Civil Rights in the USA 1945-1968

What do I need to revise?
Civil Rights in the USA 1945-1968: Checklist

1) **African Americans in the 19th Century**
   - Reconstruction
   - Jim Crow
   - Plessey v. Ferguson
   ➢ Understand position of blacks.

2) **The Early 20th Century**
   - Great Migration
   - Great War
   - Sense of Community
   - The Depression
   - NAACP
   - Second World War
   ➢ Understand how these factors shape Civil Rights post 1945.

3) **1945-1960**
   - Truman’s contribution; positive & negative
   - Eisenhower’s contribution; positive & negative
   - Brown 1954 - who, where, what, why, outcome/significance?
   - Montgomery 1955-56 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - Little Rock 1957 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   ➢ Know inside out.

4) **Campaigns 1960-1966**
   - Greensboro 1960 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - Freedom Rides 1961 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - James Meredith 1961
   - Albany 1961-62 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - Birmingham 1963 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - Washington 1963 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - Civil Rights Act 1964 - strengths & weaknesses
   - Selma 1965 - w, w, w, w, o/s?
   - Voting Rights Act 1965 - strengths & weaknesses
   - Campaigns in north - why unsuccessful?
   ➢ Know inside out.

5) **Martin Luther King?**
   - Background & rise to prominence
   - Strengths & weaknesses
   - Significance of King
   ➢ Know inside out.

6) **Federal Government in 1960’s**
   - Kennedy 61-63 - strengths & weaknesses
   - Johnson 63-68 - strengths & weaknesses

7) **Black Power**
   - Malcolm X & involvement in Nation of Islam
   - Malcolm X - tactics, ideas, when dead
   - Significance of Malcolm X
   - Origins of Black Power & Stokely Carmichael
   - Reasons for emergence of Black Power
   - Black Panther Party - aims and tactics
   - Significance of Black power
   ➢ Know inside out.
Civil Rights in the USA 1945-1968: Checklist

8) **Minority Groups**
   - Mexican Americans and Native Americans.
   - Understand experience & similarities & differences with black Civil rights campaigns.

9) **Civil Rights Legislation**
   - 1964, 1965 & 1968 - know strengths & weaknesses of each.
   - Understand little help before 1964 & still some way to go after 1968
Civil Rights in the USA 1945-1968

How do I revise?
A note about the Vietnam War:
The USA started to become involved in Vietnam from 1945, but it only started to put US troops into the area in any significant number after 1964. From 1965 there were many more US soldiers fighting in the area. After 1966/67 the war started to cost the US taxpayers huge amounts of money which put up taxes and caused inflation. This cut spending on social projects for Black Americans. King also criticised the War which cut his influence with President Johnson. White Americans were also more interested in campaigning to end the war and less interested in Civil Rights.

• Brainstorms
  - Events - Montgomery, Birmingham.
  - Presidents - Civil Rights activity.
  - Leaders of various groups, aims & ideas.
  - Legislation - strengths & weaknesses.
• Tables - strengths/weaknesses of people.
  - success/failure of events, Presidents.
• Timeline - 1950’s & 1960’s - events, Presidents.
• Lists - colours to highlight certain bits.
  - Significance of... people, events.

Remember - Questions often refer to specific dates within the period.
• Dates of main events need to be learnt.
• Presidents dates need to be learnt.
• Legislation dates need to be learnt.
1947  Truman administration report, *To Secure These Rights*.

1948  Truman tries to end discrimination in federal employment, black judges & deseg. army

1950  Supreme Court virtually overturns *PLESSY v. FERGUSON*—Separate but equal ruling.

1954  *Till and Lucy* illustrated Eisenhower’s attitude.

1954  Supreme Court declares against segregated schools (*BROWN*). White Citizens Councils are formed throughout South.

1955  Malcolm X’s preaching gains many converts for the Nation of Islam in Harlem.

1955  Supreme Court urged desegregation of education (*BROWN II*).

1955-6  Montgomery Bus boycott incident. King involved.

1956  Supreme Court declares segregation on buses unconstitutional.


1958  Supreme Court declares school segregation unconstitutional (*COOPER v. AARON*).

1959  Anti-segregation Sit-ins begin in the South—Greensboro


1963  Annual riots in black ghettos.

1964  Civil Rights Act pushed through by LBJ.


1967  Northern ghetto race riots.

1967-8  Black Panthers successfully targeted by police and FBI.

1968  Martin Luther King assassinated.

Civil Rights Act.
Because My Little Green Frog Always Buys White Socks

Brown - 1954
Montgomery – 1955-6
Little Rock – 1957
Greensboro – 1960
Freedom Rides – 1961
Albany – 1961-62
Birmingham – 1963
Washington – 1963
Selma – 1965
What did each President have to deal with/solve when looking at Civil Rights?

- **Truman**
  - Democrat
  - 1945-53

- **Eisenhower**
  - Republican
  - 1953-61

- **Kennedy**
  - Democrat
  - 1961-63

- **Johnson**
  - Democrat
  - 1963-69

A note about the Vietnam War:
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## Civil Rights possible factors

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How far did the position of African Americans improve in the years 1945-1955? (June 09)

**Social**

Segregation by 1955 largely widespread in south so little improvement. In north socio-economic conditions remained poor so blacks remained segregated through ghetto system further evidence that by 1955 no real improvement.

Education following Brown in 1954 one area in which the position of blacks was hopefully about to improve following legislation to desegregate. This would in long term lead to better employment opportunities but by 1955 the improvements minimal. Better education also future leaders but still impact minimal by 1955.

**Economic**

In workplace blacks often punished, beaten, mistreated, lower wage – NAACP led to some improvements campaigned for equal salaries for teachers, trained lawyers for better opportunity in 1950’s. Although only small improvements such positive steps will further inspire others ultimately resulting in...

Brown - By desegregating schools economic position should begin to improve as employment opportunities develop due to access to better & higher education. Money invested in black community would further improve prosperity and a black middle class emerge with money to invest further in education. Student Civil Rights movements of 1960’s emerge due to better leaders so important in pushing on in future. However little improvement really by 1955 and in the north even less improvement as blacks continue to attend segregated schools in the ghettos inevitably resulting in low paid employment.

