

## Unit 1

1865 –  
1900s

# Reconstruction and Segregation

The years after the Civil War ended in 1865 presented great challenges to the American people. How should the Southern states be brought back into the Union? How would the freed slaves find a new place in American life?

Reconstruction means “rebuilding.” It is the term for the 12 years after the Civil War when the nation was put back together. Important new laws were passed in those years, most designed to protect the rights of freed slaves.

Reconstruction was officially ended in 1877. The problems of that time, however, were not completely solved. A pattern of racial separation – called segregation – soon began spreading. By 1900 laws requiring segregation were common across the South. There were also many voices, both white and black, speaking up for change.

### Internet resources:

[www.fasttrackteaching.com/ffap](http://www.fasttrackteaching.com/ffap)

### Words and people to know:

Reconstruction

Abraham Lincoln

Robert E. Lee

Frederick Douglass

civil liberties

legacy

reconcile / reconciliation

Freedmen’s Bureau

Black Codes

Civil Rights Act of 1866

13th Amendment

14th Amendment

15th Amendment

carpetbaggers

Election of 1876

Jim Crow laws

segregation

discrimination

*Plessy v. Ferguson*

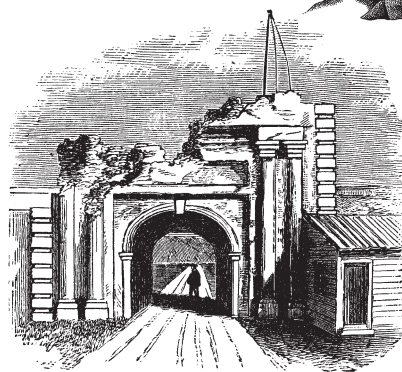
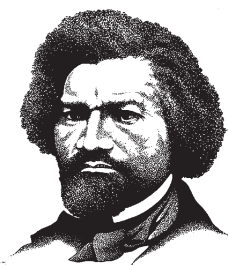
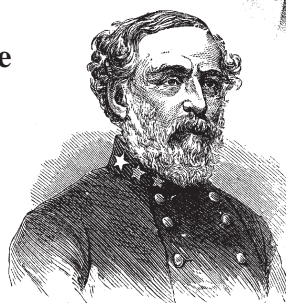
Booker T. Washington

vocational education

W.E.B. Du Bois

NAACP

Ida Wells-Barnett



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**Internet Support Site: [www.fasttrackteaching.com/ffap](http://www.fasttrackteaching.com/ffap)**

<b>Notes:</b>

# Outline – Reconstruction and Segregation

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## 1. Reconstruction was the 12 year period after the Civil War, from 1865 to 1877.

- A. The former Confederate states had to be brought back into the Union.
- B. The freedmen (freed slaves) needed protection and help.
- C. Damaged cities, farms, and factories of the South had to be rebuilt.

## 2. Leaders left an important legacy (lasting impact).

- A. Abraham Lincoln - wanted reconciliation (forgiveness), not punishment, of the South after the war ended.
  - \* Preservation (saving) of the Union was his most important goal.
- B. Robert E. Lee - urged the South to reconcile (make up) and reunite as Americans.
- C. Frederick Douglass - was a strong voice for human rights / civil liberties for all.
  - \* He pushed for constitutional amendments to guarantee voting rights for all.

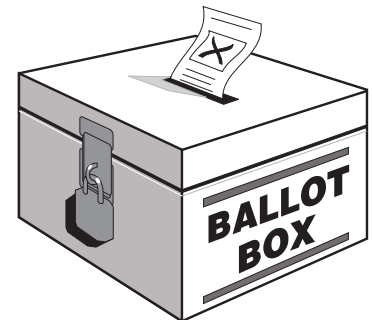


## 3. Reconstruction policies and problems.

- A. Freedmen's Bureau - a federal agency set up as the war ended to help freed slaves.
- B. Black Codes - laws passed in Southern states that limited the freed slaves' rights.
- C. The **Civil Rights Act of 1866** was a law passed by Congress that -
  - \* helped African Americans gain equal rights and fight discrimination.
  - \* said state laws (called Black Codes) that restricted freed slaves' rights were illegal.
  - \* authorized the use of federal troops for its enforcement.
- D. Federal troops (mostly Northern soldiers) were sent in to supervise the South.
- E. African Americans in the South could vote and be elected to public office, but the former Confederate military leaders could not vote or hold public office.
- F. Carpetbaggers - Northerners who came to the South during the Reconstruction era.
  - \* some came to take advantage of the South, and were resented by Southerners.

