

16.2

The Movement Surges Forward



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

- Describe the sit-ins, freedom ride, and the actions of James Meredith in the early 1960s.
- Explain how the protests at Birmingham and the March on Washington were linked to the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- Describe how the Civil Rights Act of 1964 addressed minority rights in the United States.

Student Activists Promote Civil Rights

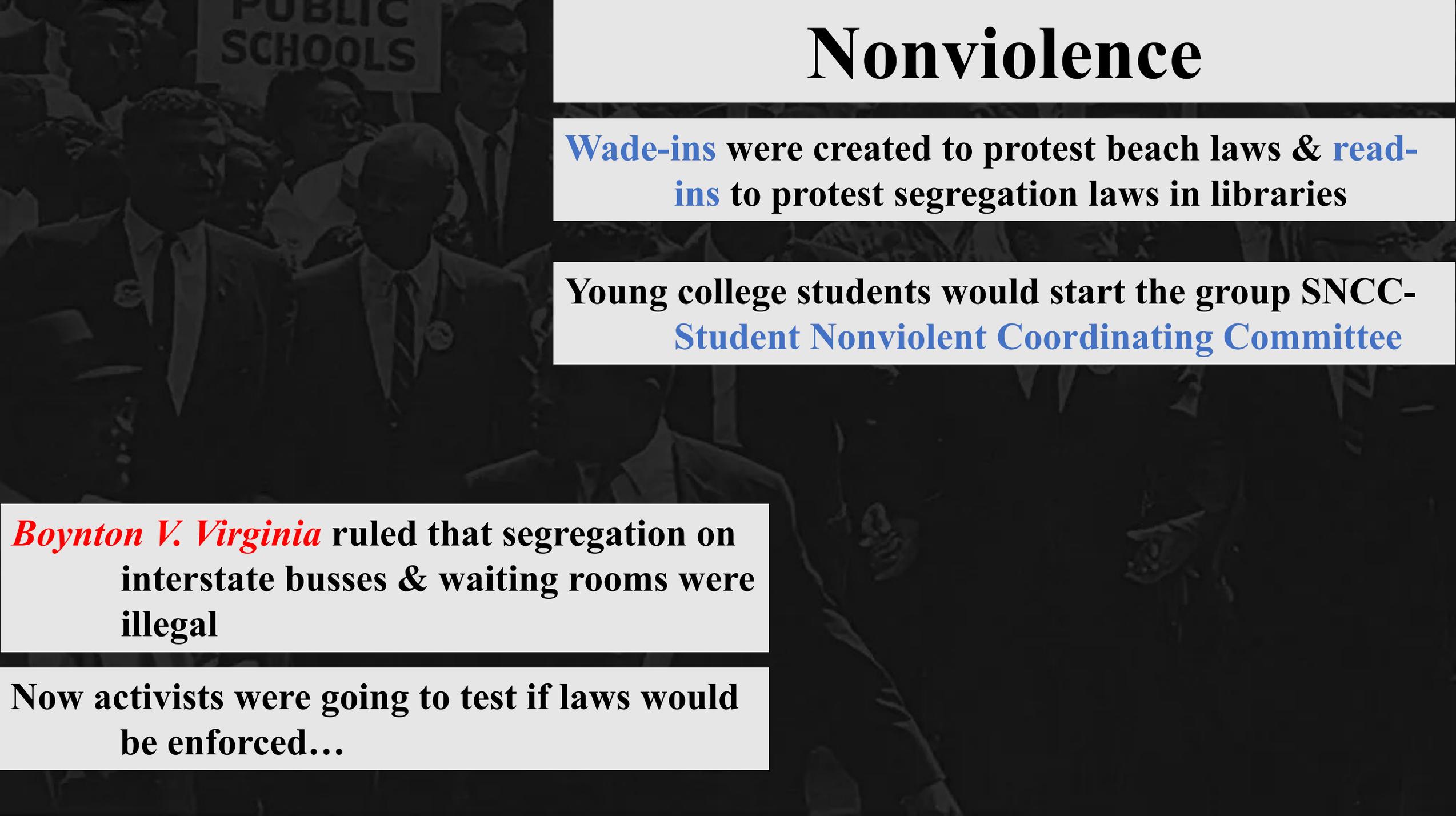
Due to very slow change after *Brown v. Board*, activist groups began to challenge further segregation laws

Feb. 1, 1960 four college students sat at a lunch counter in at a Woolworth's lunch counter

After being denied service they began a **sit-in**, protest where people sit & refuse to move

People would often have insults yelled at them & food poured on them, but they would not move





Nonviolence

Wade-ins were created to protest beach laws & **read-ins** to protest segregation laws in libraries

Young college students would start the group SNCC-
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

Boynton V. Virginia ruled that segregation on interstate busses & waiting rooms were illegal

Now activists were going to test if laws would be enforced...

