

Civil Rights Movement



1950's - 1970's

Mr. Wade



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What was life like before the Civil Rights movement?

- Use the pictures in the following slides to make some statements describing life in the U.S. before the Civil Rights movement.























WE SERVE
WHITE'S *only*

NO
SPANISH^{or} MEXICANS



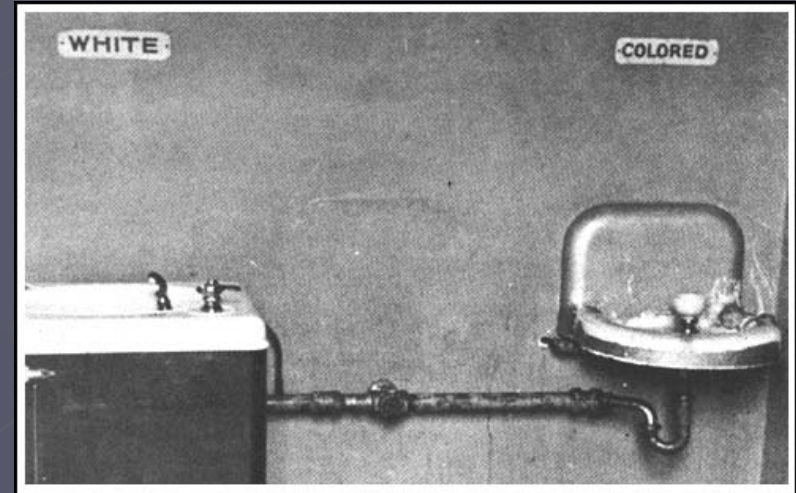






Segregation divides America

- Jim Crow laws-enforced strict separation of the races in the South
 - Schools, hospitals, transportation, & restaurants
- De jure segregation-imposed by law
- 1896 Plessy vs. Ferguson-"Separate but equal"



Segregation in the North

- ▶ De facto segregation: segregated by unwritten custom or tradition, face of life
- ▶ Blacks were denied housing in many neighborhoods and faced discrimination in employment (NORTH)



The Impact of Segregation

- ▶ African Americans received low-paying jobs
- ▶ Higher rates of poverty and illiteracy
- ▶ Lower rates of homeownership and life expectancy
- ▶ Couldn't vote in the south

Plessy v Ferguson

Is Separate Equal ?

► Facts:

- 1896 Homer Plessy took a seat in the “Whites Only” car of a train and refused to move. He was arrested, tried, and convicted in the District Court of New Orleans for breaking Louisiana’s segregation law.

► Question:

- Was the Louisiana law separating blacks and whites on railroad cars legal?

► Decision:

- Split decision that “separate but equal” law did not violate the 14th amendment

Brown vs. Board 1954

- NAACP challenged the “separate but equal” ruling
- The Supreme Court agreed with NAACP argument that segregated public education violated the U.S. Constitution
- Effects:
 - Great impact since it touched so many Americans
 - Opposition to the ruling declared that the South would not be integrated (White Citizens Council)



Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka KS

Is Separate Equal ?

► Facts:

- In 1954 Linda Brown's parents wanted her to attend the school close to her home. Kansas law stated she had to attend a segregated school. NAACP and attorney Thurgood Marshall tested the law.

► Question:

- Can Linda Brown attend an "all white" school?

► Decision:

- "separate educational facilities inherently unequal"
- desegregation required across the nation

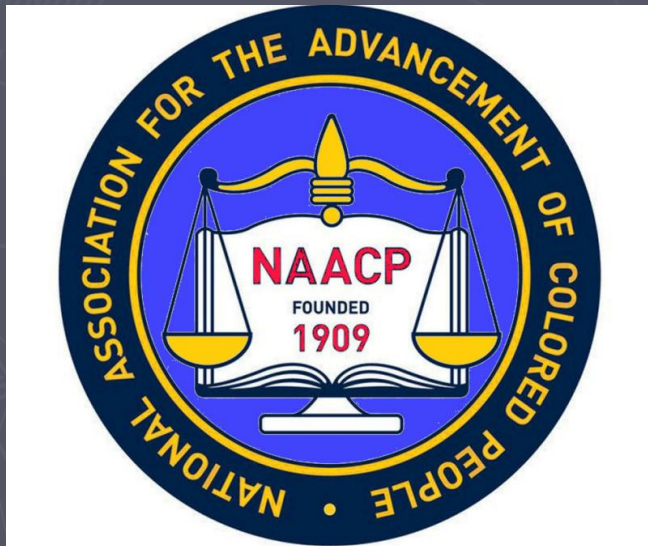
The Civil Rights Movement Grows

- Congress of Racial Equality (CORE): became convinced to use non-violent methods to gain civil rights
 - Organized Protests in northern cities
- Jackie Robinson
- President Truman used his executive power to order the desegregation of the military



NAACP Challenges Segregation

- ▶ NAACP became the largest and most powerful civil rights organization
- ▶ Thurgood Marshall-headed the team that challenged the legality of segregation



Post-WWII



- African Americans grew dissatisfied with their second-class status after WWII
 - Risked their lives defending freedom abroad
- Civil Rights Movement-a broad and diverse effort to attain racial equality



Notable leaders

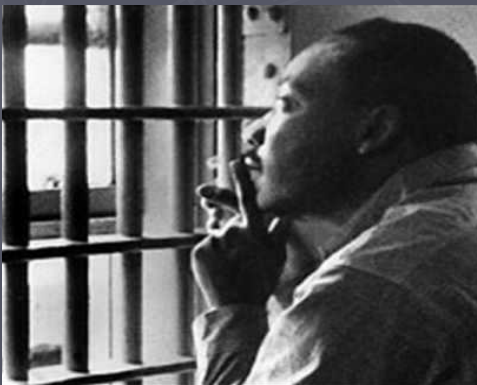


- ▶ **Thurgood Marshall**, lawyer, cases involving school segregation (Brown v Board)

- 1st African American SC Justice



- ▶ **Rosa Parks**—refuses to give up her seat on the bus to a white man and as a result the Montgomery Bus Boycott occurs.



- ▶ **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**—he gains national prominence as a leader during the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Arrested in Birmingham
 - Letter from a Birmingham Jail.

How did they do it?

- ▶ Civil rights leaders used **non-violent protests, civil disobedience, and legal action** to change the U.S.

