

	Society	Govt. Response	Military	Sports
1441	Portugal begins the European-African slave trade.			
1562	England enters the slave trade.			
1619	The first slaves arrive in Virginia colony.			
1641		Massachusetts is the first colony to outlaw slavery.		
1668		The Virginia Colony denies equal rights to freed blacks.		
1680		<i>Act for Preventing Negro Insurrections</i> is passed in Virginia. Blacks are prohibited from carrying any type of “weapons”.		
1688	Quakers and Mennonites protest slavery in Pennsylvania.			
1706	Cotton Mather preaches in Massachusetts that slavery is “ordained by God”.			
1721		South Carolina limits voting rights to white men.		
1739	Slaves in South Carolina rise up in the <i>Stono Rebellion</i> – 60 whites and blacks are dead before it is stopped.			
1775	Benjamin Franklin helps form the <i>Pennsylvania Society for the Abolition of Slavery</i> .		George Washington does not initially want to allow blacks to serve in the American military as they fight for independence from Great Britain.	

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1776		The Declaration of Independence includes the words, " <i>all men are created equal</i> ." Against Thomas Jefferson's will, slavery is not even mentioned in the document he chiefly authors.		
1777		Vermont outlaws slavery within the colony.		
1783		Blacks are permitted to vote in Massachusetts.	By time the Revolutionary War ends, 10,000 blacks have served.	
1784	Quakers forbid members of their churches from owning slaves.			
1787		The <i>Northwest Ordinance</i> outlaws slavery in the newly acquired Northwest Territory.		
1789		The U.S. Constitution is ratified – slaves are only counted as "3/5's of a person".		
1793	Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin – making slaves even more critical to Southern plantations.	The <i>Fugitive Slave Act</i> passes – aiding runaway slaves is now illegal.		
1799		New York passes an "Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery." All slave children born after July 4, 1799 are to receive their freedom as they reach their 25 <sup>th</sup> birthday (for females) or 28 <sup>th</sup> birthday (for males).		
1808	The importation of slaves into the U.S. is banned by Congress. (1/4 million will still be imported in the next 40 years).			
1815	The <i>Underground Railroad</i> starts, aiding runaway slaves as they travel north to freedom.		Black soldiers fight valiantly at the Battle of New Orleans.	

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1816	Colonization (in Africa) is tried as an attempt to solve the “Black Problem”. The idea of sending black people “back to Africa” never really catches on.			
1817		New York passes a law granting freedom to slaves born before July 4, 1799. But, they will have to wait ten years to obtain that freedom!		
1820		<i>The Missouri Compromise</i> brings Maine into the Union as a free state, Missouri as a slave state, and bans slavery in the Louisiana Territory.		
1827	The first “black” newspaper is published in the U.S., <i>Freedom’s Journal</i> .	With the 10 year waiting period up, 10,000 slaves are suddenly free in New York.		
1828	When her New York master will not free her, Sojourner Truth runs away. After gaining her own freedom, she sues to retrieve her infant son, who has illegally been sold to a man in Alabama. She becomes the first black woman to sue a white man and win.			
1831	William Lloyd Garrison, an escaped slave, begins his newspaper, <i>Liberator</i> . He calls for the abolition of slavery.			
1831 cont	Nat Turner leads a slave rebellion in Virginia (the largest ever in the U.S.).			
1832	Garrison founds the <i>New England Anti-Slavery Society</i> .			
1834		Great Britain abolishes slavery.		
1838	Frederick Douglass escapes from slavery – he will become well known as an abolitionist speaker.			
1839	The ship, <i>Amistad</i> , lands in the U.S. (instead of Africa) with 50 slaves who have taken over the ship. After a lengthy court drama where former president John Adams defends the slaves, the Supreme Court grants the captives their freedom, and they return to Africa.			
1842		The U.S. Supreme Court rules in <i>Prigg v. Pennsylvania</i> that states cannot hinder masters from coming after their escaped slaves.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1843	After escaping from slavery, Sojourner Truth speaks out often in the North against the oppression of blacks and of women. Her audiences are primarily white.			
1847		Dred Scott sues for his freedom, after being taken by his master into a “free state”.		
1848	The Free-Soil Party is formed, opposing the expansion of slavery.			
1852	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> is published. It causes an uproar in both the north and the south.			
1855	Massachusetts decides segregation in its schools is wrong.			
1857	On one of Harriet Tubman's 19 trips as an Underground Railroad conductor, she frees her own parents.	In the Supreme Court decision, <i>Dred Scott v. Sanford</i> , slaves <u>can</u> be taken into free states by their masters, since they are “only property”.		

