

16.3

Successes & Setbacks



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Explain the significance of Freedom Summer, the march on Selma, and why violence erupted in some American cities in the 1960s.
- Compare and contrast the goals and approaches taken by African American leaders to expand political rights and economic opportunities.
- Describe the social and economic situation of African Americans by 1975.

Increasing Participation

None of the civil rights measures passed affected the right to vote

In Mississippi not a single African American person was registered to vote in counties with minority majority

Freedom Summer- SNCC gathers volunteers to flood Mississippi to register people to vote

Mississippi Burning- Michael Schwerner, James Chaney, & Andrew Goodman murdered, state tried to cover it up



Political Rights

African American groups formed the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) to counter the all-white Democratic Party

Delegation goes to national convention to argue for sole recognition in the state

Fannie Lou Hamer gives a firey speech about how they wanted to live as decent humans

Compromise is attempted but both parties reject the offer to reform parties

March on Selma

SCLC & SNCC organize a major campaign in Selma Alabama to fight for voting rights

Bloody Sunday- Marchers march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge towards Montgomery...

Only to meet state authorities who brutally attacked the group, shown on national TV

Dr. King helps organize further marches as the violence encourages people to support voting rights





Voting Rights Act

President Johnson argued the right to vote should not have a say to deny the right to vote

Voting Rights Act of 1965- banned literacy tests & empowered the federal government to oversee voting

24th Amendment- Banned the poll tax requirement to vote

Various laws were created to ban racially motivated gerrymandering

Violence Troubles Efforts

Urban areas who saw little change had frustration turn to violence

Summer of 1967 saw various race riots in Los Angeles, Detroit, & Newark, New Jersey

Kerner Commission was created to study why these were happening

Concluded that it was long-term racial discrimination that was the cause

Believed the government should create programs to fix urban ghettos- **VERY** controversial idea



Malcolm X

Many radical groups were developed after the race riots advocating different approaches

Malcolm X lived a difficult childhood & life of crime until he was sent to prison at age 21

Converted to the **Nation of Islam** who believed in strict behavior & separation of the races

Became a prominent speaker who advocated in black nationalism & self-protection

Leaves the group & travels to Mecca & develops new beliefs, but is assassinated in 1965

Black Power

Stokely Carmichael separates away from SNCC claiming Black Power!

Black Power- Chant & belief that African Americans should use economic & politics to gain equality

Huey Newton & Bobby Seale create the **Black Panther party using militant powers & anti-poverty programs**

Focused on pride on African heritage but would lead to violence with police groups



King Expands His Dream

King disagreed with new groups & began a “Poor People’s Campaign” to fight against poverty

April 3rd, Dr. King travels to Memphis to assist sanitation workers on a strike...

But is assassinated by James Earl Ray outside his hotel

Lester Maddox, Governor of Georgia, refused to let Dr. King lie in state

Robert Kennedy pleas for compassion & love, but riots break out (assassinated 2 months later)

****Results of the Movement**

Poverty rates for African Americans fell & income rose rapidly, as did graduation rates

Thurgood Marshall was appointed Justice of the Supreme Court

Affirmative Action- Government policy of closing economic gap between ethnic groups

Voting Acts resorted back to a state decision in 2013