BIG Q!

Are rules and laws ever unjust?

KS3 History Knowledge Organiser
CIVIL RIGHTS



1. JIM CROW LAWS

These laws separated black and white people in America:

- It was against the law to serve black and white people in the same room in a restaurant.
- Black and white people were not allowed to marry.
- Black people were not allowed to take books out of the library.
- Black and white people had to have separate public drinking fountains.
- There were separate schools for black and white children.

Can you find out any other ways black people were separated from white people legally?

2. LITTLE ROCK NINE

In 1954, the US Supreme Court declared segregated schools were wrong. A key test came in Arkansas in 1957. Nine very able black students were allowed to attend an all white school.



On the first day, Elizabeth Eckford arrived at school alone. An angry mob surrounded her and she had to be rescued. The President Dwight Eisenhower sent paratroopers to Little Rock and the nine were taken to school by armed escort every day. They continued to go to the school until the State Governor closed it after a year, unable to accept desegregation in school.

Why was there so much hate in Arkansas? What was shown on the national tv?

3. EMMETT TILL

On August 28 1955, one of the most famous events in the early days of the civil rights movement occurred, when 14-year-old Emmett Till, from Chicago, was murdered in Mississippi where he had gone on vacation to visit relatives.

His mother, Mamie Till Bradley, insisted that the body be sent back to Chicago and then further insisted on an open casket funeral.
The two murderers were arrested and put on trial. Amazingly, despite the evidence against them, they were acquitted.

What was Emmett Till's 'crime'?. How do we know the two tried for murder were guilty?

4. MARTIN LUTHER KING



Early on, King was inspired by his father's opposition to racial segregation and discrimination. Although he grew up in a system that treated him as inferior, his mother taught him he was "as good as anyone".

He is famous for, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, his letter from a Birmingham jail, his speeches on Vietnam and 'I have a dream' and his march to protest against voting qualifications.

Why are the above events significant?

5. ROSA PARKS

In 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man who was standing as all the 'white' seats had been taken. She was arrested and on December 5th, a boycott (ban) of the buses started that lasted for 381 days.



In 1956, the Supreme Court said that segregation on buses was against the law. Rosa Parks was given the title "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement"

Why did Rosa Parks refuse to give up her seat?

Key words

Discrimination, segregation, paratrooper, casket, civil rights, boycott, supremacist, influential. separate but equal, Double jeopardy.

7. THE KU KLUX KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan was a white underground terrorist group. They would not accept black people as equals. Members of the KKK dressed in white robes. ***Why did they dress like this and how influential were they?***

6. MALCOLM X

He told black Americans they should defend themselves 'by any means necessary'. He inspired many Black Americans through his speeches and articles .



How did he differ from Martin Luther King?