*“Whenever I hear anyone arguing for slavery,  
I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally.”*  
Abraham Lincoln

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1859			John Brown and other radicals raid the military arsenal at Harpers Ferry, VA, hoping to obtain arms for a slave uprising.	
1860	Five northern states allow blacks to vote in the presidential election. Abraham Lincoln, who has expressed anti-slavery sentiments, wins the election.			A black baseball team, the <i>Brooklyn Excelsiors</i> , tours part of the U.S.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1861 - 1865	← Civil War in the United States → Lincoln signs the <i>Emancipation Proclamation</i> part-way through the war. 179,000 blacks have enlisted by the end of the war, in both the North and the South.			
1865	Massachusetts guarantees blacks the right to vote.	The <i>Freedmen's Bureau</i> is formed to assist freed slaves.		
	“Black Codes” are created in the southern states, to control ex-slaves – dealing with everything from their hours of labor to property rights, and banning them from learning how to read.			
		The 13 <sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution outlaws slavery.		
1866	The KKK (Ku Klux Klan) is formed originally in Pulaski, Tennessee by Nathan Bedford Forrest. It spreads across the South quickly.	<i>The First Civil Rights Act</i> passes in spite of President Andrew Johnson's veto – it grants citizenship to blacks, and ends post-Civil War “Black Codes”.		
1867		Three <i>Reconstruction Acts</i> pass over President Johnson's vetoes.		

*"Negroes must make annual contracts for their labor in writing;  
if they should run away from their tasks,  
they forfeit their wages for the year..."*  
Example of a “Black Code” in Mississippi