**Political**

NAACP campaigned for greater voter registration & trained black lawyers which hopefully leads to improvements as court cases should be fairer. However by 1955 numbers voting in the south still low and few lawyers. NAACP did successfully prevent an openly racist judge from Supreme Court so some improvement. However north largely unaffected so position not really improved.
How far do you agree that the black power movement hindered Black Civil Rights in the years 1960’s? (June 09)

**Militancy**

Violence - **hindered** - peaceful protest crucial in winning support and legislation so far so divisions occur. Riots 1965-67 further **lost white liberal and govt support** so **hindered**... Black Panther Party - armed & militaristic **hindered** as.. Belief in separatism & venom directed towards whites - **hindered** - led to fundamental divisions. **King, SCLS, NAACP** could not accept new philosophy that undermined what they had been doing. **Lacked support** so **hindered** Civil Rights in the 1960’s.

**BUT** Black Power brought greater pride & confidence in being black which should **strengthen**... Blacks no longer prepared to be treated as second class citizens - **strengthen**... brought greater awareness of black culture & achievements - **strengthen**... Malcolm X inspiring so **strengthen**.

**Different demands**

Different demands - **separatism, black pride, self help** all **hindered** as rest of Civil Rights movement unwilling to change views so divisions. Focus on **economic changes** – communist outlook – **hindered** as different era **no government time or money**.

**Frustration** led to violence and so **hindered**.

**King**

King - misunderstood north, **wrong aims & tactics** so **hindered** as northern blacks divided and turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers. Kings mistakes - **speaking out against Vietnam** **hindered** as alienated Johnson & some members of movement.

**Vietnam**

**Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so all hindered movement in 1960’s. Campaigners seen as ungrateful so aggression and violence out of desperation but hinders further.**
How accurate is it to say that the status of African American people in the United States changed very little in the years 1945-1955? (June 10)

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How far was peaceful protest responsible for the success of the Civil Rights movement in the years 1955-1964? (June 10)

Peaceful protest

Responsible - Montgomery responsible as, perseverance, media, emergence of King, inspires others & ends legalised discrimination on buses. Little Rock responsible as Eisenhower has to step in to protect Supreme Court so... inspires, ends... Greensboro responsible as quickly spreads & ended as 810 towns desegregated. Washington & Birmingham led to CR Act.

Leadership


Federal government

Eisenhower - reluctance responsible in encouraging blacks to try harder and so... Kennedy - hope, discussions in congress so responsible. Johnson - concrete legislation responsible. Supreme Court - Montgomery gave foundations to press on so responsible.
To what extent was the NAACP responsible for the success of the Civil Rights campaign in the years 1945-57? (Jan 11)

NAACP

NAACP responsible for some success. Trained lawyers for better opportunity in 1950’s and to fight court cases for black Americans. Leading NAACP lawyer Thurgood Marshall key to the success of the Brown case - massive success as Supreme Court decision that Segregation wrong in schools opens up cases for it being wrong elsewhere ultimately resulting in later decisions like Montgomery. Although only small improvements such positive steps will further inspire others ultimately resulting success. Campaigned for equal salaries for black teachers, worked well with other organisations to gain ground for blacks in south, prevented appointment of racist judge on Supreme court & tried to improve voter registration in south. Perhaps biggest success laying foundations for struggle in the 1960’s.

Early success/leadership

Brown success - landmark victory that ended legalised discrimination in schools. Responsible for further success - Supreme Court on side, segregation wrong in this areas so inspired others like Montgomery. Success as better education will lead to future leaders and so further campaigning as seen in Montgomery & emergence of King. Success - persistence led to Brown II - showed desegregation should be sooner rather than later so success. Parks & King responsible success because – Montgomery & his Speeches & religion – responsible – wins white liberal support/media & so Supreme Court decision on transport. Students - Little Rock responsible for media attention & success - Eisenhower had to act.

Federal government

Truman – responsible - army, judges, Cold war issue, publicised Civil Rights. All led to success for Civil Rights - by desegregating the army... Appointing black judges helped CR as... Eisenhower - success – Little Rock - used Federal troops to uphold Brown. Govt will step in even if reluctant. Responsible as encourages blacks elsewhere to attend desegregated school so better & equal facilities lead to long-term university & better employment opportunities.
How far were the forces opposed to civil rights responsible for the failures of the movement in the 1960’s? (Jan 11)

**Opposition**

Opposition within Congress very much responsible for failures of the movement in the 1960’s. Two supportive Presidents - Kennedy & Johnson limited in some respects due to elements of racism within Congress. Further evidence that opponents could limit the success of the movement seen as both presidents when considering legislation were fearful of going too far & risking future southern voters. Media opposition too had an influential role - media was responsible for lot of success in early 1960’s but when attention elsewhere movement more of a failure.

**Militancy**

Violence - responsible for failure - peaceful protest crucial in winning support and legislation so far so divisions occur. Riots 1965-67 further lost white liberal and govt support so failure... Black Panther Party - armed & militaristic contributed to failure as.. Belief in separatism & venom directed towards whites - failure - led to fundamental divisions. King, SCLS, NAACP could not accept new philosophy that undermined what they had been doing. Lacked support so failure Civil Rights in the 1960’s.

**Vietnam**

Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so all responsible for failures of movement in 1960’s. Campaigners seen as ungrateful so aggression and violence out of desperation but contributes further to failure.
How far do you agree that the impact of the Second World War was the main reason why the position of African Americans improved in the years 1945-55? (June 11)

Second World War

2WW - responsible - tension in army - segregated army led by white officers & mixed military bases in south trouble hot spots damaged morale & led to incentive for change so massive enlistment into NAACP. Soldiers return to hatred/racism and so join NAACP to campaign for improvements.

4 million blacks moved north - overcrowding in northern cities & housing shortages all created tension - development of black consciousness as help given to whites so NAACP = improvements. Jealousy over jobs led to tension.

Black homes demolished to build war department buildings instead - closer proximity & tension so NAACP.

