

Government in America (Pearson) Chapter 5

American Government: (Wilson) Chapter 6 **Institutions & Policies**

CIVIL RIGHTS

- **Civil liberties: Constitutional** protections against the gov't
- **Civil Rights: protections for** individuals and groups from discrimination by the government or other individuals
- Not until 1868 that "equality" is mentioned in the Constitution
- 14th Amendment: forbids states from denying "equal protection of the laws'
 - Equal protection clause has often been used to support the advancement of equality

14th Amendment

...nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the

STANDARDS OF REVIEW

- The courts have developed tests/ standards to evaluate whether a law violates the equal protection clause
- 1) Reasonable: law must NOT be arbitrary & reflect legit gov't purpose
- 2) Inherently suspect: classifications based on race and ethnicity are seen as inherently suspect
- Must prove there is a compelling public interest
- Must demonstrate no other way to achieve the legitimate purpose of the law
- 3) Intermediate scrutiny: laws that discriminate based on gender have a lower standard to meet
 - Example: law that restricts draft to only men has been ruled constitutional



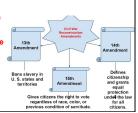
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AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS

- American slavery: nearly 250 years of slavery
- Chattel slavery
- Dred Scott v. Sandford (1857): slaves were property with NO legal rights under the Constitution
- 13th Amendment (1865): banned slavery
- Era of Reconstruction (1865-1877): temporary progress
- 14th Amendment: States must protect rights and provide "equal protection of the law" & "due process"
 - Declared all persons born in the U.S. are citizens of the US (adios Dred Scott)
- 15th Amendment= universal male suffrage. Right to vote could not be denied "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."





RESTRICTIONS ON CIVIL RIGHTS

- Official end of Reconstruction in 1876
- The Court has at times allowed the **RESTRICTION** of civil rights
- Segregation:
 - South: Jim Crow laws legalized racial segregation
 - De jure segregation: segregation mandated by law
 - North: De facto segregat
 - segregation exists, not required by law Federal gov't: segregation enforced in
- the military
- Civil Rights Cases (1883): the 14th amendment did NOT prevent private businesses or individuals from racial discrimination
- Plessy v. Ferguson (1896):
- segregation was not unconstitutional
 - "separate but equal"



AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS

- Truman used the powers of the Presidency (Executive Order 9981) to desegregate the armed forces
- Brown v. Board of Education I (1954): ruled that race based school segregation violates the 14th Amendment's equal protection clauses
 - Reversed "separate but equal" decision of Plessy
- Brown v. Board of Education II (1955): public schools must desegregate "with all deliberate speed"
- De jure (segregation by law) vs de facto discrimination (not required by



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- The civil rights movement utilized sustained non-violent disobedience to force change
- Television helped build support for the movement
- Civil Rights Act of 1964: discrimination by private business, state, or local governments is illegal
 - Can't discriminate in public accommodation and/or in employment
 - Established the Equal **Employment Opportunity Commission that banned** discrimination in employment & investigated violations



Civil Rights: The Right to Vote



- 15th Amendment (1870): guaranteed voting rights to black MEN
- Denial of the vote:
 - Literacy tests, poll taxes, grandfather clauses, white primary, and violence/ intimidation
- 24th Amendment (1964) outlawed collection of poll taxes
- Voting Rights Act 1965 ended efforts to prevent African Americans from voting in the south (literacy test banned)
 - Can't deny vote to a citizen because of race
 - Enforced by federal officials

THE RIGHTS OF OTHER MINORITY GROUPS

- Dawes Act of 1887 banned Native American religions, required children go to
 - boarding schools (policy of assimilation)

Native Americans: oldest minority group, the O.G. Americans

- Indian Citizenship Act of 1924: granted citizenship and the right to vote
- American Indian Movement fought discrimination
- Latinos (Hispanic Americans): largest minority group
 - Hernandez v. Texas (1954): Texas CANNOT stop Hispanics from serving on juries
- Issue of undocumented immigration & immigration policy

INDIAN	LAND	FOR	SALE		





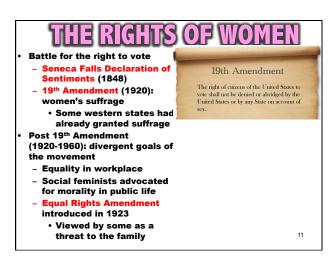
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THE RIGHTS OF OTHER MINORITY GROUPS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARM WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION Preside of San Frontier, California, California, California, California, California, California, California Asian Americans have also faced various forms of INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF discrimination Chinese Exclusion Act (1883): 1st major restriction APANESE on immigration- race based Korematsu v. United States (1944): internment of over All Ja 100m To No Ja 1942, wi 100,000 Japanese American **WAS** constitutional Arab Americans and Muslims: faced increased discrimination following 9/11

Military area (Exclusion Zone)



A revitalized women's movement grew during the 1950s and 60s. THE FEMININE Betty Friedan created the National Organization for Women (NOW). MYSTIQUE - Campaigned for Equal **Rights Amendment** (ERA) BETTY FRIEDAN **Equal Rights Amendment** fell 3 states short of ratification in 1972.

WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY

- Battle for workplace equality:
 - Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibited employment gender discrimination
 - Equal Pay Act of 1963 made it illegal to pay men and women different wages if they perform equal work in same workplace
 - Title IX of the Education Act of 1972 bans gender discrimination in education programs receiving federal money (including athletics)
- Sexual Harassment:
 - Prohibited by Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - Retaliation by employers is illegal
- Women in the military:
 - Serve in all branches of the military
 - Only men are required to register for the draft

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OTHER GROUPS UNDER THE CIVIL RIGHTS UMBRELLA

- 14th Amendment's equal protection clause used to fight discrimination
- "Graying of America"
 - Some protections against age discrimination
- People with Disabilities
 - Americans with Disabilities
 Act (ADA) of 1990:
 - Mandated "reasonable accommodations" be made for access to public facilities
 - Prohibited employment discrimination against the disabled



OTHER GROUPS UNDER THE CIVIL RIGHTS UMBRELLA

- LGBTQ Rights
 - Stonewall Riots (1969) gave rise to the modern gay rights movement
- Bowers v. Hardwick (1986): ruled that states could legally forbid sex between same sex couples
- Lawrence v. Texas (2003): states can't forbid private sexual conduct since this is a violation of the right to privacy
- "Don't ask, don't tell" policy ended in 2011
- Many states legalized same-sex marriage
- Obergefell v. Hodges (2015): same sex couples have a constitutional right to marry

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AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

- Giving priority to groups who were previously discriminated against
 - Goal is to increase opportunities
 - Controversial and hotly debated: "reverse discrimination?"
- Regents of the University of California v. Bakke (1978)
 - UC Davis had quotas for number of disadvantaged groups to be admitted
 - Court ruled that racial quotas are unconstitutional
 - BUT, race can be used a criterion for admission
- Continued debate about affirmative action
 - California Proposition 209: banned state affirmative action programs



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THE BIG IDEA

- 14th Amendment's requirement that no state denies the "equal protection of the laws" has allowed for substantial progress to be made in the realm of civil rights
- Protecting and enforcing civil rights has led to a large INCREASE in the power and size of government
- 14th amendment
- Brown v. Board of Education
- Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Voting Rights Act of 1965
- Americans with Disabilities Act



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