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1868		The 14 <sup>th</sup> Amendment gives equal protection under the law to black Americans.		Baseball's amateur organization, the <i>National Association of Baseball Players</i> , votes to exclude any clubs with black players.
1869	Forrest is unhappy with the increasingly violent ways of the KKK, and begins to disband it.			
1870		The first <i>Jim Crow</i> law passes in Tennessee, mandating segregation on trains.		
		The 15 <sup>th</sup> Amendment grants black men the right to vote, at least constitutionally.		
1871	The KKK disbands completely.			
1872	Under the <i>Amnesty Act</i> , former Confederates may once again be involved in politics.			
		The <i>Freedmen's Bureau</i> is abolished.		
1873		The Supreme Court rules that the 14 <sup>th</sup> Amendment grants blacks "due process" under national laws, but not state laws.		
1875		<i>The Second Civil Rights Act</i> grants equal rights in jury duty and public accommodations to blacks.		
1877	First black student graduates from West Point.	Reconstruction ends in the south, when President Rutherford B. Hayes removes federal troops from the southern states, in fulfillment of a campaign promise. Terror against blacks increases rapidly.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1881	A school for blacks is started in Tuskegee, Alabama by Booker T. Washington. His goal is to educate black students, particularly in skills and trades. Washington regularly speaks about blacks living harmoniously with whites.			
1882	George Washington Carver becomes head of the Agricultural Department at the school in Tuskegee.	The U.S. bans immigration from China for the next 10 years.		
1883		The Supreme Court invalidates the <i>Second Civil Rights Act</i> , as unconstitutional: "Only states can be barred from discriminatory acts, not individuals."		
1884				Moses Walker is the first black major league baseball player.
1885				The first black professional baseball team is formed – <i>The Cuban Giants</i> .
1888				White baseball players begin refusing to play ball with black players, causing the league to stop signing contracts with blacks.
1890		Mississippi disenfranchises black men from voting rights with outlandish voting tests.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1892	Lynchings of blacks in the south reach almost epidemic proportions.			
1895	In an important speech in Atlanta, Georgia, Booker T. Washington encourages blacks to work their way up from their post-slavery position.			
	W.E.B. DuBois is the first black to receive a doctorate from Harvard University.			
1896		The Supreme Court decision, <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> , allows “separate but equal” facilities.		
1898		Louisiana limits voting rights to men whose grandfathers were eligible to vote by January 1, 1867 (“the grandfather clause”).		
1900	The first high school in Birmingham, Alabama for black students opens with 8 students (more than 18,000 black students graduate by 1959.)			
1901	Booker T. Washington dines at the White House with President Theodore Roosevelt, outraging many.			
1903	W.E.B. DuBois attacks Washington’s policy of black complacency in his essays, <i>The Souls of Black Folks</i> .			
1905		More <i>Jim Crow</i> laws pass throughout the South, like separate parks in Georgia.		
1908	When the Supreme Court steps in, <i>Berea College</i> loses its fight to maintain an integrated school, in a state (Kentucky) that mandates segregation.			
1909	NAACP ( <i>National Association for the Advancement of Colored People</i> ) is formed, after work by W.E.B. DuBois and other influential blacks. (DuBois was the first black to receive a doctorate from Harvard, in 1895.)	Even more <i>Jim Crow</i> laws follow in the south, like the 10 p.m. curfew in Mobile, Alabama for blacks.		



*"There are two ways of exerting one's strength:  
one is pushing down, the other is pulling up."*

Booker T. Washington

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1911	<i>The National Urban League</i> is founded.			
1914 - 1918	The KKK is reactivated in 1915, in Georgia.	Supreme Court decision in 1915: <i>Grandfather clauses</i> are unconstitutional. Jim Crow laws finally begin breaking down.	U.S. is involved in World War I. Blacks are allowed to be commissioned officers, but not encouraged. More than 370,000 blacks serve in the military during the war.	
	Following its British beginnings, the first American chapter of the <i>Fellowship of Reconstruction</i> (FOR) is established.			

*"I have learned that success is to be measured not so much  
by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying  
to succeed."*

Booker T. Washington

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1919	<i>Red Summer</i> . Race riots occur across America.			
1920		The 19 <sup>th</sup> Amendment gives women the right to vote.		First black baseball league is formed, the <i>Negro National League</i> .
1923				<i>The Renaissance</i> , the first black professional basketball team, is formed.
1924		American Indians are granted citizenship and the right to vote.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1925	The KKK marches on Washington.			
	<i>The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters</i> , the first black union, is formed.			

*"Fight or Be Slaves."*  
 Motto of the members of  
*The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters* in 1925.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1931	In Scottsboro, Alabama, nine black men are falsely accused of raping two white women. The " <i>Scottsboro boys</i> " will suffer much on the way to proving their innocence, 19 years later.			
1933		The NAACP uses the court system to start bringing about Civil Rights changes.		
1936				Jesse Owens, a black American athlete, wins four gold medals at the German hosted Olympics, shocking and angering Adolph Hitler, one of the chief racists of all time.
1937				<i>Negro American (Baseball) League</i> forms.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1941 – 1945	1942: Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) is formed in Chicago.  1944: <i>United Negro College Fund</i> is established.	Supreme Court decision: railroad facilities may be separate, as long as they're equal.	U.S. is involved in World War II. <i>The Tuskegee Army</i> , the first black military airmen, perform amazingly well throughout the war, taking out over 400 enemy planes, and not losing even one of their own.	
1946	Booker T. Washington is honored on a U.S. coin – the first black to be so honored.	Supreme Court decision: Segregated interstate bus travel is not constitutional.		
		President Truman establishes a <i>Committee on Civil Rights</i> . Report published is <i>"To Secure These Rights"</i>		
1947	Eight blacks and eight whites travel on a bus across the south to test the new Supreme Court ban on segregated bus travel. They are met with violent resistance.	President Truman addresses the <i>NAACP</i> (the first president to do so).		Jackie Robinson, signs with the Brooklyn Dodgers, a major league baseball team. (Robinson will go on to win the <i>Rookie of the Year</i> award, and the <i>Most Valuable Player</i> award in 1949)
	The first of over 50 bombings (in the next 18 years) in Birmingham, AL earns the city the tragic nickname "Bombingham".			