Early success/NAACP

NAACP responsible for some improvements. Trained lawyers for better opportunity in 1950’s and to fight court cases for black Americans. Leading NAACP lawyer Thurgood Marshall key to the success of the Brown case - massive success. Although only small improvements such positive steps will further inspire others resulting in more improvements. Campaigned for equal salaries for black teachers, worked well with other organisations to gain ground for blacks in south, prevented appointment of racist judge on Supreme court & tried to improve voter registration in south. Perhaps biggest improvement laying foundations for 1960’s.

Federal government

Truman - responsible - army, judges, Cold war issue, publicised Civil Rights. All led to improvements - by desegregating the army... Appointing black judges helped CR as...

Supreme Court/Brown responsible - landmark victory that ended legalised discrimination in schools. Responsible for improvements - Supreme Court on side, segregation wrong in this areas so inspired others like Montgomery. Success as better education will lead to future leaders and so further campaigning as seen in Montgomery & emergence of King. Persistence led to Brown II - showed desegregation should be sooner rather than later so improvements.
How accurate is it to say that Martin Luther King’s policy of peaceful protest was the most important reason for the success of the Civil Rights movement in the years 1955-68? (June 11)

**Peaceful protest**

Important - Montgomery important as, perseverance, media, emergence of King, inspires others & ends legalised discrimination on buses. Little Rock important as Eisenhower has to step in to protect Supreme Court so... inspires, ends... Greensboro important as quickly spreads & ended as 810 towns desegregated. Washington & Birmingham led to CR Act - all important examples of peaceful protest being successful.

**Federal government**

Eisenhower - reluctance important in encouraging blacks to try harder and so...

Kennedy - hope, discussions in congress so important.

Johnson - concrete legislation important.

Supreme Court - Montgomery gave foundations to press on so important.

**Leadership**

King important because not just peaceful protest – Speeches - Montgomery & Civil Rights Bill, Religious – responsible – wins white liberal support/media & so legislation, Worked with presidents/whites important – legislation.

Other leaders important because – Parks & Montgomery Supreme Court decision – important, Greensboro & SNCC – 810 towns desegregated, Freedom rides & James Farmer led to Kennedy & KKK injunction.
To what extent did increased civil rights help to improve prosperity and employment opportunities for African American people in the USA in years 1945 – 68?

Education

Increased civil rights issued through Brown helps improve prosperity & employment opportunity - access to better education, so more employment & wealth. Money made spent in black community – improves prosperity. Black middle class emerges but largely south benefit only and slow.

However Little Rock & Meredith highlight negative aspect of segregation still in education & therefore that further intervention needed if Brown decision to have more far reaching effect. As struggle to get equal education prosperity & employment opportunity low – long term potentially successful?

Segregation legislation

Increased Civil Rights legislation passed after Montgomery & Greensboro improve prosperity & employment as – desegregation on buses and employment of black drivers improved prosperity. 810 towns desegregating will have positive impact on black community & whites may start to employ more African Americans as segregation eliminated so employment & prosperity but not north as still limited increase in CR.

Further success – desegregation in employment spreads particularly after Civil Rights Act in 1964 – made discrimination in employment illegal so hopefully better employment opportunities & prosperity but again more southern based & hard to enforce. Decision to also speed up desegregation in schools would also impact long term on employment & prosperity.

Political

As given political voice 1965 African Americans able to vote for/insist on welfare reforms & so impact on employment. However funds limited, some states no more than 60% voter registration. Change is slow particularly in north resulting in more militant campaign emerging after 1965 so increased Voting rights not increased prosperity... Government reluctant due to Vietnam & Cold War.
How far is it fair to say that educational reforms were the most significant improvements for African Americans in the years 1954-65?

**Educational opportunities**

Brown & Little Rock - By desegregating schools improve prosperity & employment opportunity as access to better education, so more employment & wealth so significant. Access to university/Meredith – more African Americans do attend so significant - more opportunity, better occupation. Money made due to better education spent in black community – improve prosperity so significant. Black middle class emerges with money to invest further in education so significant. However little impact in north - schools not openly segregated but under resourced, fewer opportunities.

Better education significant as also future leaders that drive movement onto success 1960’s - King but more student based SNCC, Black Panthers significant - push for change.

**Segregation legislation**

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**Political**

As given political voice 1965 African Americans able to vote for/insist on welfare reforms & so significant. However funds limited, some states no more than 60% voter registration. Change is slow particularly in north resulting in more militant campaign emerging after 1965 so increased Voting rights not significant immediately... Government reluctant due to Vietnam & Cold War.
How far is it true to say that the Montgomery Bus Boycott was the most significant campaign of the 1950’s?

**Montgomery**

- Montgomery significant - led to desegregation on buses and improvements in...
- Significant - Supreme Court on side so improvements elsewhere because...
- Significant - demonstrated power of whole black community using direct non-violent protest.
- Significant - President must uphold law so...
- Significant - encourage more campaigns as morale boosted.
- Significant - King & SCLC emerges...
- However... does not improve status in northern towns. In north socio-economic conditions remained poor so African Americans remained segregated through ghetto system.

**Brown**

- Significant - Supreme Court on side and so...
- Significant - segregation wrong in this areas so inspired others like Montgomery...
- Significant - better education will lead to future leaders and so further campaigning seen through emerging student movement of 1960’s.
- Significant as persistence led to Brown II which showed desegregation should be sooner rather than later...
- Significant - NAACP had campaigned against segregation in education for long time.

**Little Rock**

- Significant - used Federal troops to uphold Brown Ruling.
- Significant - government will step in to support black community even if reluctant.
- Significant - encourages African Americans elsewhere to attend desegregated schools so better & equal facilities lead to long-term university & better employment opportunities...
- Significant - won media & white liberal support however did not condemn white violence.
How far do you agree that the Federal system of Government in the USA did more to hinder than help the struggle for Civil Rights in the years 1945-60?

**Truman**

**Helped** - army, judges, Political agenda, Cold war issue, publicised Civil Rights. All helped struggle for Civil Rights - by desegregating the army... Appointing black judges **helped** CR as... **Hindered** - FEPC closed, ‘Secure these right’ unsuccessful, even supportive president is **limited because** of racist politicians, States’ own rights - **hindered** - defend segregation but still more of a help?

**Eisenhower**

**Helped** – Little Rock - used Federal troops to uphold Brown Ruling as Governor of Arkansas ignored Supreme Court & exploits racism in Little Rock.

