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Slide 1



## Civil Rights to 1920

Slide 2

**American Indians** 5.5

- Respect of Native American Land Rights?
- Northwest Ordinance of 1787 +
- Dawes Act 1887 -
- Native American Rights Fund (litigation)
- [Standing Rock](#)

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American Indians are the first true Americans, and their status under the law is unique. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 specified that "good faith should always be observed toward the Indians," and that their lands and property should be respected. That early respect soon faded, however, and Indians were forced off their lands to make way for the country's westward expansion. The Dawes Act forced assimilation by requiring, among other things, that children be sent away to boarding school.

Not until the 1960s did American Indians begin to mobilize. Activists, with the help of the Native American Rights Fund, began filing test cases and winning important victories involving tribal fishing rights, tribal land claims, and taxation of tribal profits. Activists also gained attention with the publication of the best-selling *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, which helped mobilize public support against oppression of American Indians the way *Uncle Tom's Cabin* had for slaves.



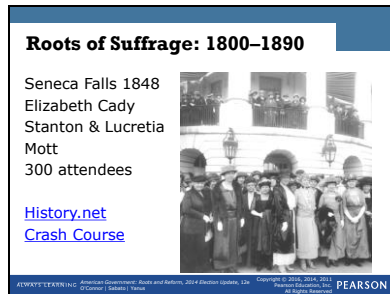
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## Slide 3



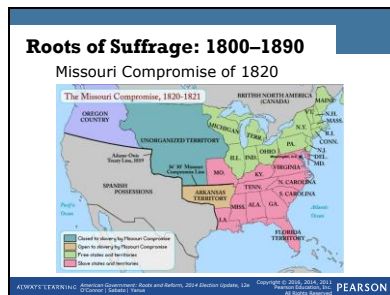
Indian children were forcibly removed from their homes beginning in the late 1800s and sent to boarding schools where they were pressured to give up their cultural traditions and tribal languages. Here, girls from the Yakima Nation in Washington State are pictured in front of such a school in 1913.

## Slide 4



When the Framers tried to compromise on the issue of slavery, they only postponed dealing with a volatile question that would ultimately rip the nation apart. Ultimately, the Civil War brought an end to slavery. Among its results were the triumph of the abolitionist position and the adoption of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments. During this period, women also sought expanded rights, especially the right to vote.

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Congress banned the slave trade in 1808, after expiration of the 20-year period specified by the Constitution. In 1820, blacks made up 25 percent of the U.S. population and formed the majority in some southern states. By 1840, that figure had fallen to 20 percent. After introduction of the cotton gin (a machine invented in 1793 that separated seeds from cotton very quickly), the South became even more dependent on agriculture, such as cotton, tobacco, and rice, with cheap slave labor as its economic base.



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Meanwhile, the North was becoming more industrialized. The conflict between the two regions intensified every time a new state was added to the Union. Would the new state be a slave state or a free state? When Missouri applied to be a slave state, Congress passed the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which prohibited slavery north of the geographical boundary at 36 degrees latitude.

While the Missouri Compromise solidified the South in its determination to keep slavery legal, it also inspired others to fight it. William Lloyd Garrison, a newspaper editor, galvanized the abolition movement in the 1830s. Garrison founded the American Anti-Slavery Society in 1833.

At the same time, some people began questioning the subordinate role assigned to women. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott began to compare their status as women to those of the former slaves. In 1848, they called for a women's rights convention, which became the Seneca Falls Convention.

The resolutions passed by the convention decried limited opportunities for women in education, politics, medicine and other fields. Similar conventions took place later across the Northeast and Midwest. At an 1851 meeting in Akron, Ohio, for example, former slave Sojourner Truth delivered her famous 'Ain't I a Woman?' speech, calling on women to recognize the plight of their black sisters.



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## Slide 6

**1850s & Slavery**

- Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe, sold 300,000 copies
- Dredd Scott v. Sandford 1857, slave cannot be a citizen/nullifies Missouri Compromise.