Civil Disobedience = non-violent protest

► **Boycotts**

- Refusing to buy goods or services from a business in order to force it to change its policies

► **Hunger strikes**

- Refusing to eat anything in order to get attention for your **cause**

► **Petitions**

- Writing a letter to ask the government or a company to change its policy, and then getting as many people to sign it as possible.

► **Marches and demonstrations**

- Getting as many people as possible to gather in one place to get attention to your cause

► **Strikes**

- Refusing to work in order to force your managers or government to change their policies

Civil disobedience

- ▶ Breaking the law or causing a **disturbance** in order to get attention for your cause.
- ▶ **Sit ins**
 - ▶ The **protesters** come into a place, sit down, and refuse to move.

Legal action

- ▶ Lawyers can challenge a law or policy in court. If they convince the judge that the law or policy is **unconstitutional**, then the judge will order them to change.
- ▶ People can speak at government hearings or meetings and try to convince **legislators** to make new laws or **repeal** unfair ones.

Rosa Parks



- ▶ In Alabama, the bus company had a rule that said all African-Americans had to sit in the back of the bus.
- ▶ In 1955, Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, was coming home from work and was very tired. The seats in the back were full, but the front seats were empty. She sat down in the front. When the bus driver ordered her to move, she refused. He called the police and they arrested her.

Montgomery Bus Boycott

- Rosa Parks actions transformed the movement
- NAACP began preparing a legal challenge
- Rise of MLK: urged non-violence
- Boycott lasted a year
- In 1956 the Supreme Court ruled the Montgomery bus segregation law was unconstitutional



Effects of the Boycott and the Supreme Court Victory

- ▶ Revealed the power African Americans could have if they joined together
- ▶ King established the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
 - Advocated nonviolent resistance to fight injustice



College students in Greensboro

- ▶ These lunch counter protests spread throughout the U.S. Many white students came along to support the African-Americans.



Greensboro, North Carolina Lunch Counter Sit Ins



Sit-ins

- ▶ Four black students at North Carolina sat down in a white diner and were told that they would not be served (First)
- ▶ Sit ins became a new way to protest segregation of public facilities





Little Rock Nine

- President Eisenhower sent federal troops to Little Rock to protect the African American students and to enforce Brown vs. Board
- For the entire school year, federal troops stayed in Little Rock escorting the students to and from school



Effects of Little Rock Nine

- ▶ It demonstrated that the President would not tolerate open defiance of the law
- ▶ However, most southern states found ways to resist desegregation and it would take years before black and white children went to school together



1962 "Ole Miss"

James Meredith-1st black student



University of Mississippi

- ▶ September 1962
- ▶ Who: James Meredith and JFK
- ▶ Plan of Action: integrate UM
- ▶ Obstacles: Governor Ross Barnett, riots, and death
- ▶ Results: JFK ordered federal marshals to escort Meredith.



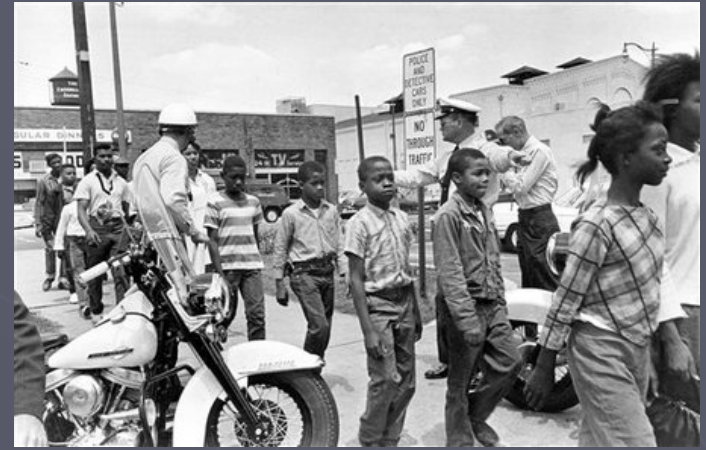
James Meredith

Southern Manifesto

- ▶ Southern Manifesto was signed by ALL but **three** southern leaders
 - Al Gore, Sr., Tennessee
 - Lyndon Johnson, Texas
 - Estes Kefauver, Tennessee
- ▶ Called for **resistance** –appealed to emotions of prejudices and paranoia that a united support of peaceful compliance might have diluted in the South

Focus on Birmingham

- Letter from Birmingham jail by King
- Freedom marches: schoolchildren joined the demonstrations
- Many Americans were shocked by the news coverage of nonviolent protestors set upon by dogs and jets of water
- Kennedy approves civil rights bill