Government will step in even if reluctant. **Helped** as encourages African Americans elsewhere to attend desegregated school so better & equal facilities lead to long-term university & better employment opportunities... **Hindered** – Little Rock – slow, ignores real issue, did not condemn white violence. **Till & Lucy** - ignores both & Southern courts & Jury’s not always favourable.

**Supreme Court**

**Helped** – Brown landmark victory that ended legalised discrimination in schools. **Helped** - Supreme Court on side, segregation damaging & if wrong in this area... **Helped** - better education will lead to future leaders and so further campaigning seen through emerging student movement of 1960’s. **Helped** - NAACP long campaign paid off. **Hindered** – Slow to change, courts not enough, **Brown II**. White Citizens Councils formed in response to Brown.

**Montgomery** – Browder V’s Gayle - **Helped** – campaigns work, inspire others, King emerges. **Hindered** - long time to break down hatred, desegregation still elsewhere.
How far is it true to say that the attitude and actions of the Federal Government limited the advance of African Americans in the period 1945-60?

**Truman**
Truman – Helped - army, judges, Political agenda, Cold war issue, publicised Civil Rights. All helped advance of African Americans as by desegregating the army... Appointing black judges helped as... limited – FEPC closed, ‘Secure these right’ unsuccessful, even supportive president is limited but more of a help.

**Eisenhower**
Eisenhower - Helped – Little Rock - used Federal troops to uphold Brown Ruling. Government will step in even if reluctant. Helped - encourages African Americans elsewhere to attend desegregated school so better & equal facilities lead to long-term university & better employment opportunities ... Limited – Little Rock – slow, ignores real issue, did not condemn white violence. Till & Lucy - ignores both.

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Did more militant movements strengthen or weaken the Civil Rights campaigns?

**Strengthened**

Black pride - Black Power brought greater pride & confidence in being black which should strengthen... African Americans no longer prepared to be treated as second class citizens - strengthen... brought greater awareness of black culture & achievements - strengthen... Malcolm X great inspiring - But...

**Weakened**

Belief in separatism & venom directed towards whites - weakened - led to fundamental divisions. King, SCLS, NAACP could not accept new philosophy that undermined what they had been doing. Lacked support so weakened...

Belief in violence - weakened - passive resistance had been crucial in winning support and legislation so far so again divisions occur. Riots 1965-67 further lost white liberal and government support so weakened...

Did not have huge support so weakened... Black Panther Party - armed & militaristic.

Black power not united themselves - weakened - more of a slogan. Precise aims uncertain between different Black Power groups. Carmichael often changed his views causing confusion and so weakening... BPP more radical.

Social & economic demands - weakened - difficult for govt to grant due to Vietnam & loss of support. Malcolm X brought to forefront - others adopt.
How significant was Malcolm X in the development of Black Nationalism and Black Power movements in the USA in the 1960s?

**Aims and beliefs**

Separatism – whites are racist, significant - some movements like SNCC becoming frustrated with slow progress and so like idea. Social/Economic reform – significant - in north such reform needed - people listened to Malcolm X. Black culture/pride/nationalism – significant - popular with young northern blacks frustrated with King – Uncle Tom. Significant - new phase develops, different commitment & determination – Black power. Significant - makes clear depth of anti-black feeling & not just in south.

**Tactics**


**Other leaders**

Stokeley Carmichael - Significant - first used term ‘Black Power’ in speech. Adopts many of Malcolm X’s beliefs like not integrating, rejecting help of whites & better socio-economic conditions so Malcolm X significant post 1965 as... Black Panther Party – Significant - became largest Black power organisation but spurred on by assassination on Malcolm X. Adopted his ideas on socio/economic reform but more radical - armed & militaristic - Significant - lose support late 1960’s...
How fair is it to say that black power had a negative impact on the Civil Rights movement?

**Positive**

- Black pride - Black Power brought greater pride & confidence in being black which should **impact positively**... African Americans no longer prepared to be treated as second class citizens - **positive**... brought greater awareness of black culture & achievements - **positive**... Malcolm X great inspiring - **But**...

**Negative**

- Belief in separatism & venom directed towards whites - **negative** - led to fundamental **divisions**. King, SCLS, NAACP could not accept new philosophy that undermined what they had been doing. **Lacked support so negative**...
- Belief in violence - **negative** as passive resistance had been crucial in winning support and legislation so far so again divisions occur. Riots 1965-67 further **lost white liberal and government support so negative**...
- Did not have huge support so **negative**... **Black Panther Party** - armed & militaristic
- **Black power not united themselves** - **negative** - more of a slogan. Precise aims uncertain between different Black Power groups. **Carmichael** often changed his views causing confusion and so **negative**... **BPP** more radical.
- **Social & economic demands** - **negative** - difficult for govt to grant due to Vietnam & loss of support. Malcolm X brought to forefront - others adopt.
How far is it accurate to describe the achievements of the Civil Rights movement in the 1950s as being less successful than those of the 1960s?

1950’s

Brown successful - landmark victory that ended legalised discrimination in schools. Successful - Supreme Court on side so... Successful - segregation wrong in schools so inspired others... Successful - better education will lead to future leaders & more campaigning - emerging student movement of 1960’s. Successful - persistence led to Brown II - desegregation sooner rather than later... Successful - NAACP had campaigned for long time. Unsuccessful slow, segregation elsewhere, north poor.

Montgomery successful - led to desegregation on buses & improvements in status... Successful - Supreme Court on side so improvements elsewhere? Successful - demonstrated power of whole black community using direct non-violent protest. Successful - more campaigns as morale boosted... Successful - King & SCLC But... Little Rock - Successful Government will step in even if reluctant. Successful - encourages African Americans elsewhere to attend desegregated school so better & equal facilities lead to long-term university & better employment opportunities... Unsuccessful - slow, ignores real issue, did not condemn white violence. Till & Lucy.

1960’s

Greensboro successful – 50,000 involved, 100 cities 810 towns desegregated so successful as... Successful - equality & respect so... Successful - access to equal facilities so... Successful - inspires further campaigns so...