## 4. The Reconstruction Amendments were added to the Constitution in these years.

- A. 13th Amendment - bans slavery in the U.S. and its territories.
- B. 14th Amendment -
  - \* grants citizenship to all persons born in the United States.
  - \* guarantees equal protection of the laws to all citizens.
- C. 15th Amendment - says voting rights cannot be restricted on the basis of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.
- D. All three Amendments together attempted to guarantee equal protection under the law for all citizens.
  - \* Women and American Indians, however, did not gain all the benefits of citizenship (such as voting rights) until later.



### 5. Reconstruction ended in 1877.

- A. The Presidential Election of 1876 resulted in a promise to end Reconstruction.
  - \* Federal troops were removed from the South in 1877.
  - \* Blacks in the South were suddenly without much protection for their rights.
  - \* Whites in the South steadily increased their control of state and local governments.

### 6. Segregation and Jim Crow laws.

- A. Racial segregation (separation) grew, especially in the South, after Reconstruction.
  - \* Directed mainly against African Americans, but sometimes also affected other groups, such as Indians.
- B. “Jim Crow” laws -
  - \* state or community laws that required separate railroad cars, hotels, restaurants, schools, etc.
  - \* made racial discrimination legal in many states.
  - \* led to unequal opportunities in housing, work, education, etc.
- C. *Plessy v. Ferguson* - a Supreme Court case in 1896 that said segregation laws did not violate the U.S. Constitution. The *Plessy* case -
  - \* established the “separate but equal” rule to make segregation legal.
  - \* permitted racial segregation to continue spreading.
  - \* was overturned more than 50 years later by another legal case.