March to Selma

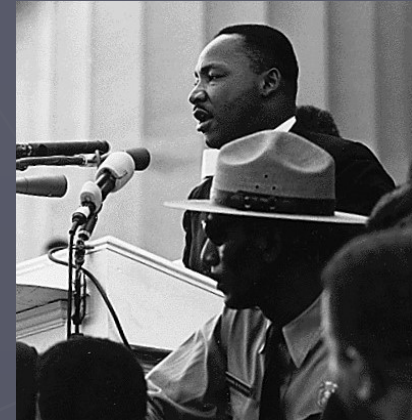


March on Washington August 28, 1963



March on Washington

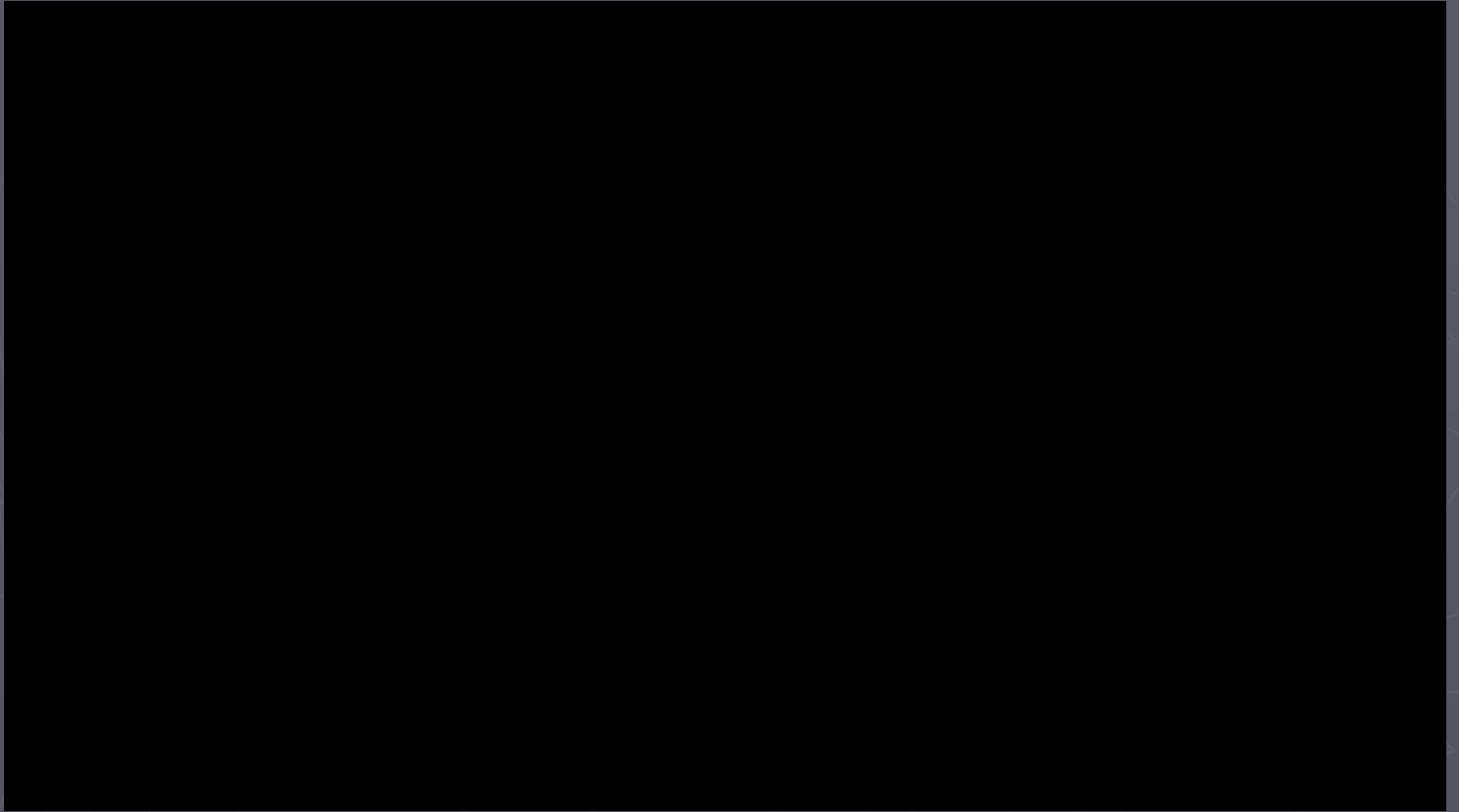
- To put pressure on Congress to pass the new civil rights bill
- Drew more than 200,000
- MLK-"I have a dream"
- One of the largest political demonstrations
- A model for peaceful protest



The Push for Voting Rights

- ▶ Literacy tests
- ▶ Poll taxes
- ▶ Intimidation
- ▶ All kept blacks from voting

Excerpt..."I Have a Dream"



The Civil Rights Act of 1964

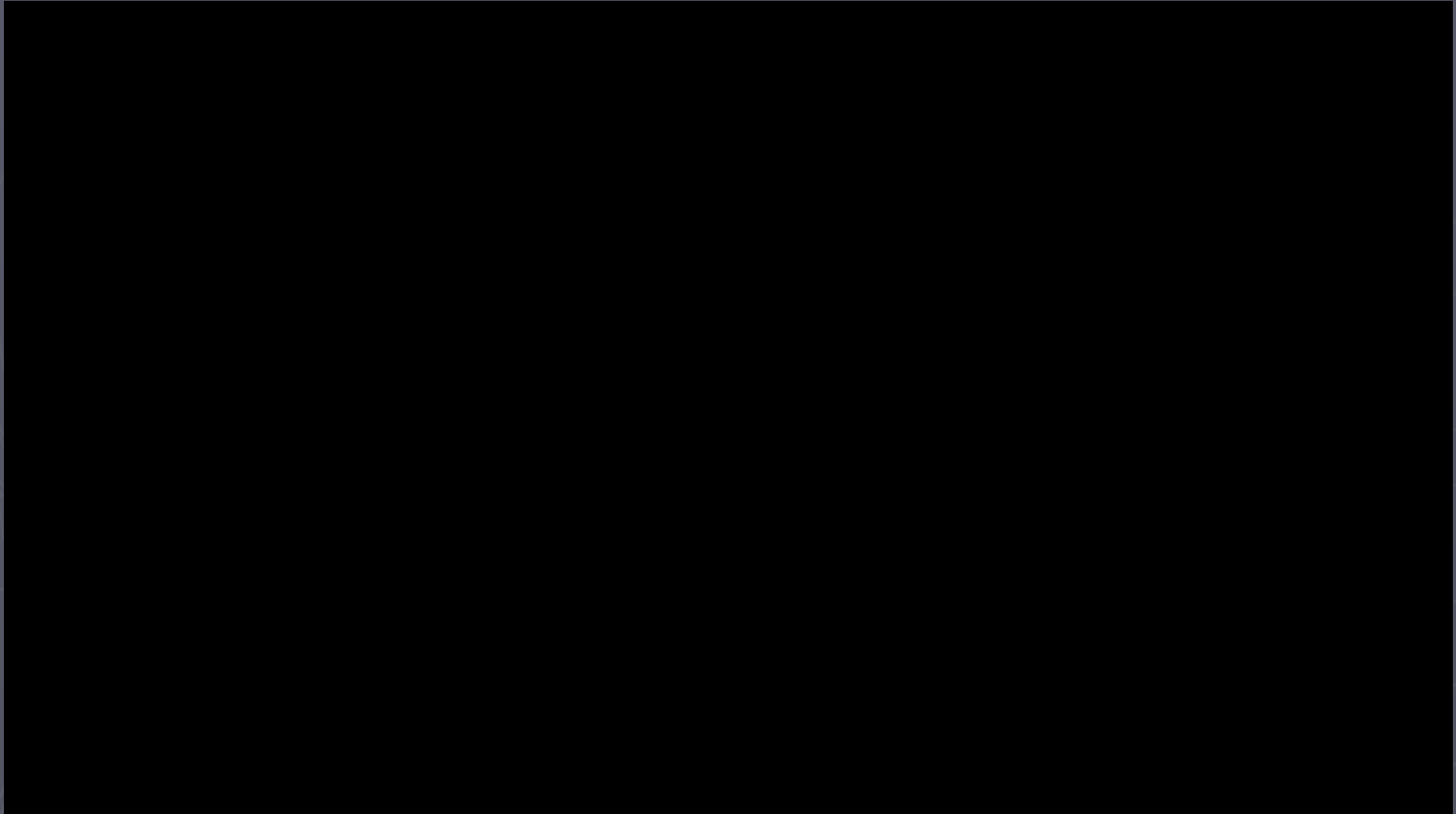
- ▶ Because of the Civil Rights movement, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This law ended all racial discrimination in public facilities such as restrooms, restaurants, buses, movie theaters, and swimming pools.