	<b>Society</b>	<b>Govt.</b>	<b>Military</b>	<b>Sports</b>
<b>1948</b>	<i>League for Non-violent Civil Disobedience Against Military Segregation</i> is formed.	<i>Dixiecrats</i> (Southern Democrats who oppose integration) nominate Strom Thurmond for President.		
		President Truman sets up the Fair Employment Board; its role is to eliminate discrimination in federal jobs.	Truman signs an executive order to desegregate the U.S. military. Army staff officers react by saying the order does not <i>prohibit</i> segregation in the military. Truman says in a press conference that ending segregation <i>is</i> the intent.	<i>The Negro National</i> (Baseball) <i>League</i> folds, as new players join the newly integrated Major League franchises.

*“There shall be equality of treatment, and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion ....”*

From President Truman’s 1948 Executive Order

	<b>Society</b>	<b>Govt.</b>	<b>Military</b>	<b>Sports</b>
<b>1949</b>	First black-owned radio station in U.S. begins broadcasting in Atlanta		The Army and Marine Corps defend segregation in their branches; the Navy and Air Force announce plans to integrate. Recruitment quotas (10%) are part of the Army’s plan of dealing with the executive order.	Robinson wins the National League <i>Most Valuable Player</i> award.
<b>1950</b>	In an example of “separate and not equal”, schools in Alabama average 48 black students/ classroom, while white classrooms average 35 students per classroom. Approximately \$60/year is spent on each black student, while an average of \$120/year is spent on each white student.			

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1950 - 1953	1950: The first African-American receives the <i>Nobel Peace Prize</i> , for his mediation during the Arab-Israeli war.	1952: The <i>Immigration and Naturalization Act</i> passes – racial barriers to naturalization are removed.	The U.S. is involved in the <i>Korean War</i> . “De facto” integration occurs as black soldiers are absorbed into white units with high casualty rates.	
1954	1,200 white businessmen meet in Selma, Alabama, organizing the <i>White Citizens Council</i> to protest school desegregation.	The Supreme Court makes a unanimous decision in five related school segregation cases, including: <i>Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas</i> . It overturns <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> , and declares “separate but equal” public schools to be unconstitutional.	All military units are finally integrated.	
1955	Rosa Parks refuses to give up her bus seat to a white man, and is arrested. In response, the <i>Women’s Political Council</i> (WPC) helps Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. begin the <i>Montgomery Bus Boycott</i> .	The Supreme Court orders lower courts to use “all deliberate speed” in desegregating schools. An example of how states get around the orders: Alabama puts into place the “pupil placement law”.		
1955	When 14-year-old Emmett Till is brutally murdered in Mississippi for “flirting with a white woman”, there is a national outcry.			
1956	Dr. King is president of the new organization, <i>The Montgomery Improvement Association</i> .	In the <i>Southern Manifesto</i> , Southern congressmen call for resistance to Supreme Court-ordered desegregation caused by the <i>Brown</i> decision.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1956 Cont.	The buses in Montgomery, Alabama are desegregated after more than a year of boycotts, when the city ordinance is declared unconstitutional. (The Montgomery bus line has lost more than 50% of its income during the strike.) Dr. King and a white minister celebrate by riding in the front seat of a bus together.			