**Whites  
Only**

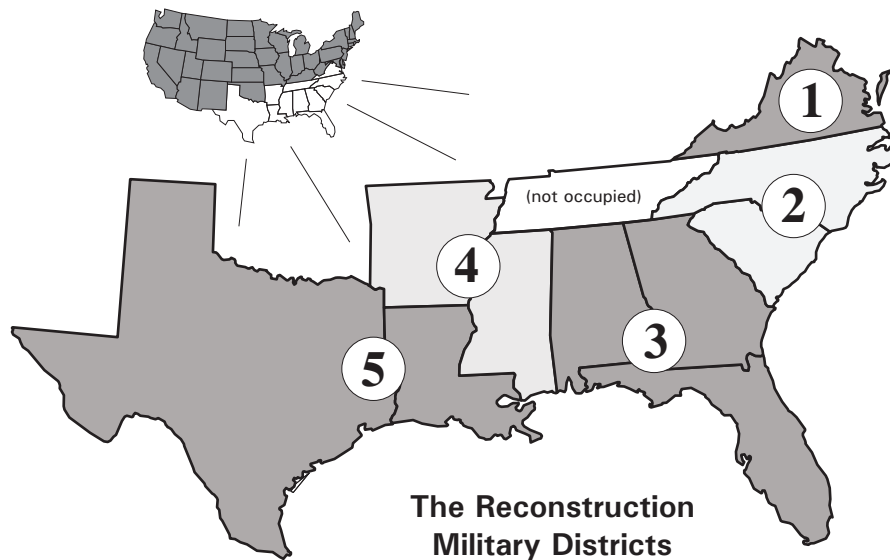
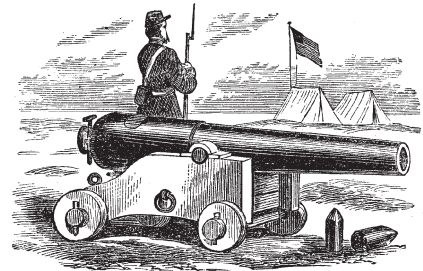
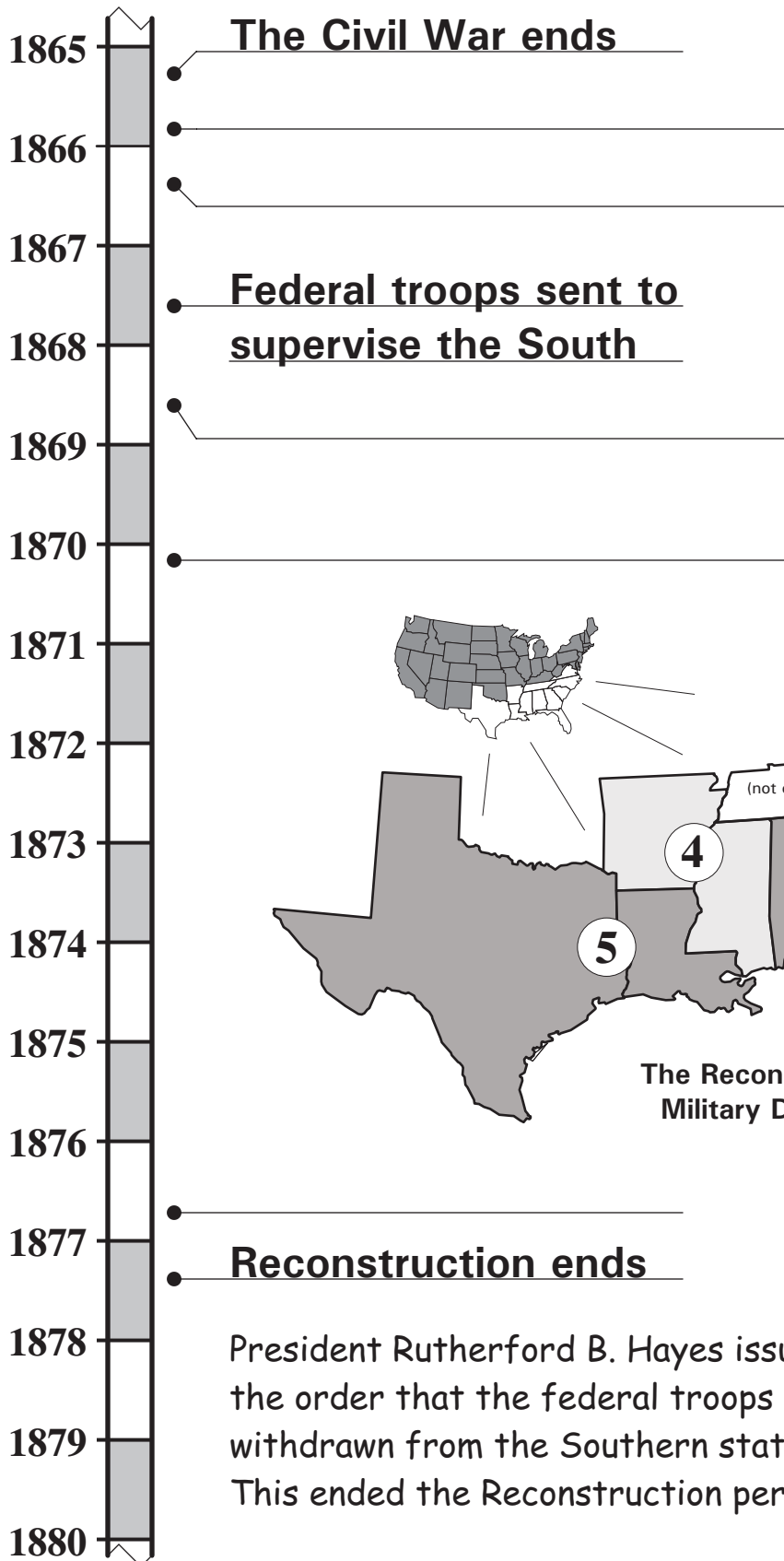
**Colored  
Only**

### 7. African American leaders responded in different ways to segregation.

- A. Booker T. Washington -
  - \* pushed for creating vocational (job) training schools for blacks as the best way forward.
  - \* accepted segregation - as a temporary compromise with whites.
  - \* believed equality would come in time.
- B. W.E.B. Du Bois -
  - \* wanted full political, civil, and social rights for African Americans - without delay.
  - \* a co-founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909 to fight discrimination and segregation.
- C. Ida Wells-Barnett -
  - \* wrote newspaper articles and books exposing discrimination and violence against blacks.
  - \* a co-founder of the NAACP.