Civil Rights Act of 1964



- The act banned segregation in public accommodations
- Gave the federal government the ability to desegregate schools
- Prosecute individuals who violated people's civil rights
- Outlawed discrimination in employment
- Established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

LBJ-"We Shall Overcome"



American Indian Civil Rights



Conditions

- ▶ 1800s: U.S. gov't broke treaties



Black Hills



Miners in Black Hills

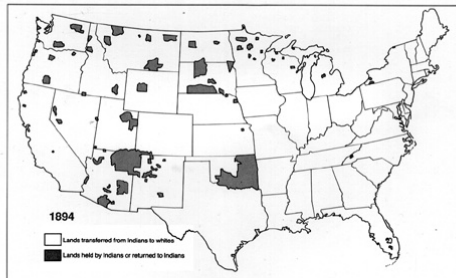
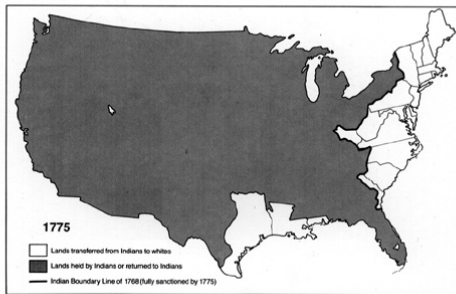
Conditions

- 1880s: Reservations in place
- Dawes Act: more land lost

THE NATIVE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

5.01

Land Transfers from Native Americans to Whites: 1775-1894



These two maps reveal the dramatic transfer of Indian lands into white hands between 1775 and 1894. The shaded areas are Indian holdings, the white areas those held by settlers. Lands transferred include those given over by treaty, purchase, unilateral treaty or agreement, and those taken without Indian consent by private seizure and executive order, usually from the Secretary of the Interior or Congress. The huge reserves held by tribes before the Europeans arrived were necessary to support hunting, agriculture, and their nomadic way of life. White settlers, used to much denser populations, saw this as wasteful and unnecessary. It was the conscious desire and mission of many settlers and government officials to rid the Indians of any title to their lands by 1900, and vest those title rights in the U.S. government.



INDIAN LAND FOR SALE

GET A HOME
OF
YOUR OWN
WITH
EASY PAYMENTS

PERFECT TITLE
IN
POSSESSION
WITHIN
THIRTY DAYS



FINE LANDS IN THE WEST

IRRIGATED
IRRIGABLE
GRAZING
AGRICULTURAL
OR
FARMING

IN 1900 the Government of the United States owned more than 100 million acres of Indian land.

State	Acres	Value	State	Acres	Value
California	1,200,000	\$2,400,000	Idaho	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Montana	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	North Dakota	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Wyoming	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	South Dakota	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Nebraska	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Washington	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Utah	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Wisconsin	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Colorado	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Minnesota	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Arizona	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Illinois	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
New Mexico	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Missouri	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Oklahoma	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Indiana	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Texas	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Ohio	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Arkansas	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Pennsylvania	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Louisiana	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Virginia	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Mississippi	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	West Virginia	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Alabama	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Delaware	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Georgia	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Maryland	1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Florida	1,000,000	\$2,000,000	District of Columbia	1,000,000	\$2,000,000

FOR THE YEAR 1900 IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 100,000 ACRES WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE.

WALTER L. FISHER, ROBERT G. VALENTE

Conditions

- ▶ 1890-1950s: Indian Boarding Schools taught “assimilation”



Apache Indians upon arrival; Same group 4 months later

Conditions

- 1960s: High poverty, unemployment, suicide and drop-out rates



1961: National Congress of American Indians

- ▶ wanted control of federal programs and treaty rights



National Congress
of American Indians (NCAI)
1970 NBC News Broadcasts

ROTATION 1: Begin a poster in support of the occupation of Mt. Rushmore.

ROTATION 2: Finish the poster and make it better.

ROTATION 3: Give the final poster a grade and write the reason why.



1968: American Indian Movement (AIM)

- ▶ Drew attention to Native American issues



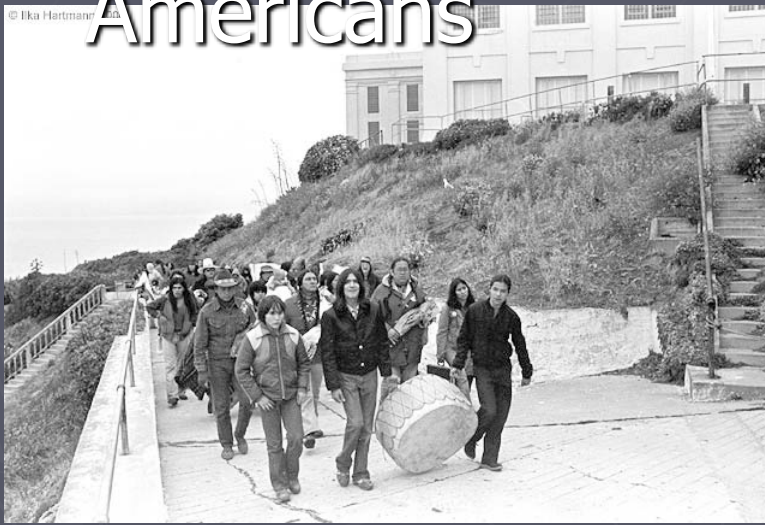
Replica Plymouth Rock which was painted red during Thanksgiving protest in 1970



March on Columbus Day

1969: Alcatraz Island Occupation

- Inspired spread of 'Red Power' for Native Americans



*Offered \$24 in beads
and cloth*



*19 month siege
Supported by media*

1972: “Trail of Broken Treaties” March

- Results in occupation of BIA in D.C.