Freedom Ride

This is when CORE organized riders to head towards New Orleans & test if the law would be held

When they reached Alabama, an angry mob firebombed one of the buses & attacked the riders on another

John F. Kennedy, who was president, was asked to intervene

Kennedy worked with Mississippi leaders to enforce law, but riders could be arrested for “disturbing the peace”



Ole' Miss Riot

Organizations began to put pressure on the federal government to end de jure segregation.

James Meredith was able to attend the all-white University of Mississippi with the help of **Medger Evers**

Gov Ross Barnett opposed this & a riot took place on the campus the night Meredith arrived

He eventually obtained his law degree but later on survived an assassination attempt

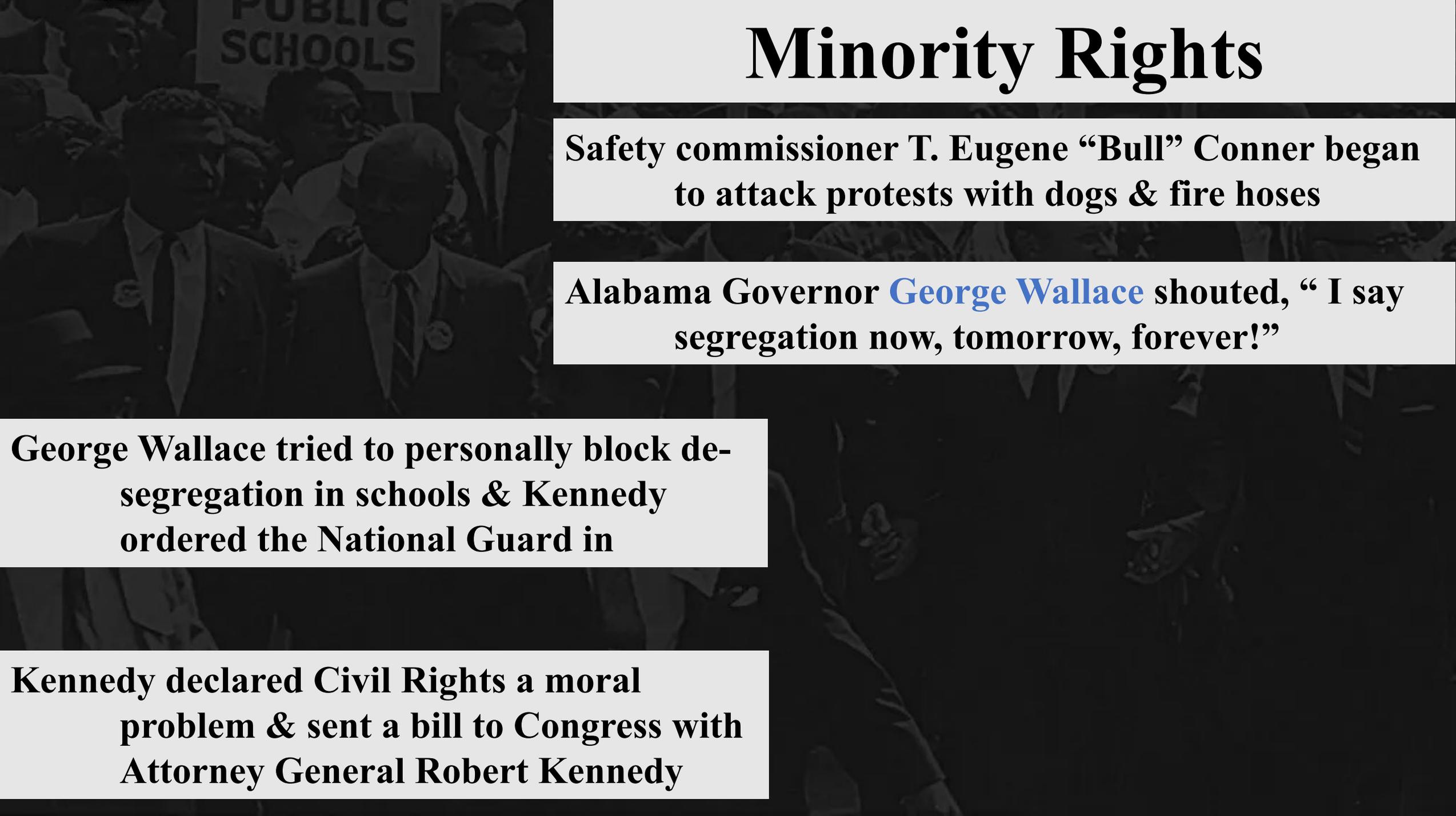
Letter From Birmingham Jail

Birmingham Jail was known as being the most segregated city in the South

Dr. King & groups traveled to the city to organize peaceful marches & sit-ins & the city created a court order to prohibit it