# Timeline: Reconstruction



Rutherford B. Hayes

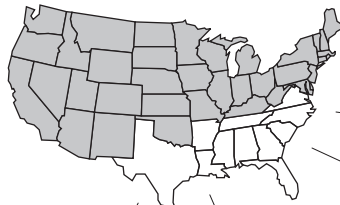
# What Was Reconstruction?

Reconstruction was the 12 year period after the Civil War when the former Confederate states were brought back into the Union – the U.S.A.



*The Civil War ended in 1865.*

*Reconstruction lasted from 1865 to 1877.*



**The former Confederate states**



Reconstruction means "rebuilding." The states of the South needed to be brought back into the Union. Many cities, farms, and factories in the South had been damaged in the Civil War, and needed to be rebuilt. Four million former slaves needed to find a new place in the suddenly changed economy and society of the South.

U.S. presidents, the Congress, state governments, leaders, and ordinary citizens all tried to find the best path forward. Their successes and failures make up the history of the Reconstruction Era.



## Legacies of Civil War Leaders

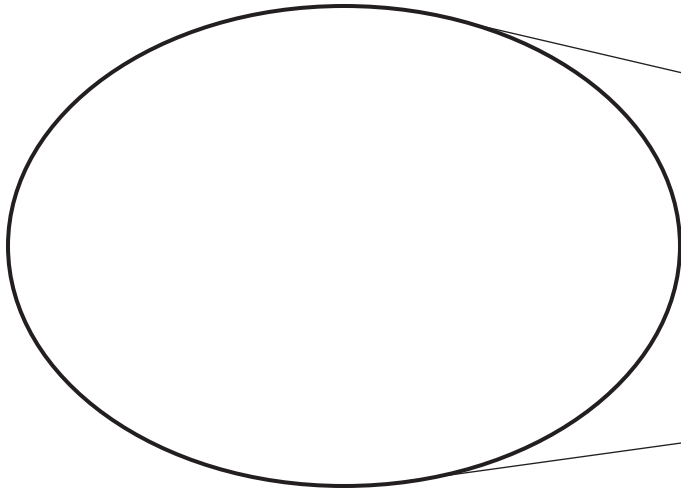
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Several leaders in the Civil War left important legacies (impacts) on American history in the Reconstruction Era and beyond.

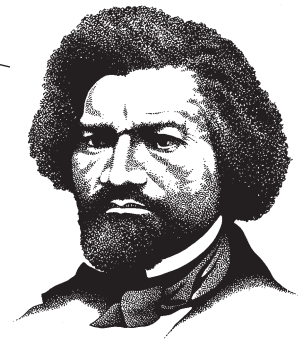


**Abraham Lincoln**  
President of the  
United States  
1861 - 1865

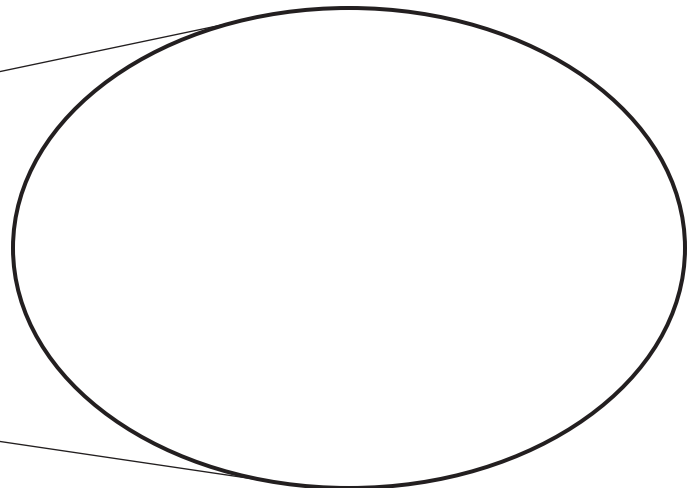
**His main goal was  
to preserve the Union.  
He wanted reconciliation,  
not punishment of the  
South.**



**Frederick Douglass**  
Newspaper writer  
and public speaker



**Robert E. Lee**  
Confederate  
General, later  
the president of  
a college



# Reconstruction Policies: A Graphic Overview

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Connect these items with red arrows to show the sequence of events, new laws, and changing policies during the first few years of Reconstruction.