*"The unwarranted decision of the Supreme Court in the public school cases is now bearing the fruit always produced when men substitute naked power for established law."*  
In *The Southern Manifesto*, 1956

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1956 cont	When the NAACP is banned in Alabama, Reverend Shuttlesworth helps organize the <i>Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights</i> (ACMHR) in its place. "They can outlaw an organization, but they can't outlaw the movement of a people determined to be free."			
1957	The homes of black leaders and several black churches are bombed in Montgomery.  In response to court orders to desegregate the schools, Rev. Shuttlesworth tries to enroll his children at Phillip High School – he is beat by a mob.	When Governor Faubus, the Arkansas governor, blocks nine black students from entering a Little Rock high school (after court-ordered integration), President Eisenhower sends over 10,000 troops to intervene.		Interracial athletics are banned in Georgia by the Georgia senate.
	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. Joseph E. Lowery co-found the <i>Southern Christian Leadership Conference</i> .			
1958	More black churches across the South are bombed.			

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1958 Cont.	Protesting school desegregation, the KKK burns 18 crosses in Jefferson County, AL.			
	10,000 students participate in the <i>Youth March for Integrated Schools</i> in Washington, D.C.			
1959	Dr. King visits India, to study Gandhi's principles of nonviolence.			
	Continuing to fight school desegregation, the KKK parades through black neighborhoods, and burns crosses at twenty-nine schools in Jefferson County.			
	In Prince Edward County, Virginia, public schools close down, rather than obey a court ordered desegregation order. (They will remain closed for 5 years.)			
1960	Sit-in protests start at a Woolworth's in North Carolina, when four black college students sit at a counter that will not serve blacks. The sit-ins spread across the south, to over 50 cities. They are followed up by "wade-ins" at segregated beaches, and "kneel-ins" at all-white churches.	President Eisenhower signs the <i>Civil Rights Act of 1960</i> , giving voting rights to all Americans, regardless of the color of their skin.		
	Six years after the Supreme Court has ordered them changed, the schools in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina remain segregated.			

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1960 Cont.	Elijah Muhammad pushes for a separate all-black state within the U.S. Malcolm X will try to work with the KKK to make the idea a reality.	Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. is arrested and jailed on yet another trumped up charge – this time it is for driving in Alabama with a Georgia license. (It is one of 20 times he will be jailed.)		
	College students in the north and the south form the SNCC organization to develop plans for nonviolent action by blacks and whites to counter segregation.			
	After a school in New Orleans, Louisiana fights court-ordered desegregation, 6-year-old Ruby Bridges becomes the first and only black student in attendance there.	Reverend Shuttlesworth's children are arrested while riding a Greyhound – the charge is violating school segregation laws.		
1961	In response to new federal laws prohibiting segregation on interstate transportation, <i>Freedom Rides</i> begin between Washington D.C. and New Orleans. (One of the buses is set on fire by a mob in Alabama.) Several hundred black and white "freedom riders" participate over the summer, none of whom make it safely to New Orleans, Louisiana.	President John F. Kennedy issues an executive order that creates a <i>Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity</i> and mentions "affirmative action" for the first time.		
	<i>"Jail-in"</i> : Nine sit-in demonstrators choose 30 days at hard labor, rather than paying bail.			
	City officials in Birmingham, Alabama vote to close public parks, playgrounds, and golf courses, rather than integrate them.			