Birmingham successful – huge protest wins media, public, federal support. Major success - Civil Rights Act - funded school desegregation so successful as... Renewed Civil Rights Commission so... Banned discrimination in employment so... Inspired Selma so... Selma successful – protest again wins support so - Voting Rights Act. Success - more African American voters so... Success - long term future black judges etc so... Success - investment in social/economic conditions and... But north largely unaffected.
Is it accurate to describe the various Civil Rights campaigns of the 1960s as being high profile but ineffective?

Greensboro
Effective – 50,000 involved, 100 cities 810 towns desegregated so effective... effective many key figures in Civil Rights Movement became involved - united... effective as equality & respect so... effective as access to equal facilities so... effective as media attention inspires further campaigns so... But deep south worse.

Freedom Rides
Effective – protest wins media, public, federal support - Kennedy sends in Federal Marshalls to protect buses. Effective - start to organise desegregation of travel & injunctions brought out against KKK. But Federal action slow & limited.

Birmingham
Effective – huge protest wins media, public, federal support. Major result - Civil Rights Act - funded school desegregation so effective as... Renewed Civil Rights Commission so effective... Banned discrimination in employment so effective... Inspired Selma as concrete result from federal government so effective... But to many not enough, social/economic position still weak, north largely unaffected.

Selma
Effective – protest again wins support so - Voting Rights Act. Effective as more African American voters so... Effective as long term future black judges etc so... Effective as investment in social/economic conditions and... But north largely unaffected, some states still poor registration.
Page 25: How far was the 1950s a period of rapid improvement for African American citizens in the USA?

**Social**
Segregation widespread in south early 1950’s but Montgomery starts to eliminate so some improvement. In north socio-economic conditions remained poor so African Americans remained segregated through ghetto system further evidence that 1950’s not rapid improvement.

Education following Brown in 1954 one area in which the position of African Americans was hopefully about to improve following legislation to desegregate. This would in long term lead to better employment opportunities but by 1955 the improvements minimal so Brown II. Better education also future leaders. Little Rock more common but still improvement minimal by 1957

**Economic**
In work place African Americans often punished, beaten, mistreated, lower wage – NAACP led to some improvements campaigned for equal salaries for teachers, trained lawyers for better opportunity in 1950’s. Although only small improvements such positive steps will further inspire others ultimately resulting in...

Brown - By desegregating schools economic position should begin to improve as employment opportunities develop due to access to better & higher education. Money invested in black community would further improve prosperity and a black middle class emerge with money to invest further in education. Student Civil Rights movements of 1960’s emerge due to better leaders so important in pushing on in future. However little improvement really by 1955 and in the north even less improvement as African Americans continue to attend segregated schools in the ghettos inevitably resulting in low paid employment.

**Political**
NAACP campaigned for greater voter registration & trained black lawyers which hopefully leads to improvements as court cases should be fairer. Supreme Court on side. However by late 50’s numbers voting in south still low and few lawyers. NAACP did successfully prevent an openly racist judge from Supreme Court so some improvement. However north largely unaffected.
Page 26: Is it fair to say that the campaign methods used by the Civil Rights movement in the southern states of the USA did not change and develop in the 1950s and early 1960s?

**Legal challenges**

NAACP - training black lawyers for future cases - see courts as way forward early 1950’s. Many court cases fought early 1950’s raising profile. Had earlier prevented appointment of racist judge to Supreme court. Brown 1954 - development of existing method. Landmark victory for NAACP & Marshall that ended legalised discrimination in schools. Supreme Court on side so inspired others... Better education will lead to future leaders & more campaigning - emerging student movement of 1960’s and possible change in direction. Continuation of same method led to Brown II. Montgomery 1955/6 - desegregation on buses following a legal battle - continuing existing method- Supreme Court on side so improvements elsewhere? But change as also a lengthy bus boycott - demonstrated power of whole black community using direct non-violent protest.

**Peaceful protest**


**Work with/win white & fed govt support**

Is it fair to say that the Civil Rights laws passed between 1964 and 1968 lacked teeth?

**Civil Rights Act - 64**

Decisions – speeding up desegregation in schools would impact on employment & prosperity. Discrimination in employment/unions illegal - impact as... Renewed the Civil rights Commission impact because... However limitations to improvements and north largely unaffected so lacked teeth. Socio-economic position still weak so lacked teeth... Real issues ignored?

**Voting Rights Act - 65**

Decisions – Discriminatory practices dismantled so impact as given political voice African Americans able to vote for/insist on welfare reforms & so impact widespread as... By end of 1965 a quarter of million new African American voters registered so impact... African Americans elected to federal, state & local offices so impact... However funds limited, some states registration not above 60% so lacked teeth...

**Housing Act - 68**

Decisions – aimed at tackling discrimination in housing but impact not widespread as resources too thinly spread so discriminatory practices continued. Lacked teeth as biggest area to tackle that would impact on both north & south yet...
How far did the Civil Rights movement achieve its aims by 1968?

**Social**

Montgomery, Greensboro, Birmingham – desegregation on buses and employment of black drivers **aims met as...** 810 towns desegregating will have positive impact on black community & whites may start to employ more African Americans as segregation eliminated so **aims met**... Civil Rights Act resulted in discrimination in employment being illegal, speeded up desegregation of schools and renewed the Civil Rights Commission. **However** socio-economic conditions remained poor, north largely unaffected, too little so **aims...**

**Economic**

In work place African Americans often punished, beaten, mistreated, lower wage – NAACP campaigned for equal salaries for teachers, trained lawyers for better opportunity in 1950’s. Although only small steps **aims being met** and will further inspire others ultimately resulting in **aims...** **CR Act** does make discrimination in employment illegal but well into 1960’s African Americans earn much less and more likely to be living in poverty **so aims...**

Brown - by desegregating schools economic position should begin to improve as employment opportunities develop due to access to better & higher education so **aim may be met by 1968?** Money invested in black community would further **improve** prosperity and a **black middle class** emerge with money to invest further. Student Civil Rights movements of 1960’s emerge due to better leaders so important in pushing on in future - **aims met...** **However** slow and in the north even less as continue to attend segregated schools in the ghettos resulting in low paid employment. By 1968 % of African Americans in high school & college far lower than whites.