## **Civil War Ends**

Northern soldiers returned home.

Southern leaders remained in control of state governments in the South.

**13th Amendment –**  
ended slavery in the U.S.

**Freedmen's Bureau -**  
a federal agency set up to give help to former slaves.

**Black Codes –**  
laws written by Southern state governments that limited the rights of the freedmen.

**Civil Rights Act of 1866 –**  
a law passed by Congress to stop the Black Codes and guarantee equal rights for the freedmen.  
It also said federal troops could be used for its enforcement.

**Federal troops were sent back into the South to supervise the Southern state governments.**

**African Americans in the South**  
could vote and hold public office.

**Former Southern military leaders**  
could not vote or hold public office.



# The Civil Rights Act of 1866



The Civil Rights Act of 1866 was an important law passed by Congress during Reconstruction. It helped protect the rights of freed slaves.

## Civil Rights Act of 1866



**Declared that African Americans have equal rights just as all other citizens.**



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The very next year, in 1867, Congress decided the Southern states were not really following the new law. Congress voted to put the Southern states under military supervision, and sent federal troops back into the South.

# The 13th Amendment



## 13th

Amendment  
to the U.S.  
Constitution

The 13th Amendment bans  
slavery in the United States  
and in any of its territories.

This Amendment was proposed by Congress in 1865, shortly before the end of the Civil War. It was ratified (approved) later that same year.

## Amendment 13

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

*- from the 13th Amendment,  
ratified as part of the U.S.  
Constitution in 1865*

Congress can pass laws to enforce this Amendment.

## *Did you know?*

The Emancipation Proclamation issued during the Civil War by President Lincoln (1863) ended slavery only in the parts of the South that were still fighting against the North. The 13th Amendment ended slavery everywhere in the U.S.

# The 14th Amendment

The 14th Amendment gives citizenship to everyone born in the United States, and guarantees them equal protection of the laws.



## Amendment 14

**All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside.**

**No state shall ... deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person ... the equal protection of the laws.**

*- from the 14th Amendment,  
ratified as part of the U.S.  
Constitution in 1868*

This Amendment was passed to make it clear after the Civil War ended that African Americans were citizens of the U.S., and had a right to fair treatment.

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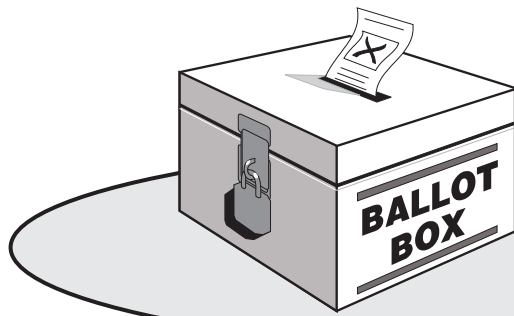
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*Did you know?*

"Naturalization" is the process by which a non-citizen becomes a citizen. The process involves a waiting period, a test, and an oath of citizenship.

# The 15th Amendment



The 15th Amendment gave African American men the right to vote, North and South.

The 15th Amendment took effect in 1870. Keep in mind that it did not grant women the right to vote. That did not come until many years later.

## Amendment 15

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

*- from the 15th Amendment,  
ratified as part of the U.S.  
Constitution in 1870*

Congress can pass laws to enforce this Amendment.