**Dr. King violated the order & was arrested.
While in jail he wrote the letter**

The letter would appear in newspapers across the nation inspiring people to the cause



Minority Rights

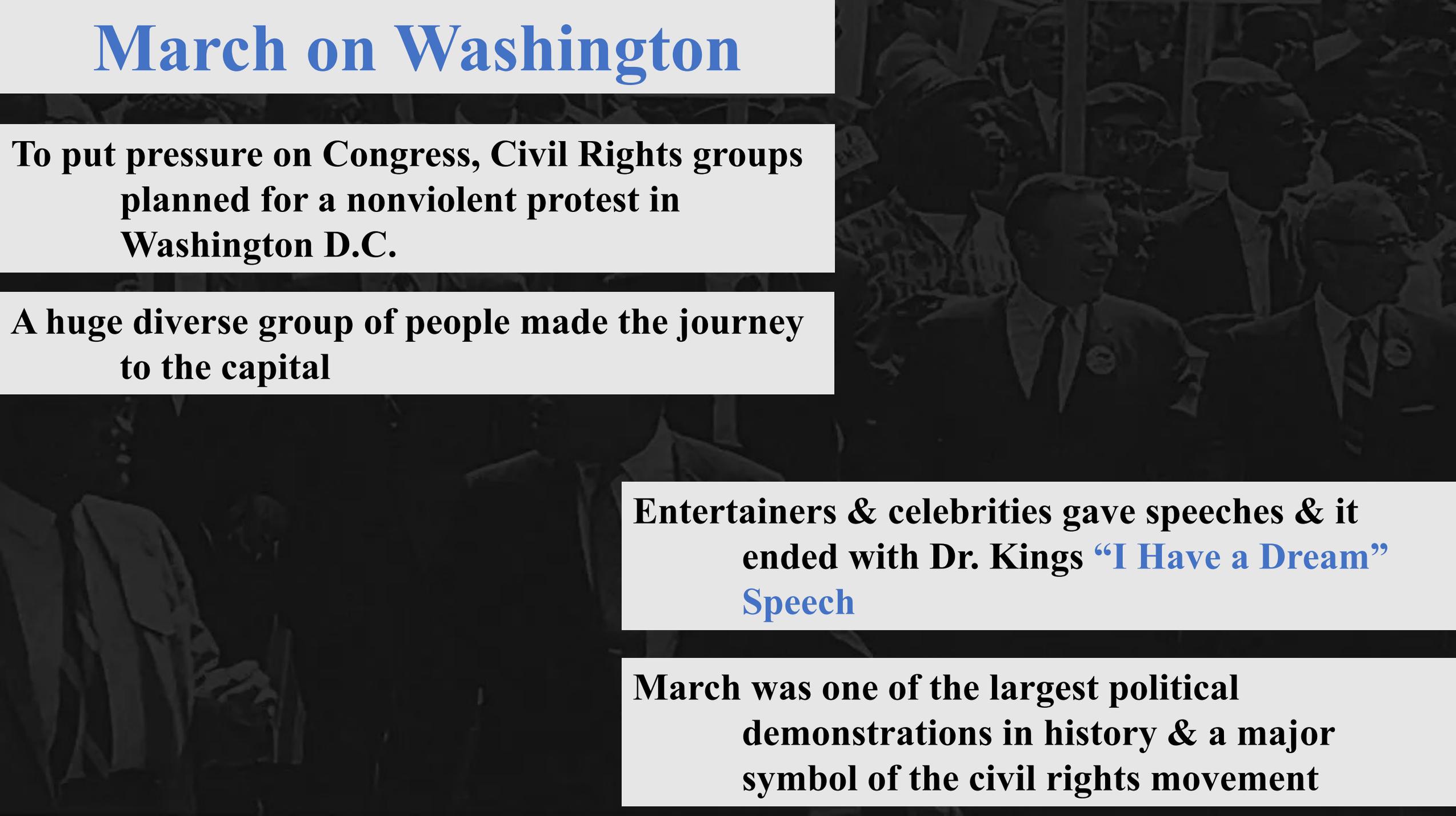
Safety commissioner T. Eugene “Bull” Conner began to attack protests with dogs & fire hoses

Alabama Governor [George Wallace](#) shouted, “ I say segregation now, tomorrow, forever!”