	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1962	James Meredith enrolls as the first black student at the <i>University of Mississippi</i> . President Kennedy orders federal troops to the campus to protect him in the ensuing violence. (More than 20,000 troops are needed to stop the rioting on campus that results.)		As U.S. involvement in Vietnam escalates, all military reserve units (except National Guard) are ordered integrated.	Jackie Robinson is inducted in the <i>Baseball Hall of Fame</i> , the first black man so honored.
1963	Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other ministers are arrested during a protest march in Birmingham, in "Project C" (C for "confrontation"). While locked up yet again, Dr. King writes his famous "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" in response to the unsupportive white pastors.		At his inaugural address, Alabama governor George Wallace promises "segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever".	
	When hundreds of black children in Birmingham, who are preparing for another protest march, are attacked by police (with dogs) and firefighters (with hoses), the national outrage is tremendous.	In response to the many civil rights violations throughout the south, President Kennedy finally comes out strongly for Civil Rights. He submits a bill that will become the <i>Civil Rights Act of 1964</i> .		
	NAACP leader, Medgar Evers, is murdered in front of his home in Jackson, Mississippi. (The murderer is finally convicted in 1994, after a retrial.)			
	Over 250,000 people attend <i>The March on Washington</i> . Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. gives his "I Have a Dream" speech.			

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1963 Cont.	Two black students enroll at the University of Alabama. Governor Wallace, acting as University registrar, blocks the students from entering the school to register. President Kennedy calls out the Alabama National Guard, who order Wallace out of the way so the students can enter to register.			
	The <i>Sixteenth Street Baptist Church</i> in Birmingham is bombed; four young black girls are killed, again bringing a national outcry. The FBI investigates the case, identifies four suspects, and soon drops the case, claiming civil rights activists had bombed the church themselves. It will be almost 40 years before charges are finally brought against the four men.			
		President John F. Kennedy is assassinated; Lyndon B. Johnson becomes the new president.		
1964	Martin Luther King, Jr. receives The Nobel Peace Prize. He is also honored as <i>Times</i> "Man of the Year".	The 24 <sup>th</sup> Amendment bans poll taxes for national elections.		Cassius Clay wins the world heavy weight championship, converts to Islam, and changes his name to Muhammad Ali.
	Malcolm X gives his famous speech, "The Ballot or the Bullet".			
	During <i>Freedom Summer</i> , thousands of white, northern college students work to help get blacks registered to vote. (Much violence is associated with it, especially in Mississippi.) One of the things accomplished is the establishment of 41 <i>Freedom Schools</i> for black students.	President Johnson pushes hard for the <i>Civil Rights Act of 1964</i> . When he signs it, it is the most significant act of its kind to date. Segregation in public facilities and employment discrimination are both banned.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1964 Cont.	Three Civil Rights workers are stopped in Mississippi for speeding. They disappear and are later found murdered by the KKK. (Two were white, one was black.)			
	This is the first of four summers of massive race riots across the U.S.			
1965	<p>Jimmie Lee Jackson is killed in Selma, Alabama during a protest against voting rights violations.</p> <p>Race Riots lasting six days spread across Los Angeles, California.</p> <p>Malcolm X, a proponent of “non-peaceful” methods is assassinated.</p>	President Johnson pushes “affirmative action” in education and jobs as a temporary measure to get minorities on an even footing.		
	Reverend King leads three marches across Alabama from Selma towards Montgomery in protest of the voting rights violations. The first attempt includes 500 marchers and ends quickly on “Bloody Sunday”, when 50 marchers are hospitalized after being attacked by the police. Two days later, with 2,000 marchers, it ends at the bridge when police brutality becomes a reality again. The third march will wait over a month, until President Johnson provides protection for the more than 25,000 marchers who will make the 54 mile trek.	U.S. Justice Department files suit against Mississippi for their continued use of the “poll tax” to prevent blacks from voting.		
	<i>The Voting Rights Act of 1965</i> is signed by President Johnson – voter tests (which were preventing minorities from voting) are completely forbidden. In the first 19 days after its passage, more than 27,000 blacks register to vote in three Southern States.			
1966	The call for “Black Power” spreads through some black communities. The <i>Black Panther Party for Self-Defense</i> forms in response to the “Black Power” call.			

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1966 cont		President Johnson brings over 2,000 leaders together for a <i>White House Conference on Civil Rights</i> .		
		The <i>Civil Rights Bill of 1966</i> dies in the Senate after a filibuster by Southern senators.		
1967	Alabama is ordered to desegregate its public schools.			