## The Reconstruction Amendments



13<sup>th</sup>  
14<sup>th</sup>  
15<sup>th</sup>

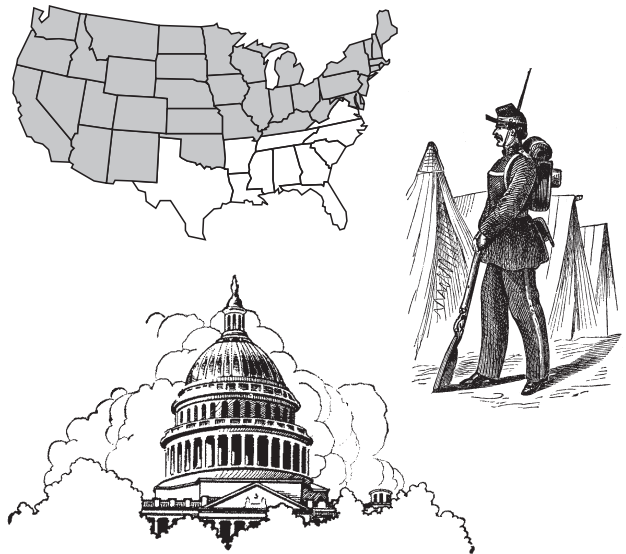
The 15th Amendment was the third of the Reconstruction Amendments passed after the Civil War. These Amendments - the 13th, 14th, and 15th - help guarantee all citizens fair and equal treatment under the law.

# Reconstruction Ends in 1877

Reconstruction was ended by the federal government in 1877. By that time many people in the North were thinking that it was time to let the Southern states handle their own affairs once again.

The decision to finally end Reconstruction came as part of a compromise involving the presidential election of 1876.

*Color the states of the South on the map, then draw arrows connecting the boxes below to show the sequence of events that ended Reconstruction.*



## Election of 1876

The results of the voting in the presidential election of 1876 were so close that no winner could be determined.

Leaders in Congress had to decide the winner. They talked and argued for weeks.

## A Compromise in Congress

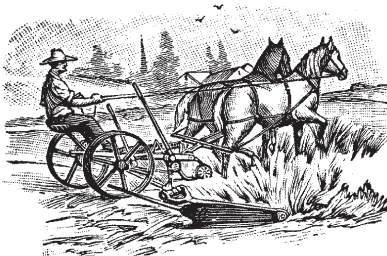
Leaders in Congress finally agreed to reach a compromise decision.

They said they would declare Rutherford B. Hayes the winner, if he would agree to end Reconstruction once he was president.

## Reconstruction Ends in 1877

Hayes agreed to the deal. Once he was sworn into office, he ordered the federal troops to leave the South.

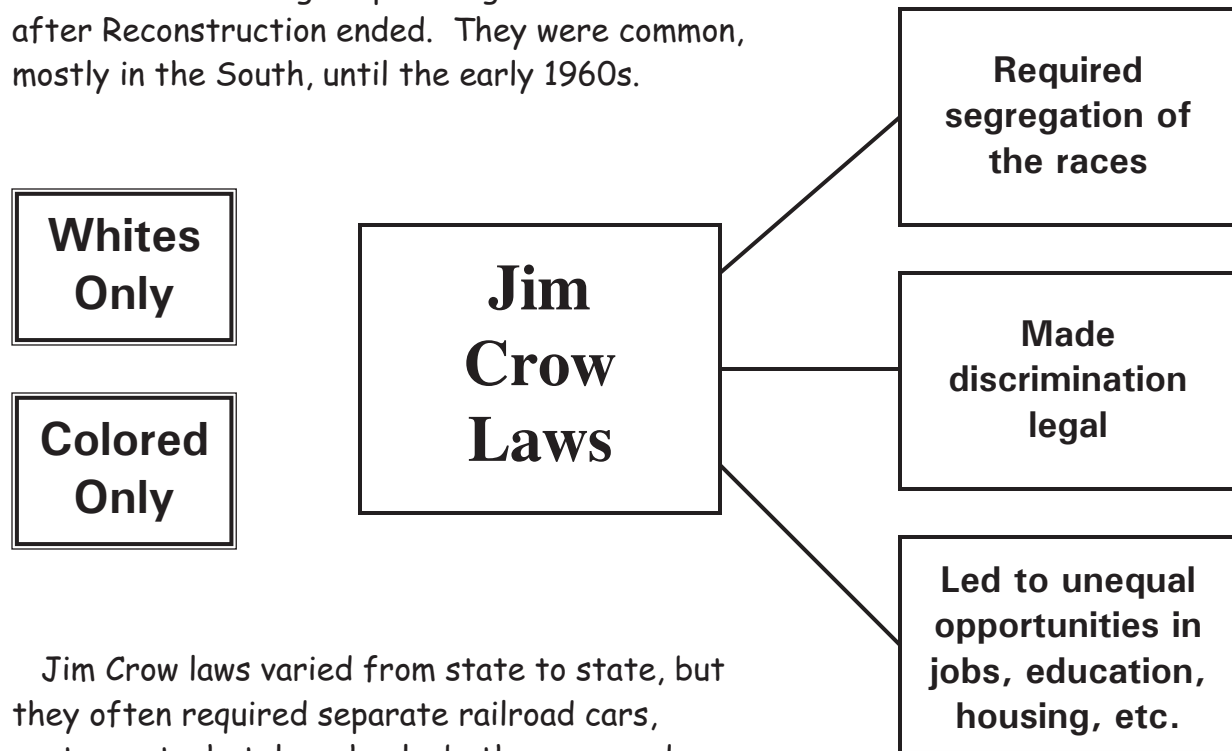
The removal of the federal troops from the South marks the end of Reconstruction.



