

Activity Sheet A. Was the Civil Rights Movement a Success?

Instructions:

1. Working in a team or a pair, examine the documents. Working together, write a brief sentence explaining the significance of the information in the document.
2. Working individually, write a paragraph answering the question: Was the Civil Rights movement successful? In your paragraph, use information from the documents, what you know about United States history and what you know about the Civil Rights movement.

DOCUMENT A. SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION (1954), BY MR. CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN.

“Today, education is perhaps the most important function of state and local governments. . . . In these days, it is doubtful that any child may reasonably be expected to succeed in life if he is denied the opportunity of an education. Such an opportunity, . . is a right which must be made available to all on equal terms. . . . We conclude that, in the field of public education, the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.”

DOCUMENT B. CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964.

“To enforce the constitutional right to vote, . . . to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, . . to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. . .”

DOCUMENT C. CHANGING CONDITIONS IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Year	Life Expectancy for Black Men	Average income for Black Families	African Americans Living in Poverty
1969/1970	60.0 years		38%
1980/1981	64.1 years	\$26,000	36%
1990/1991	64.6 years	\$28,000	24%
1998	67.6 years	\$34,000	

Activity Sheet B. Was the Civil Rights Movement a Success?

Instructions:

1. Working in a team or a pair, examine the documents. Working together, write a brief sentence explaining the significance of the information in the document.
2. Working individually, write a paragraph answering the question: Was the Civil Rights movement successful? In your paragraph, use information from the documents, what you know about United States history and what you know about the Civil Rights movement.

DOCUMENT A. "JIM CROW JUSTICE ALIVE AND WELL IN AMERICA TODAY?", ACLU, 2001

"Racial profiling" occurs when the police target someone for investigation on the basis of that person's race, national origin, or ethnicity. Examples of profiling are the use of race to determine which drivers to stop for minor traffic violations and the use of race to determine which motorists or pedestrians to search for contraband. Racial profiling is prevalent in America. Despite the civil rights victories of 30 years ago, official racial prejudice is still reflected throughout the criminal justice system. . . . Today skin color makes you a suspect in America. It makes you more likely to be stopped, more likely to be searched, and more likely to be arrested and imprisoned."

DOCUMENT B. The New York Times, THE DIALLO LEGACY, February 27, 2000

"The death of Amadou Diallo last year became a defining event for the New York Police Department. The shooting of the unarmed West African immigrant by four white officers spurred protests, prompted various examinations of the department's admittedly aggressive tactics, and attracted so much attention that police officials blamed the news media for what they said was a sudden timidity among the rank-and-file. On Friday, a jury in Albany capped a riveting and often tense trial by finding the four officers not guilty of murder and several lesser charges. . . . The Diallo family, dismayed by the verdict, is expected to file a multimillion-dollar lawsuit against the city. The state attorney general's office is critically examining the department's "stop-and-frisk" policy."

DOCUMENT C. COMPARING CONDITIONS FOR AFRICAN AND EUROPEAN AMERICANS?

Life Expectancy, 1998	Average Income for Families, 1998	People Living in Poverty, 1998
White Men, 74.5 years	White Families, \$52,000	10% of White people
Black Men, 67.6 years	Black Families, \$34,000	24 % of Black people