • Proportion of black managers increased to 32%. • There was a migration back to the south. Partly due to the ghetto conditions, but also due to several pull factors such as less crime and more job opportunities and the draw of southern culture. The development of Air conditioning made it less hot/hostile. • Still, there were issues with voting in the south, in Georgia there were 27%AAs, but only 3.7% could vote. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1974- federal district court found boston guilty of unconstitutional school desegregation and ordered bussing. • Supreme court 1980 - Mobile v Bolden - made is harder to challenge discrimination in voting - breaking down Voting rights Act • Supreme court 0 1976 - tried to increase AA representation in government by placing rules around electoral boundaries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence in Boston following bussing. Stopped only when whites moved to private schools. • White backlash at affirmative action e.g. Allan Bakke 1978. • AAs still struggled to win nation wide elections. • 1980 - AAs were 12% population but 1% of elected officials. • 	<p>35% of AAs middle class</p> <p>Number of AA officials rising - 18 in congress</p> <p>Average Black Male unemployment was 50%</p> <p>50% of NY AA did not graduate high school.</p> <p>Black infant mortality was twice that of white.</p> <p>50% of AA single mum house hours were below poverty line.</p> <p>AAs suffered disproportionately during recessions.</p> <p>1970 - 4% of AA and 11% of whites completed college.</p> <p>BUT by 1990 is was 8% of AA and 17% of whites.</p>