

# Events of the Civil Rights Movement

## The Montgomery Bus Boycott

- In 1955, \_\_\_\_\_ arrest for disobeying an Alabama law requiring segregation on city buses sparked the \_\_\_\_\_ Boycott
  - Minister Martin Luther King, Jr. organized a 381-day \_\_\_\_\_ of the bus system to protest segregation
  - The boycott led to the \_\_\_\_\_ of city buses & to the rise of \_\_\_\_\_ as the leader of black civil rights
- The success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott led MLK to form the \_\_\_\_\_ Conference (SCLC) in 1957:
  - The SCLC was formed to use activism & \_\_\_\_\_ protest to bring an end to segregation
  - The SCLC soon overtook the \_\_\_\_\_ as the leading civil rights group in America



## Activism Through Non-Violent Protest

- \_\_\_\_\_ non-violent approach inspired other groups to act
- The Sit-in Movement & the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)
  - In 1960, students from NC A+Tied a \_\_\_\_\_ at a segregated lunch counter in Greensboro, NC
  - The "sit-in" movement led to the \_\_\_\_\_ coordinating committee (SNCC)
- The Freedom Rides, 1961
  - In 1961 " \_\_\_\_\_ " rode \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the south to test whether integration orders were being enforced
  - Freedom riders faced arrest & \_\_\_\_\_ but exposed the lack of enforcement of desegregation laws in the Deep South



## "The most segregated city in America"

- In 1963, MLK organized a march to integrate Birmingham, Alabama
- MLK's strategy was to \_\_\_\_\_ segregation through \_\_\_\_\_ marches, rallies, & boycotts
- Birmingham Police commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ used violence to suppress the demonstrations
- "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"
  - During the march in Birmingham, MLK was \_\_\_\_\_
  - While in jail, MLK wrote an open \_\_\_\_\_ called "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" in response to white leaders who believed King was pushing \_\_\_\_\_ towards civil rights



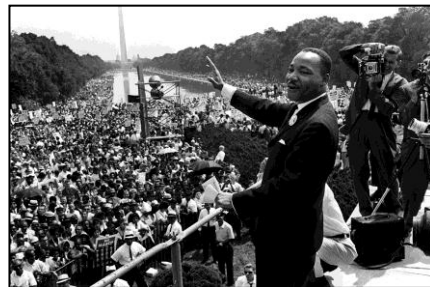
**\*The Birmingham march was a \_\_\_\_\_ in the Civil Rights movement:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ reports of the violence in Birmingham made it difficult for average Americans to \_\_\_\_\_ segregation
- Public outrage over police brutality forced Birmingham officials to \_\_\_\_\_
- Events in Birmingham revealed the need for greater action by the \_\_\_\_\_
- Among those watching the violence on TV was President \_\_\_\_\_ who committed to a national civil rights act to end discrimination

## Civil Rights Act of 1964

In 1963, civil rights leaders led a March on \_\_\_\_\_ to pressure Congress to pass a civil rights bill

- \_\_\_\_\_ people assembled in Washington DC to hear speakers including MLK
- MLK delivered his "\_\_\_\_\_ " speech about a future without prejudice or racial segregation
- By 1963, the momentum of the civil rights movement caused President Kennedy to draft a \_\_\_\_\_ bill that would \_\_\_\_\_ all segregation:
  - But, before the law could be \_\_\_\_\_, President Kennedy was \_\_\_\_\_ in November 1963
  - VP \_\_\_\_\_ assumed the presidency & pushed the bill through Congress
- New president Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964
  - The law outlawed \_\_\_\_\_ based on race, religion, & gender & ended most \_\_\_\_\_ laws
  - The law \_\_\_\_\_ restaurants & hotels & gave the \_\_\_\_\_ power to sue businesses that failed to comply with the law



## Voting Rights, Freedom Summer, and March in Selma

- Despite the success of the Civil Rights Act, African American leaders were not satisfied because the law did not protect
  - southern state governments used \_\_\_\_\_ tests & \_\_\_\_\_ taxes to restrict black citizens from voting
  - In most southern states, less than half of eligible African Americans were \_\_\_\_\_ to vote
- Civil rights leaders responded with new initiatives to bring voting rights
  - In 1964, white & black college students took part in \_\_\_\_\_ to help register African American voters in Mississippi
  - In 1965, \_\_\_\_\_ organized a march in \_\_\_\_\_, Alabama to protest voting restrictions
  - Police \_\_\_\_\_ at Selma convinced President Johnson to push for a new federal voting law
- After the Selma march, LBJ signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965:
  - Banned \_\_\_\_\_ & sent federal voting officials into the South to protect voters
  - \_\_\_\_\_ & turnout increased among black citizens
  - African Americans elected black \_\_\_\_\_ for the 1<sup>st</sup> time since Reconstruction (1865-1877)



Conclusions: The Civil Rights movement of the 1950s & 1960s finally brought an end to segregation

- African Americans brought an end to segregation and gained \_\_\_\_\_
- The Civil Rights movement inspired other \_\_\_\_\_ to demand equality

## "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" Document Analysis

- WHAT ARE THE CRITICISMS FROM WHITE CLERGYMEN IN BIRMINGHAM THAT DR. KING IS RESPONDING TO?
- WHY DOES DR. KING SAY THAT CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS "HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE" BUT TO DEMONSTRATE IN BIRMINGHAM?
- LIST THREE REASONS DR. KING GIVES IN THE LETTER AS TO WHY THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT CANNOT "WAIT".