**Political**

NAACP campaigned for greater voter registration & trained black lawyers. **CR Act** important – speeded up deseg in schools, Discrimination in employment illegal so **aims...** **However north largely unaffected.** **VR Act** **aims met** – given political voice African Americans able to vote for welfare reforms & so **aims...** By 1969 over 60 % voting & African Americans becoming elected to federal & state offices. **However** some states not above 60% - **aims not...**
How fair is to say that by 1968 the Civil Rights campaigns had failed to solve the fundamental problems of African Americans in America?

Social
Montgomery, Greensboro, Birmingham – desegregation on buses and employment of black drivers so solved as... 810 towns desegregating will have positive impact on black community & whites may start to employ more African Americans as segregation eliminated so solved... Civil Rights Act resulted in discrimination in employment being illegal, speeded up desegregation of schools and renewed the Civil Rights Commission. However socio-economic conditions remained poor, north largely unaffected, so successful in removing some segregation in south but failed as...

Economic
In work place - punished, beaten, mistreated, lower wage – NAACP campaigned for equal salaries for teachers, trained lawyers for better opportunity in 1950’s. Although only small steps some problems solved and will further inspire others ultimately resulting in solving... CR Act does make discrimination in employment illegal but well into 1960’s African Americans earn much less and more likely to be living in poverty so failed?

Brown - By desegregating schools economic position should begin to improve as employment opportunities develop due to access to better & higher education so solving one area? Money invested in black community would further improve prosperity and a black middle class emerge with money to invest further. Student Civil Rights movements of 1960’s emerge due to better leaders so important in pushing on in future - later solves... However slow and in the north even less as continue to attend segregated schools in the ghettos resulting in low paid employment. By 1968 % of African Americans in high school/college lower than whites - failed.

Political
NAACP campaigned for greater voter registration & trained black lawyers. CR Act important – speeded up deseg in schools, Discrimination in employment illegal so solves some... However north largely unaffected. VR Act solves... – given political voice able to vote for welfare reforms & so solves... By 1969 over 60 % voting & African Americans becoming elected to federal & state offices. However some states not above 60% - so long way to go but failed?
Why did effective campaigns for desegregation in the southern states of the USA develop in the years 1945-65?

Long term - pre 45

Effects of Migration - black awareness & confidence led to joining NAACP and so campaigns.
2WW - return to hatred/racism, join NAACP, Truman desegregated army so campaigns...

Development of Black education led to campaigns for desegregation as more people educated and angry about injustice - feel more confident as better leaders so Brown, Montgomery, Greensboro, Freedom Rides occur to challenge segregation.

Support of Federal Government

Supreme Court - early decision segregation wrong in schools so wrong elsewhere - so campaigns against segregation.
Truman - through desegregating army & black judges appeared as a more supportive President and so encouraged African Americans to campaign for desegregation.
Eisenhower – Reluctance forces African Americans to campaign for desegregation as seen at Little Rock/Greensboro.
Kennedy hoped supportive so increase in campaigning, Freedom Rides Birmingham, Washington to help leverage of CR Act.

Leadership

Rosa Parks & King, Brown, SNCC, NAACP – emerging in 1950’s with Brown & Montgomery. Success that ultimately followed inspired other similar movements in the south and so more campaigning – eg. Greensboro, Birmingham.

Media/white liberal opinion

Used well in Montgomery & so inspired similar campaigns for deseg. Greensboro soon encouraged other student activists as message spread through media attention. Violence at Birmingham & Selma - Publicised so wins white liberal support enabling Presidents to introduce legislation & further encourages others...
Why did an organised Civil Rights Movement emerge in the USA in the decade following the Second World War?

**Long term - pre 45**

**Effects of Migration** - black awareness & confidence led to joining NAACP and CR movement. 2WW - return to hatred/racism, join NAACP, Truman desegregated army so CR movement...

**Development of Black education** led to CR Movement as more people educated and angry about injustice – feel more confident as better leaders so Brown & NAACP emerge to challenge inequality.

**NAACP** – training lawyers who experience success with Brown encourages movement. Win equal salaries for teachers, prevent racist judge on Supreme Court and so movement.

**Support of Federal Government**

**Supreme Court** - early decision segregation wrong in schools so wrong elsewhere - so encourages a movement against segregation.

**Truman** - through desegregating army & black judges appeared as a more supportive President and so encouraged African Americans to form a movement.

**Eisenhower** – Reluctance forces African Americans to strengthen CR Movement so more organised for late 1950’s seen at Little Rock.

**Leadership**

**Rosa Parks & King, Brown, SNCC, NAACP** – emerging in 1950’s with Brown & Montgomery. Success that ultimately followed inspired other similar movements in the south and so more campaigning – eg. Greensboro, Birmingham.

**Growing black consciousness**

Consciousness grows as - African Americans flourish in own fields & sense of worth develops so inspired to join movement. Money – available to invest so movement. Growth in church/social clubs with political voices so movement emerges.
Why was progress slow for Civil Rights campaigners up to 1955?

Federal Government
Truman - did some small things like desegregating army, appointing black judges, publicising black civil Rights - but had other priorities and lacked support from Southern congressmen so progress slow.
Eisenhower - Korea main concern at start of Presidency, chose to see Civil rights as state issue only involving himself if forced - Little Rock so progress slow. Till - outrage yet Eisenhower said nothing.

Divisions/Lack of CR Movement
Mostly NAACP up to 1955 - No mass action yet to emerge, no black figurehead to personify the movement, no leadership to rally the troops and set an agenda, no real media interest so no white middle class support - not energised yet by issue so lack of money, support & coverage all hit campaigning hard. No need for government to upset voters with legislation so progress slow.

Position of black & white Americans
African Americans - lived in ghettos in north, segregated in south so little real progress. They were easy to bully and crush. White Americans had power, money, influence and organisations in north & south to break spirit of African Americans resulting in a mass movement being slow to get underway. They had the KKK, the legal system, the police all making possibility of progress seem a long way off so...
Why did campaigns for black Civil Rights increase by 1957?

Long term - pre 45

Effects of Migration - black awareness & confidence led to joining NAACP and campaigns. 2WW - return to hatred/racism, join NAACP, Truman desegregated army so campaigns... Development of Black education led to campaigning as more people educated and angry about injustice – feel more confident as better leaders so Brown & NAACP emerge to challenge inequality via campaigning. NAACP – training lawyers who experience success with Brown encourages further campaigns. Win equal salaries for teachers, prevent racist judge on Supreme Court and so inspires others with success so campaigns...