George Wallace tried to personally block desegregation in schools & Kennedy ordered the National Guard in

Kennedy declared Civil Rights a moral problem & sent a bill to Congress with Attorney General Robert Kennedy

March on Washington

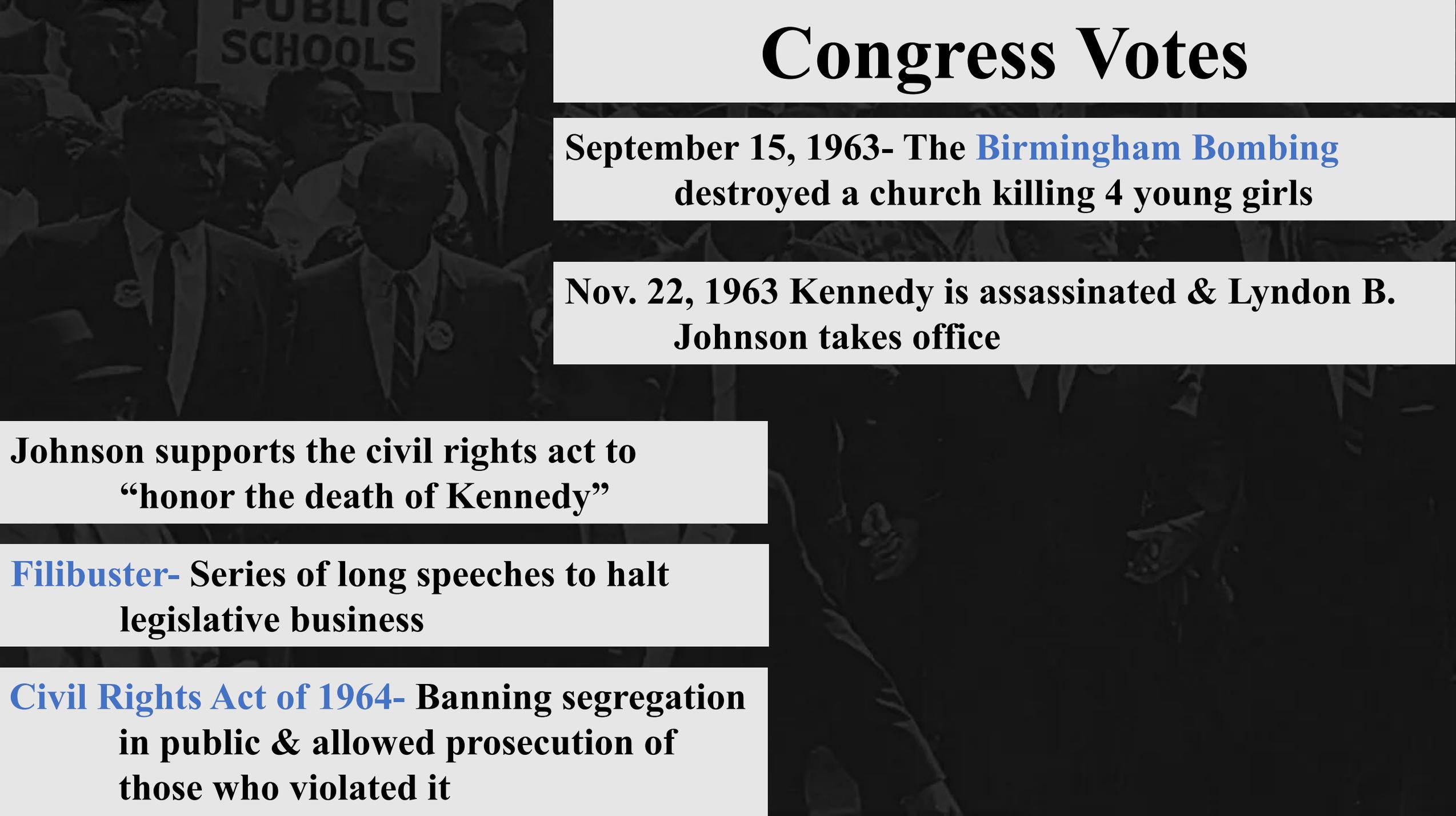


To put pressure on Congress, Civil Rights groups planned for a nonviolent protest in Washington D.C.

A huge diverse group of people made the journey to the capital

Entertainers & celebrities gave speeches & it ended with Dr. King's **"I Have a Dream" Speech**

March was one of the largest political demonstrations in history & a major symbol of the civil rights movement



Congress Votes

September 15, 1963- The **Birmingham Bombing** destroyed a church killing 4 young girls

Nov. 22, 1963 Kennedy is assassinated & Lyndon B. Johnson takes office

Johnson supports the civil rights act to “honor the death of Kennedy”

Filibuster- Series of long speeches to halt legislative business

Civil Rights Act of 1964- Banning segregation in public & allowed prosecution of those who violated it