Occupiers on the steps of the BIA in D.C.



Floyd Young, one of occupiers

Achievements

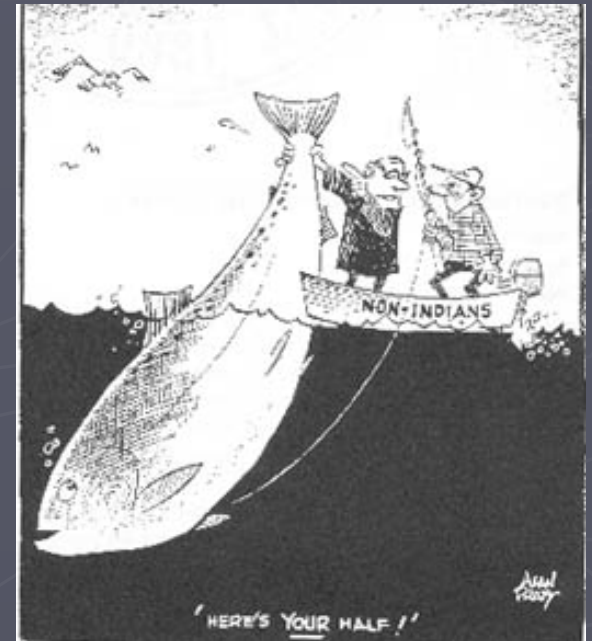
- ▶ 1968 Indian Civil Rights Act resulted in self-rule
- ▶ Gained control of own education
- ▶ 1970s: Successfully sued for land treaty rights

Scenes of Black Hills - “Sioux” given \$106 million in reparations for land



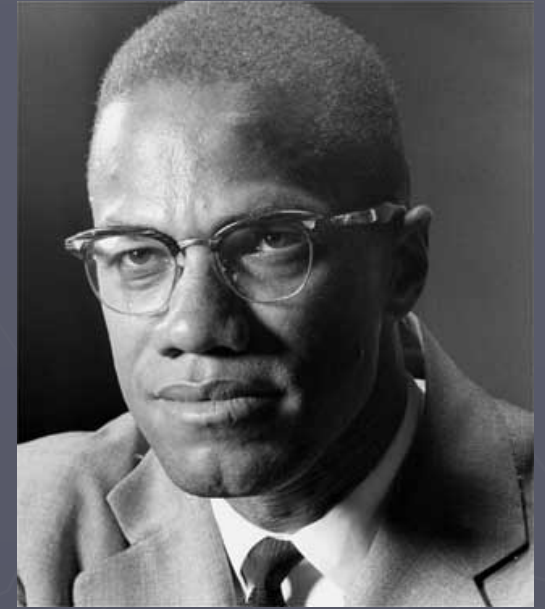
Achievements

- ▶ 1980s-on: gambling, hunting and fishing rights for some tribes



“Fish-in” with American Indians and actor Marlon Brando

Malcolm X



- ▶ Influenced by race riots
- ▶ Difficult childhood
- ▶ While in jail, converted to the Nation of Islam
 - Strict rules of behavior, no drugs or alcohol, and demanded a separation of the races

Malcolm X

- ▶ He became the Nation of Islam's most prominent minister
 - However, he broke away and formed his own
 - Three members were later convicted of assassinating Malcolm
- ▶ After his pilgrimage to Mecca, Malcolm was more willing to consider limited acceptance of whites

“Black Power”

- ▶ Move away from nonviolence
- ▶ Stokely Carmichael's definition: it meant African Americans should collectively use their economic and political muscle to gain equality
 - Institutional Racism



Black Panthers



- ▶ Symbol of young militant African Americans
- ▶ Protected urban neighborhoods from police abuse
- ▶ Created antipoverty programs
- ▶ Stokely was "honorary Prime Minister"



Voting Rights Act 1965

- ▶ Prohibited discrimination at voting polls
- ▶ Established bilingual ballots in areas with large amount of non-English speaking minorities
- ▶ Outlawed literacy tests for voters
- ▶ Gave Federal Government power to oversee all elections

Civil Rights act of 1968

- ▶ Written as a follow-up to the CRA of 1964
- ▶ Created to enforce equal housing opportunities for all races
- ▶ Basically you cannot refuse to rent or sell a house to anyone, anywhere, based upon their race



"Momentum" Timeline

- ▶ May 1961, Freedom Riders
- ▶ Aug 1963, March on Washington
- ▶ Sep 1962, integrating the University of Mississippi
- ▶ Summer of '64 Freedom Summer
- ▶ Apr 1963, Birmingham
- ▶ June 1963, integrating the University of Alabama

Freedom Riders



- ▶ Apr-Dec 1961
- ▶ Who: CORE and SNCC
(congress of racial equality and student nonviolent coordinating committee)
- ▶ Plan of Action: to test the SC decision banning segregation on interstate bus routes
- ▶ Obstacles: violence
- ▶ Results: Desegregated busses due to loss of profit

University of Alabama

- ▶ June 1963
- ▶ Who: Gov. George Wallace
- ▶ Plan of Action: integrate the University of Alabama
- ▶ Obstacles: Governor George Wallace
- ▶ Results: JFK used federal troops to enforce the desegregation



MLK's final days

- ▶ Understood the anger and frustration of many urban African Americans
- ▶ Disagreed with the call for “black power”
- ▶ King's assassination triggered riots in more than 100 cities
- ▶ 2 months later Robert Kennedy was assassinated

Freedom Summer

- ▶ Summer of '64
- ▶ Who: SNCC and volunteers
- ▶ Where: Mississippi
- ▶ Plan of Action: register voters
- ▶ Obstacles: Obstacles:
Local officers killed volunteers
- ▶ Results: Congress did not
pass a Voters Rights act.