The removal of the federal troops was cheered by most white Southerners. Most African Americans in the South, however, were not happy about it. The military force that had given them protection for their rights as citizens and voters was now gone.

# Jim Crow Laws — Defined with Graphic Organizers

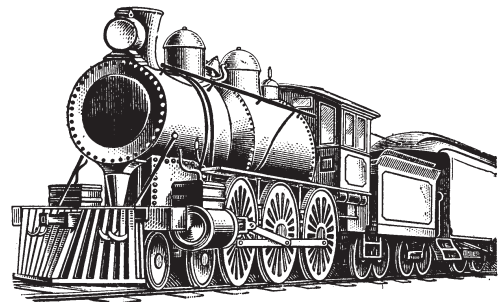
Jim Crow laws began spreading in the decades after Reconstruction ended. They were common, mostly in the South, until the early 1960s.



Jim Crow laws varied from state to state, but they often required separate railroad cars, restaurants, hotels, schools, bathrooms, and drinking fountains for whites and blacks.

While Jim Crow laws were mainly aimed at African Americans, in some areas they also affected other groups, such as American Indians.

*Put the information in the graphic organizer above in a different layout using the design shown below:*



Jim Crow Laws		



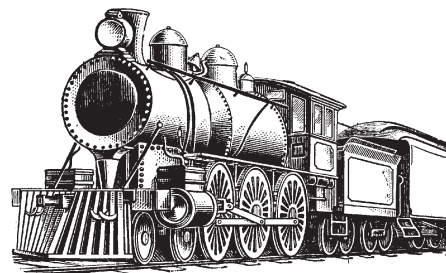
# The *Plessy v. Ferguson* Supreme Court Case

In the 1896 legal case called *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the Supreme Court ruled that laws requiring segregation were permitted.



The *Plessy* case was started by a group of whites and blacks in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana. The group was formed to try to stop a "Jim Crow" law created in that state in 1890. The law required trains operating there to have separate cars for blacks and whites.

A black man named Homer Plessy, who was part of the group, agreed to test the law. He rode in a "white" railroad car and was arrested. A judge in Louisiana named John Ferguson ruled that the state law was valid. Plessy was convicted of violating the law, and fined \$25 dollars.



Mr. Plessy and his friends then took the case to the U.S. Supreme Court. They argued that the Louisiana law violated the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, which requires "equal protection of the laws." The court ruled against Mr. Plessy. It said that laws requiring separate facilities for blacks and whites were permitted, as long as the facilities were equal.



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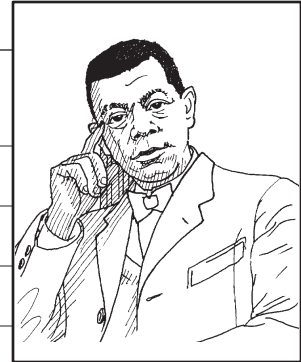
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## African American Leaders Respond to Segregation

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Booker T. Washington

**\* born into slavery in Virginia, later famous as head of Tuskegee Institute (now University) in Alabama.**



W.E.B. Du Bois

**\* born in Massachusetts, became famous as a scholar, writer, and historian.**



## Ida Wells-Barnett

**\* born into slavery in Mississippi, later famous as a newspaper reporter, writer, and editor.**



## Their lives and work had an enormous impact!

The efforts of these African American leaders did not go to waste. The work to end "Jim Crow" segregation laws steadily gained strength among both blacks and whites. Consider these later developments in U.S. history that ended segregation:

**1940s** - Racial discrimination was banned in factories making war supplies during World War II. After the war, segregation in the military itself was banned.