Federal government
Supreme Court - early decision segregation wrong in schools so wrong elsewhere - so encourages campaigns... Truman - Through desegregating army & black judges appeared as a more supportive President and so encouraged African Americans to campaign. Eisenhower – generally reluctant, Till & Lucy doesn’t want to get involved, sees as state issues. Forces African Americans to campaign as seen at Montgomery & Little Rock - Little Rock used Federal troops to uphold Brown. Govt will step in even if reluctant.

Leadership
Rosa Parks & King, Brown, NAACP – Following success begun by NAACP other leaders emerge in 1950’s with Brown & Montgomery success that ultimately followed inspired other similar movements in the south and so more campaigning.

Growing black consciousness
Consciousness grows as - African Americans flourish in own fields & sense of worth develops so inspired to join movement. Money – available to invest so campaigns. Growth in church/social clubs with political voices so campaigning.
Why did Federal Government react favourably to the Civil Rights campaigns in the years 1961-1965?

Presidents character

Leadership
Tactics, peaceful protest, speeches, demands, religious - won mass support from both public and media making it difficult for Federal government to ignore demands. Peaceful protest - shown particularly in Birmingham & through Washington enabled Kennedy to react favourably with CR Act.

Media/white support
Birmingham & Selma - exploitation of media great tool in winning over both white supporters and also Federal government. Result is government act favourably with CR & VR legislation. White support & money - convinces Federal Government time right for change so react favourably.
Why had significant progress been made in desegregating the southern states by 1964?

**Federal Government**

Supreme Court - Brown - progress as schools to be desegregated and so... desegregation elsewhere gradually. Kennedy & Johnson - Progress as CR Act which made discrimination in employment illegal & speeded up segregation in schools so... progress. Embarrassing for USA - Communist propaganda. Eisenhower had to act in Little Rock so progress as school desegregation should... Kennedy & Johnson act as Cold War & Vietnam picks up momentum so progress seen through passing of legislation which...

**Leadership**

King - challenged segregation on buses resulting in desegregation of public transport and reasonable progress... Belief in peaceful protest significant progress as... Exploiting media led to progress as... Brown challenged segregation in schools - significant progress as Supreme court on side, inspires others, better education leads to better future leaders. Students & SNCC in Greensboro - lunch counters & public places. Significant progress as 810 towns... However slow, deep south worse.

**Media/white support**

Montgomery, Little Rock, Greensboro, Birmingham - exploit media great tool in winning over white supporters and also Federal government. Result - some states & Supreme Court decisions lead to progress & Federal govt pass CR Act so progress...
Account for the successes achieved by the Civil Rights movement in the years 1956-64.

**Federal Government**

Supreme Court - Brown - success as schools to be desegregated and so... desegregation elsewhere gradually. Kennedy & Johnson - success as CR Act which made discrimination in employment illegal & speeded up segregation in schools so... Success. Embarrassing for USA - Communist propaganda. Eisenhower had to act in Little Rock so success as school desegregation should... Kennedy & Johnson act as Cold War & Vietnam picks up momentum so success seen through passing of legislation which...

**Leadership**

King - challenged segregation on buses resulting in desegregation of public transport and reasonable success... Belief in peaceful protest significant success as... Exploiting media led to success as... Brown challenged segregation in schools - significant success as Supreme court on side, inspires others, better education leads to better future leaders. Students & SNCC in Greensboro - lunch counters & public places. Significant success as 810 towns... However slow, deep south worse.

**Media/white support**

Montgomery, Little Rock, Greensboro, Birmingham - exploit media great tool in winning over white supporters and also Federal government. Result - some states & Supreme Court decisions lead to success & Federal govt pass CR Act so success...
**Why did the Federal Governments pass legislation in 1964-65 to end discrimination and segregation?**

**Federal Government**

Kennedy & Johnson – After Birmingham. Kennedy reacted favourably by introducing CR Act. His assassination urged Johnson to continue with Bill to end discrimination in employment & education. Following Selma Johnson further showed favour with passing of VR Act to end discrimination in voting. Changing political climate - convinces Federal Government for change - USA world role model, growing involvement in Vietnam led government to pass legislation ending...

**Leadership**

King - Tactics, peaceful protest, speeches, demands, religious - won mass support from both public and media making it difficult for Federal government to ignore demands. Peaceful protest - shown particularly in Birmingham & through Washington enabled Kennedy to pass CR legislation 1964 ending discrimination in... Selma encouraged Johnson to pass VR legislation ending voter discrimination.

**Media/white support**

Birmingham & Selma - exploitation of media great tool in winning over both white supporters and also Federal government. Result is government pass CR & VR legislation to end... White support & money - convinces Federal Government time right for change so react legislation to end...
Why did violent protest among African Americans in the USA increase in the years 1964-68?

**Frustration/slow progress**
- Peaceful protest - too slow, lack of results so turn to violence, King - misunderstood north, wrong aims & tactics so northern African Americans turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers - do understand so win support and therefore increase in violence. Different demands - separatism, black pride, self help. Focus on economic changes – communist outlook – need different approach as different era so increase in violent protest as demands not met so frustrated.

**Growth of militancy/Black Power**
- Teachings of Malcolm X, SNCC & Black Panthers - All understand problems in north and so more appealing so increase... Aims & tactics; aggression popular as frustration with slow progress so far so increase in violent protest.

**Vietnam**
- Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out, Campaigners seen as ungrateful so violence out of desperation?
Why did more violent movements emerge among African American citizens of the USA to challenge Martin Luther King’s ideas and methods?

**Frustration/slow progress**
Peaceful protest - too slow, lack of results so turn to violence, King - misunderstood north, wrong aims & tactics so northern African Americans turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers - do understand so win support and therefore more violent movements...

**Growth of militancy/Black Power**
Teachings of Malcolm X, SNCC & Black Panthers - All understand problems in north and so more appealing than King so increase... Aims & tactics; aggression popular as frustration with Kings peaceful protest & slow progress so far so increase in violent movements...