The Selma Campaign

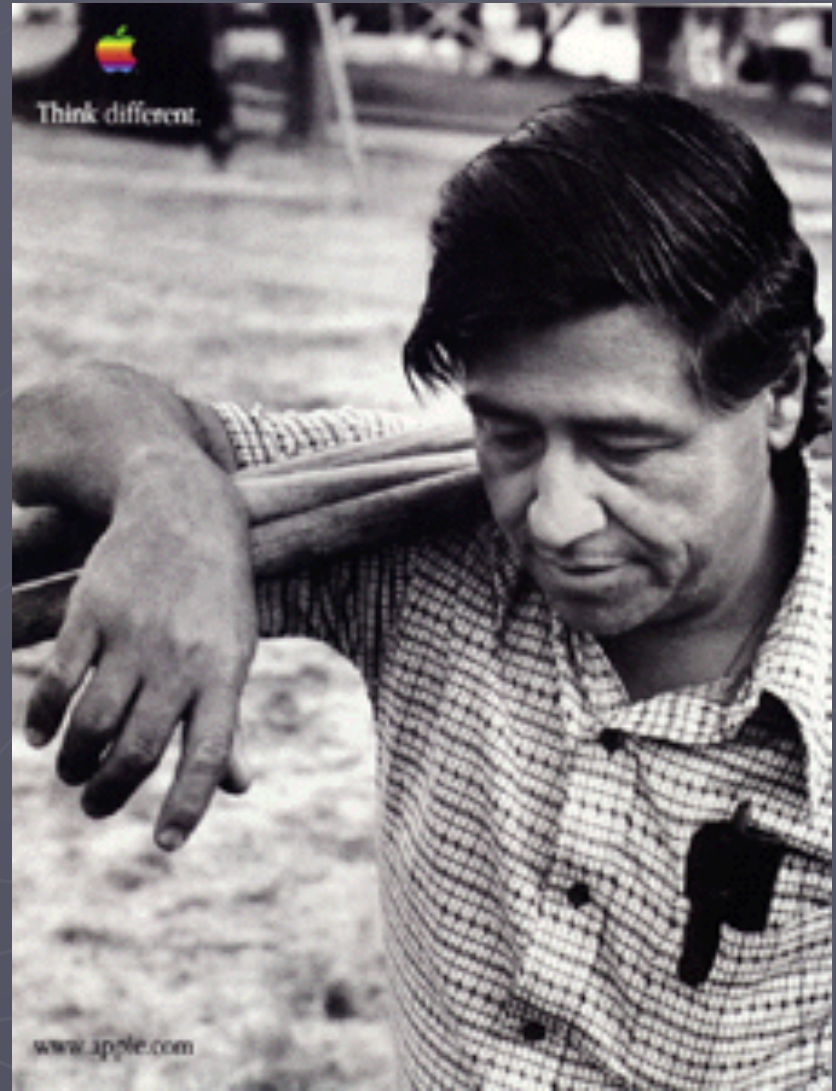


- ▶ Early 1965
- ▶ Who: SCLC and SNCC
- ▶ Plan of Action: Voter registration drive and march to Montgomery
- ▶ Obstacles: violent, local law officers
- ▶ Reaction: LBJ responded by asking Congress for the swift passage of a new voting rights act. It passed in 1965.

Cesar Chavez: Life and Background

A. Early Years as Migrant Worker

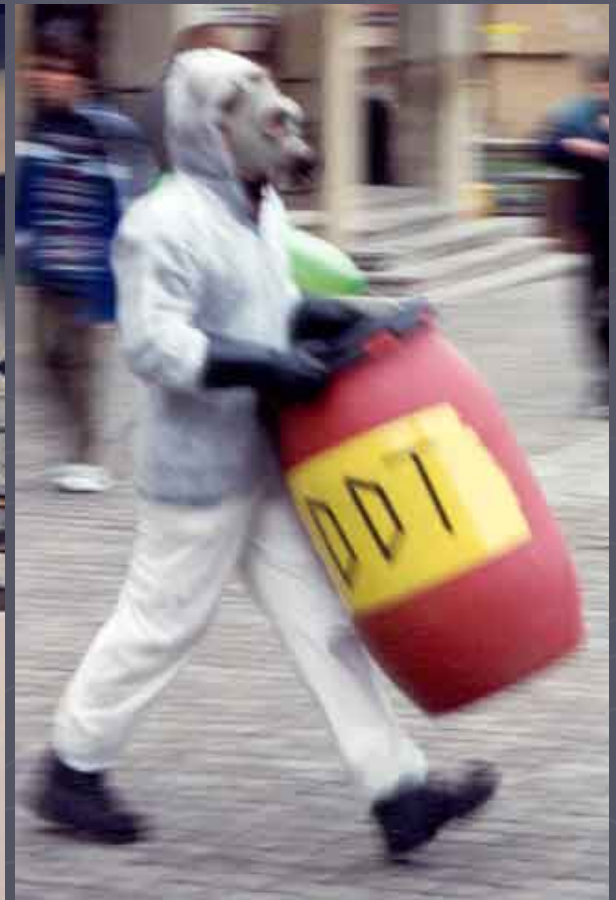
- ▶ b. 1927; farm sold 1938→ migrant
- ▶ 30+ schools, stopped at age 14, 8th grade