*The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands  
in moments of comfort and convenience,  
but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.*  
-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1967 cont	Delegates at a Black Power Conference call for dividing the U.S. into two countries, one black and one white.	President Johnson appoints Thurgood Marshall (the NAACP lawyer instrumental in pursuing <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> case) as the first black Supreme Court Justice.	Muhammad Ali is convicted of draft evasion, and banned from boxing.	
1968	39-year-old Rev. Martin Luther King delivers his "I've been to the Mountaintop" speech in Memphis, TN.  The next day he is assassinated. Rioting occurs in more than 100 cities as a result.	<i>Civil Rights Act of 1968</i> (" <i>The Fair Housing Act</i> ") is signed by President Johnson. It outlaws discrimination in the housing market.	Tommie Smith and John Carlos take the Olympic victory platform barefoot to receive their gold and silver medals in the 200 meter sprint. During the U.S. National Anthem, they both give the Black Panther salute, for which they will be suspended from the U.S. team.	

*"We shall overcome."*  
The slogan of the Civil Rights Movement,  
and used by President Johnson in an address to Congress about Voting Rights  
Issues.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1969	The SNCC changes its name from <i>Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee</i> to <i>Student National Coordinating Committee</i> .	<p>Police kill two leaders of the <i>Black Panther Party</i> in a raid in Chicago, Illinois.</p> <p>The FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, declares the <i>Black Panther Party</i> to be “public enemy number one”.</p>		
1970		Governors in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana vow to fight school desegregation.		
1971		Supreme Court Decision: <i>Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education</i> . Court-ordered busing is upheld as a legitimate method of integrating schools.		The U.S. Supreme Court overturns Muhammad Ali’s draft evasion conviction, and allows him to return to boxing.
1973			The Vietnam War comes to an end.	
1974				Hank Aaron surpasses Babe Ruth’s Major League home run record. He will receive much hate mail from whites as a result.
1975				Muhammad Ali regains the heavyweight title.
1976				Jesse Owens is awarded the <i>Medal of Freedom</i> by President Ford.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1978	<i>Regents of the University of California v. Bakke</i> : A white male sues for “reverse discrimination” when his application for medical school is turned down two years in a row. The Supreme Court rules in a close decision that “inflexible quotas” are illegal, but leaves room for “affirmative action” to a point.			
1982		Wallace wins his fourth term as governor of Alabama, this time running on a platform of racial and religious tolerance.		
1983		President Regan signs the law making Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday a national holiday. (The bill had already been introduced into Congress and failed every year since King’s death in 1968.)		
1986	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is observed nationally for the first time.			
1990		The NFL cancels its plans to hold the 1993 Super Bowl in Arizona, because the state refuses to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.		

*“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”*

Martin Luther King, Jr.

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1990	Nelson Mandela is released from prison in South Africa where he has spent 28 years for opposing apartheid.			
1991	The NAACP opposes President Bush’s nomination of Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court – because Thomas is too conservative.			
1992	When four white police officers are acquitted after beating Rodney King, a black motorist, (an act that had been videotaped and televised), race riots spread across the city. More than 50 deaths and 17,000 arrests will occur during the three days of rioting.			
1995		Affirmative Action receives a blow when the U.S. Supreme Court rules that preferential treatment based on any race is almost always unconstitutional.		

	Society	Govt.	Military	Sports
1997		<i>Proposition 209</i> passes in California, the first state to thus end affirmative action: discrimination and preferential treatment of any kind are disallowed.		
2003		The U.S. Supreme Court allows the University of Michigan to continue to encourage minority law school applicants, but strikes down its point system that favors minorities in undergraduate admission.		
2007	The Supreme Court reaffirms that the government has a compelling interest in educational diversity at the same time it rules against the current use of race to determine school placement in Louisville, KY and Seattle, WA.			
2008	In what is seen by many as a historic civil rights victory, citizens of the United States elect the first black man as President of the United States.			