**1950s** - Federal courts banned segregation of public schools, and also on public buses.

**1960s** - The **Civil Rights Act of 1964** passed by Congress banned racial discrimination in all public facilities, such as restaurants, hotels, theaters, and bathrooms.



**13th Amendment** - the Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that bans slavery in the United States. It was adopted in 1865, after the end of the Civil War.

**14th Amendment** - an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that says anyone born in the U.S. is a citizen. It also requires state governments to give all citizens equal protection of the laws.

**15th Amendment** - the Amendment that guarantees the right to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude (slavery). Women, however, did not get the right to vote nationwide until 1920.

**Black Codes** - laws passed in the South after the Civil War that placed restrictions on the rights of freed slaves.

**carpetbaggers** - an insulting term for Northerners who came to the South after the Civil War to take advantage of the desperate situation there during Reconstruction.

**Civil Rights Act of 1866** - an important law passed by Congress during the Reconstruction Era that made racial discrimination illegal. It made the Black Codes illegal.

**civil rights / civil liberties** - the normal rights one has as a citizen, such as freedom of speech and religion, the right to vote, own property, start a court case, etc.

**discrimination** - to treat people differently.

**Douglass, Frederick** - an escaped slave from Maryland who later became a newspaper editor and leader in the anti-slavery movement before the Civil War. After the war he spoke out for the civil rights of the freed slaves. He supported the idea of constitutional amendments to guarantee voting rights for all citizens.

**Du Bois, W.E.B.** - a famous African American writer, civil rights leader, and scholar from Massachusetts who argued forcefully for an end to segregation laws and discrimination against blacks. He was one of the founders of the NAACP in 1909.

**Election of 1876** - the election for president in 1876 that led to a compromise agreement in Congress that ended Reconstruction in 1877.

**Freedmen's Bureau** - a federal agency created by Congress at the urging of President Lincoln at the end of the Civil War. The Freedman's Bureau gave food supplies, clothing, and other help to freed slaves, and also operated schools to teach basic skills.

**Jim Crow laws** - laws passed in Southern states after Reconstruction ended that required racial segregation of hotels, railroad cars, schools, and other public places.

**Lee, Robert E.** - the famous Confederate General from Virginia whose surrender in April, 1865, ended the Civil War. He urged Southerners not to be bitter, but to reconcile with the North and reunite as one nation.

**legacy** - what one leaves for later generations.

**Lincoln, Abraham** - president of the United States during the Civil War. He wanted reconciliation (forgiveness) rather than punishment of the South once victory was achieved. He was assassinated in 1865.

**NAACP** - the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It was started in 1909 by a group of blacks and whites to push for an end to segregation laws and discrimination against blacks.

**Plessy v. Ferguson** - a Supreme Court case in 1896 that ruled that state laws that required racial segregation were not illegal, if the facilities provided for whites and blacks were of equal quality. This was the origin of the "separate but equal" principle that allowed racial segregation laws to continue in the U.S. until the 1950s.

**reconcile / reconciliation** - to make up after a fight or argument, to forgive and move on.

**Reconstruction** - the 12 year period after the Civil War ended. During these years the nation attempted to deal with the many difficult issues left by the war.

**segregation** - a separation of people of different groups. Usually it refers to separation on the basis of race.

**vocational education** - training for a specific job or trade such as carpenter, plumber, farmer, or brick layer.

**Washington, Booker T.** - an African American leader who was born into slavery in Virginia, but later became famous as head of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He accepted segregation, and said that building schools for vocational education would be the best way to help blacks make progress and achieve equality.

**Wells-Barnett, Ida** - an African American woman from Mississippi, born into slavery, who later became famous as a newspaper reporter, writer, and editor. She wrote about cases of violence against blacks by whites, and was one of the co-founders of the NAACP in 1909.