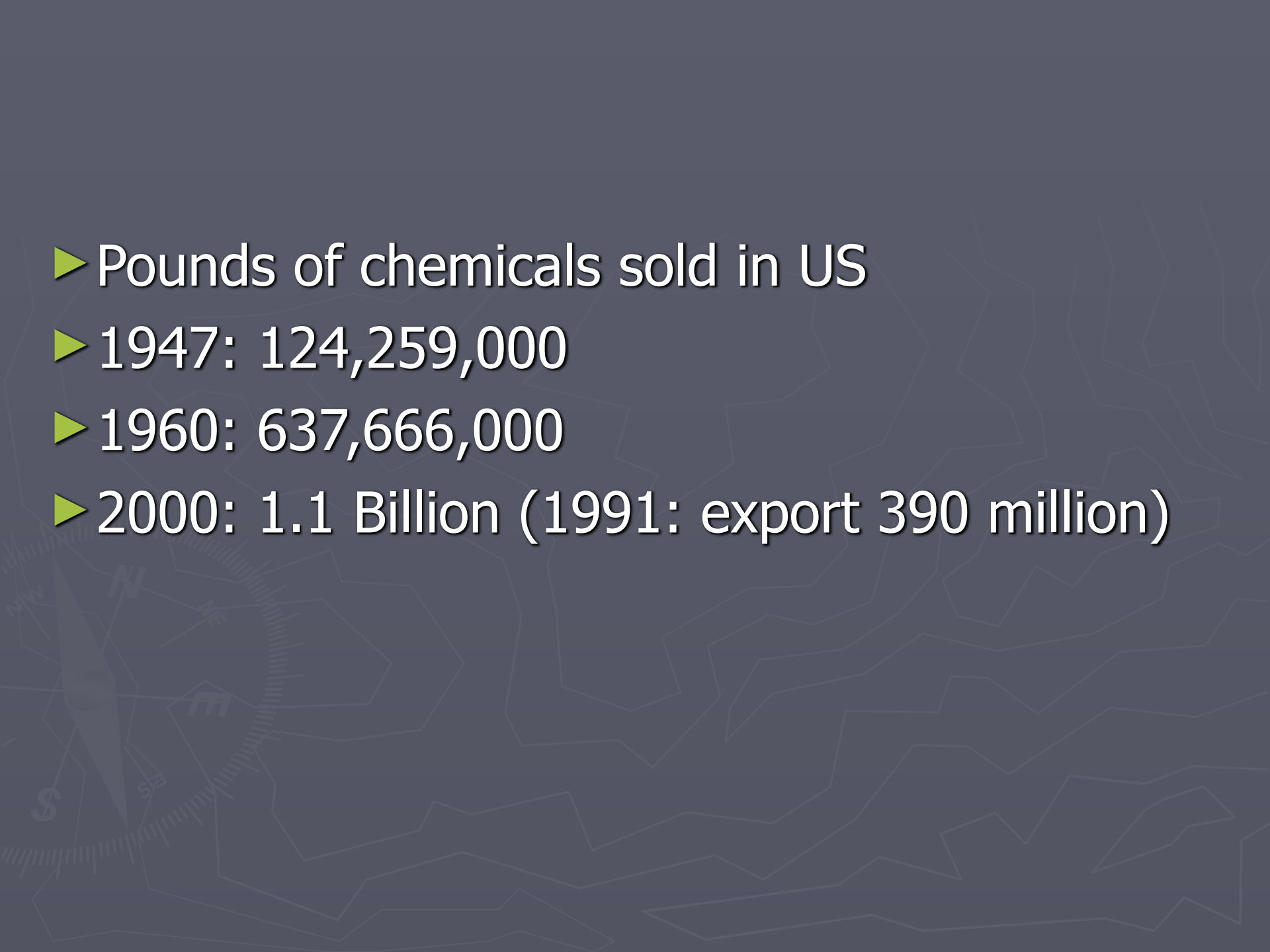


I. Rachel Carson, Silent Spring, and the Environmental Movement

WWII→ Chlorinated Hydrocarbons

- ▶ **DDT**: dichloro-diphenyl-trichloro-ethane
- ▶ Dieldrin
- ▶ Heptachlor



- 
- ▶ Pounds of chemicals sold in US
 - ▶ 1947: 124,259,000
 - ▶ 1960: 637,666,000
 - ▶ 2000: 1.1 Billion (1991: export 390 million)





II. Delano, CA



- ▶ Sharp division landowners (white) and workers (Filipino, Chinese, Mexican, Japanese)



III. Highly Mobile and Politically Vulnerable: Migrant Workers, Braceros, and Illegal Immigrants

► Difficulties:

- 1) Hard to organize: mobile + vulnerable, landowners powerful
- 2) Bracero Program: exploitative, encouraged illegals
- 3) Wagner Act exemption: S + W Dems, blacks and Mexicans

B. San Joaquin Valley: A Little Bit of Dixie in California

- ▶ “No Dogs or Mexicans Allowed”
- ▶ 1943: CC kicked from theater → begins to protest
- ▶ Joins National Farm Labor Union



C. Community Services Organization

- ▶ CSO provided social services:
- ▶ Voter registration drives
- ▶ Immigration papers
- ▶ Police brutality
- ▶ Organize unions

- ▶ CC works for 10 years in CSO in CA and AZ
- ▶ Growing uncomfortable: too moderate with influx urban liberals
- ▶ 1962: plan for massive union effort rejected



D. CC Leaves CSO→ NFWA

- ▶ \$1200 founds National Farm Workers Association
- ▶ Credit unions
- ▶ Represent workers
- ▶ 1964-65: small wage gains
- ▶ Not yet ready for full assault

V. 1965: The Delano Strike and Grape Boycott

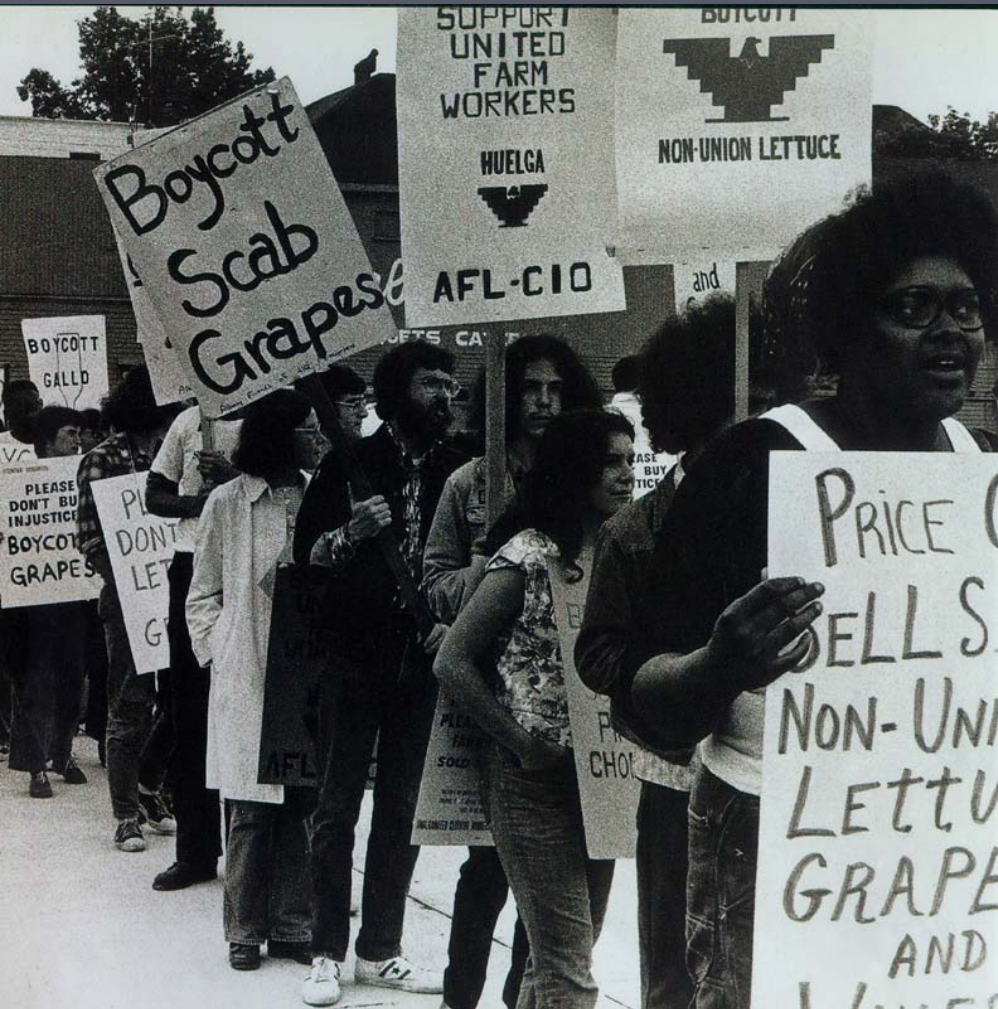
- ▶ Spring '65: Filipino union outside LA → negotiate increase to \$1.40/hr
- ▶ Delano paid only \$1.20 → Filipinos demand same pay → strike
- ▶ Would NFWA go on strike?
 - Only \$100 in strike fund
 - If don't join will shatter credibility

