

Year 8: American Civil Rights - What were the consequences of the segregationist policies across the USA?

Term	Definition
1. Civil Rights movement	A movement led by black Americans to end racial discrimination and to gain equal rights for all people, regardless of the colour of their skin.
2. Segregation	Across America people were kept apart. Often, particularly in the South, black people and white people were kept apart. This often meant that the conditions for white Americans were of a higher standard.
3. Jim Crow Laws	Jim Crow was a derogatory term for African Americans. The laws were a set of restrictions that further enforced segregation across the USA.
4. Little Rock Nine	The Little Rock Nine were a group of nine black students who enrolled at formerly all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in September 1957.
5. Emmett Till	Emmett Till was a teenager who had grown up in Chicago, in the North of America. He was murdered whilst visiting family in Mississippi after supposedly trying to flirt with a white shop owner's wife.
6. Rosa Parks	Rosa Parks led the Montgomery Bus Boycotts. At the time black people, in the South, were expected to give up their seats to white passengers. By refusing, Parks started a boycott across the region.
7. Montgomery bus boycotts	For a year, between 1955 and 1956, black people across Montgomery refused to go on public transport. This had a devastating impact on business in the area and eventually led to the end of segregation on buses in the area.
8. Martin Luther King	Martin Luther King was a Civil Rights activist. He was a lawyer and believed firmly that the protest should be non-violent. His 'I have a dream' speech remains a key symbol of the struggle.
9. 'I have a dream' speech	Martin Luther King gave this speech in 1963 in Washington. King deliberately made reference to the US constitution to agree how unfair the system that oppressed black Americans remained.
10. Greensboro sit-ins	A group of four black Americans agreed to 'sit-in' at a Woolworths in North Carolina. Black people were only allowed to buy food to take away. As a result, it led to clashes between white and black Americans.