**Different demands**
Different demands - separatism, black pride, self help. Focus on economic changes – communist outlook – need different approach as different era so increase in violent protest as meets needs more than King & his tactics...

**Vietnam**
Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so more violent movements. Campaigners ungrateful so violence out of desperation?
Why did peaceful protest in support of equal rights gradually give way to aggression and violence in the later 1960s?

**Frustration/slow progress**

Peaceful protest - too slow, lack of results so turn to aggression, King - misunderstood north, wrong aims & tactics so northern African Americans turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers - do understand so win support and therefore more aggression and violence.

**Growth of militancy/Black Power**

Teachings of Malcolm X, SNCC & Black Panthers - All understand problems in north and so peaceful protest gives way to... Aims & tactics; aggression popular as frustration with Kings peaceful protest & slow progress so far so give way to aggression and...

**Different demands**

Different demands - separatism, black pride, self help. Focus on economic changes – communist outlook – need different approach as different era so increase in aggression and violence as meets needs more than peaceful...

**Vietnam**

Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so turn to aggression. Campaigners ungrateful so aggression and violence as desperate?
Why was the Civil Rights movement torn by internal divisions in the 1960s?

**Frustration/slow progress**
Peaceful protest - too slow, lack of results so turn to aggression & so divisions, King - misunderstood north, wrong aims & tactics so northern African Americans divided and turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers - do understand so win support and therefore more aggression and violence - division grows.

**Growth of militancy/Black Power**
Teachings of Malcolm X, SNCC & Black Panthers - All understand problems in north and so divisions as different aims & tactics; aggression popular as frustration with Kings peaceful protest & slow progress so far so further divisions.

**Different demands**
Different demands - separatism, black pride, self help. Focus on economic changes – communist outlook – need different approach as different era so divisions develop and increase as violence meets needs more than peaceful...

**Vietnam**
Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so divisions emerge. Campaigners ungrateful so aggression and violence out of desperation - divisions.
Why did the effectiveness of the campaign for black equality decline in the years 1965-68?

**Frustration/slow progress**

Peaceful protest - too slow, lack of results so turn to aggression & so effectiveness declined, King - misunderstood north, wrong aims & tactics so northern African Americans divided and turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers - but as more violent less appealing to media and public so effectiveness declines.

King - spoke out against Johnson & SNCC - reject white support, Black Panthers - armed & militaristic – loss of support effectiveness declined.

**Growth of militancy/Black Power**

Teachings of Malcolm X, SNCC & Black Panthers - All understand problems in north and had different aims & more violent tactics so effectiveness...

Aggression popular in north as frustration with Kings peaceful protest & slow progress but effectiveness experienced using peaceful protest goes.

**Different demands**

Different demands - separatism, black pride, self help. Focus on economic changes – communist outlook – need different approach as different era so increase as violence meets needs more than peaceful protest but effectiveness lost...

**Vietnam**

Government busy - no money for reforms, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so effectiveness... Campaigners seen as ungrateful so turn violent out of desperation - effectiveness declined.
Why, in the years 1965–68, did the Federal Government become less supportive of black protest in the USA than it had been in the years 1956–64?

**Error’s of leaders**

- Peaceful protest - too slow, lack of results so turn to aggression & so govt less supportive, King - misunderstood north, wrong aims & tactics so northern African Americans divided and turn to, SNCC & Black Panthers - but as more violent less support. Malcolm X - controversial & alienated whites, King - spoke out against Johnson, SNCC - reject white support, Black Panthers - armed & militaristic – loss of support.

**Growth of Black Power/new leaders**

- Teachings of Malcolm X, SNCC & Black Panthers - All understand problems in north and had different aims & more violent tactics so lost support...
- Aggression popular in north as frustration with Kings peaceful protest & slow progress but support lost as government cannot give in to violence.

**Different demands**

- Different demands - Focus on economic changes – communist outlook – need different approach as different era so increase as violence meets needs more than peaceful protest but support lost...

**Vietnam**

- Government busy - no money for reforms so less support, public - anti-war, media - anti-war, King - speaks out & loses support so govt less supportive...
- Campaigners seen as ungrateful so turn to violence out of desperation - less govt support...
Why was Martin Luther King both so bitterly criticised, and so deeply mourned, by black citizens of the USA?

**Criticised**

- By Malcolm X & SNCC/Black Power because - too slow, Uncle Tom, achievements minimal in north want socio-economic change, peaceful protest not working, relationship with white supporters & federal government unpopular with Malcolm X and Black Panther Party - so criticised as...
- By blacks in north because – too slow, achievements minimal in north, peaceful protest not working - so criticised as...
- Generally because – aims; wrong in north, alienated Johnson, wanted economic reforms when government busy - Vietnam - so criticised as...
- Private life - affairs, family neglected/placed in danger, Communist friends - so criticised as...

**Mourned**

- Southerners - benefit from his work, grateful - many areas desegregated and Legislation won granting more equality and vote - so mourned...
- Aims & personality - inspirational, courageous, religious, peaceful tactics, speaches - all qualities won mass support & therefore legislation. Achieved more than any other individual leader? Driving force responsible for uniting and moving forward movement? Mourned because...
- Determined/brave because - still campaigning at his death, shifted his aims to focus on practical issues - housing in north. Still focused on equality & integration popular with many black citizens so mourned...
Why was the civil rights movement successful in the south in the 1950s and early 1960s but not in the north in the later 1960s?

King more popular in south

Aims & personality - respected - he appealed to religious and cultural background, understood the problems, experienced the discrimination so won respect from local people and so more successful.

Civil Rights Movement weaker in north

Other groups existed - more militant groups with established northern leaders did not unite behind King so campaigns less successful in north. King’s tactics were old fashioned & did not win media coverage later 1960’s & northern authorities did not respond to King’s tactics so less success. Black Power starting to get the movement a bad name so less success...

Different demands

Different demands - Focus on socio-economic reform – complex & expensive. Granting Civil Rights in south cheap but white middle class Americans did not want to pay. Federal govt no desire to help/money to spend - looked communist so less...

Vietnam

Government busy - no time or money for reforms so less success. Public - anti-war, media - anti-war so less... King - spoke out & lost support so less success... Campaigners seen as ungrateful turn to violence out of desperation - less success...