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## Slide 7

**The Civil War and Its Aftermath:  
Civil Rights Laws and  
Constitutional Amendments**

- Thirteenth Amendment
  - Black Codes = pre Jim Crow
- Fourteenth Amendment
  - Equal Protection Clause
- Fifteenth Amendment
  - Excluded women
  - National Woman Suffrage Association



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When President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, it freed only the slaves who lived in the Confederacy. Complete abolition of slavery didn't come until the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment following the end of the Civil War.

But the amendment was weakened by the laws, called Black Codes, that Southern states passed to restrict opportunities for newly freed slaves. Those laws prohibited African Americans from voting, sitting on juries or even appearing in public in some cases.

The Fourteenth Amendment guaranteed citizenship for all newly freed slaves, and included the "equal protection clause," which prohibits states from denying any person equal protection of the laws. Congress also passed the Fifteenth Amendment, which guaranteed newly freed male slaves the right to vote. Women were not included. An outraged Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton formed the National Woman Suffrage Association.




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**Civil Rights, Congress, and the Supreme Court**

- Civil Rights Act of 1875
  - Equal access to public accommodations
- Reconstruction (occupation of the South) ended 1877 so did protections
- Jim Crow laws
  - Poll taxes
  - Grandfather clause 1898-1915



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Continued southern resistance to African American equality led Congress to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1875, which was designed to give equal access to public accommodations such as theaters, restaurants, and transportation. But these efforts were weakened considerably in 1877, when Reconstruction ended and federal troops pulled out of the South.

With no troops around to enforce equal access, Southern states passed laws requiring discrimination and segregation, known as the Jim Crow laws. Examples included poll taxes, which required voters to pay to vote, literacy tests and other disenfranchising measures. Grandfather clauses, which granted voting rights only to those whose grandfathers had voted before Reconstruction, further decimated African American voting rights.

## Slide 9

**What did Jim Crow laws do?**

- Plessy v. Ferguson
  - Segregated railroad cars
  - Separate but equal ruling
  - Segregation legal
- NAACP est. 1909
  - Oswald Garrison Villard
  - W.E.B. Du Bois



Art Resource

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Throughout the South, examples of Jim Crow laws abounded. As noted in the text, there were Jim Crow schools, restaurants, hotels, and businesses. Some buildings even had separate “white” and “colored” facilities, such as the public drinking fountains shown here. Notice the obvious difference in quality.

Following the adoption of the Jim Crow laws and the weakening of the protections of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, progressives began worrying more loudly about the plight of the "Negro." Race riots had already happened, and many feared they would get worse. Oswald



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Garrison Villard, the influential publisher of the *New York Evening Post*—and the grandson of William Lloyd Garrison—called a conference to discuss the matter. This group soon evolved into the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Along with Villard, its first leaders included W.E.B. Du Bois.

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**The First Civil Rights Movement:  
Abolition and Women's Rights**

- The American Anti-Slavery Society
  - William Lloyd Garrison
  - Arthur Tappan
- Seneca Falls Convention
  - Elizabeth Cady Stanton
  - Lucretia Mott
- Sojourner Truth: 'Ain't I a Woman?'



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W.E.B. Du Bois is pictured with the other original leaders of the Niagara Movement. This 1905 photo was taken on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls because no hotel on the American side would accommodate the group's African American members. The meeting detailed a list of injustices suffered by African Americans.

## Slide 12



The struggle for women's rights was reenergized in 1890, when the National and American Woman Suffrage Associations merged to become the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) and was headed by Susan B. Anthony.

This new group, along with the National Woman's Party, focused almost exclusively on securing the Nineteenth Amendment, and at times took on racist and nativist tones. If uneducated African American men and immigrants could vote, why not women, some suffragists asked.

NAWSA was able to narrow its focus because so many other women's groups were springing up to push for other issues such as better working conditions for women and the prohibition of alcohol. The National Consumers League in particular lobbied for better working conditions, including a 10-hour workday for women. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union sought limits on alcohol.



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Members of the National Woman's Party engaged in a number of radical protest tactics in order to win the right to vote. Here, they are shown protesting in front of the White House; eventually, these demonstrators were arrested, jailed, and even force-fed in an attempt to stop their resistance.

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**Exit Question** 5

In what way or ways has the fight for civil rights been the same for different groups?



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