- ▶ Unanimous vote
- ▶ Owners attempt to break strike: police
- ▶ Seem outmatched, but CC and CRM





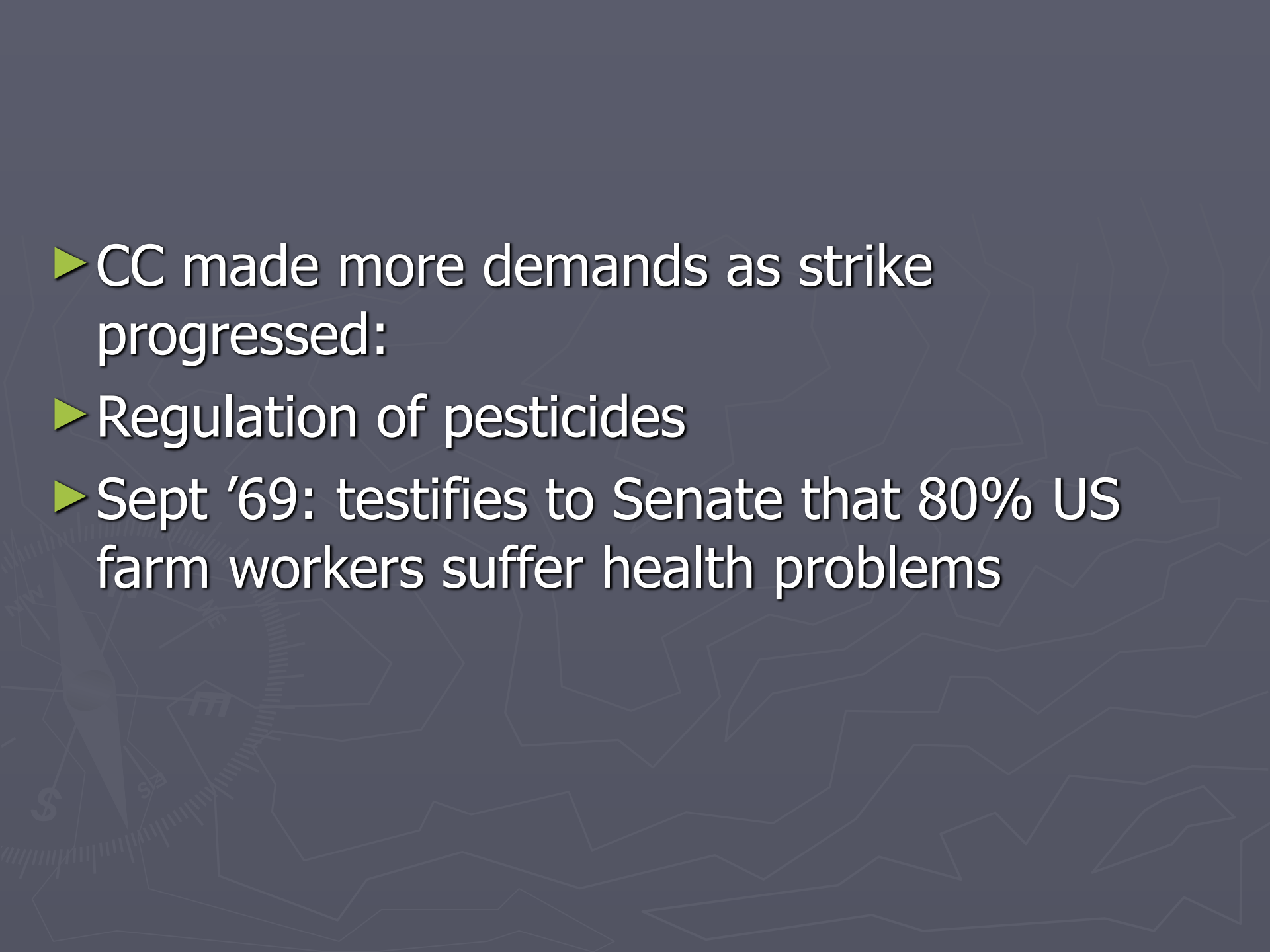
- ▶ Walter Reuther (UAW) brings \$10,000 and promises \$5,000 per month
- ▶ 1965 US Senate investigation
- ▶ 1966: Mexican and Filipino unions merge to form UFW (United Farm Workers)



- ▶ CC bold strategy: appeal to American people: grape boycott
- ▶ Follow grapes to stores and distribution centers → picket
 - Local unions join and refuse to handle “hot grapes”

- ▶ April 6, 1966: large Delano grape grower caves
- ▶ Summer '69: holdouts cave from bankruptcy



- 
- ▶ CC made more demands as strike progressed:
 - ▶ Regulation of pesticides
 - ▶ Sept '69: testifies to Senate that 80% US farm workers suffer health problems

VI. Today – Chavez' Lasting Legacy

- ▶ UFW weaker
- ▶ Conditions nearly identical to pre-union
- ▶ Cancer zones, environmental discrimination
- ▶ Slavery in Florida
 - Coyotes/polleros and pollos

