



#8642

BLACK AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES
VOLUME 5:

MODERN HISTORY

Grade Levels: 8-13+

40 minutes

PHOENIX MULTIMEDIA, INC. 1999

DESCRIPTION

Uses narration and still photos to explore the contributions and societal issues of African-Americans from 1970-1998. Basically follows a chronology of events in sports, arts and entertainment, education, affirmative action, politics, and law. Names prominent Blacks and their efforts toward more consistent civil rights. Mentions Kwanzaa, rap, sciences and health concerns; and notes the often slow but steady movement toward equality.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Historical Understanding

- ◆ Standard: Understands the historical perspective
 - Benchmark: Analyzes the values held by specific people who influenced history and the role their values played in influencing history
 - Benchmark: Analyzes the influence specific ideas and beliefs had on a period of history

Subject Area: United States History

- ◆ Standard: Understands economic, social, and cultural developments in the contemporary United States
 - Benchmark: Understands major contemporary social issues and the groups involved

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To explore changes within the African-American community in the 1970s, 80s and 90s.
2. To introduce the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and affirmative action.
3. To present influential African Americans who have and continue to influence the lives of many Americans.

VOCABULARY

1. affirmative action
2. busing
3. "filling quotas"
4. redistricting
5. separatism
6. "white flight"

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Discuss the oppression of people throughout history.
2. Discuss current issues minorities face in the United States.
3. Discuss vocabulary words utilized in the video.



AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What is the importance of the following to African-American history?
 - a. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
 - b. Busing and redistricting
 - c. Louis Farrakan
 - d. The Million Man March
 - e. Affirmative action
 - f. Jesse Jackson
 - g. Rodney King & the South Central riots
 - h. Colin Powell
 - i. Kwanzaa
 - j. Black Entertainment Television
 - k. Dr. Mae Jemison
2. Discuss oppression in the United States.
 - a. What groups have been oppressed in the United States?
 - b. Examine the history of discrimination against African Americans in the United States.
 - c. Discuss the effects of discrimination.
3. Discuss ways to overcome prejudice.



Applications and Activities

1. Create a list of groups who have battled oppression throughout history.
2. Create a timeline of the advances and setbacks faced by African Americans throughout their journey for equality in the United States.

3. Lead a class discussion about the similarities and differences of the struggle for equality for the African-American and the Deaf communities.
4. Create a list of the laws and organizations created to assist in guaranteeing the rights of African Americans.
5. Research the history of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Lead a class discussion on the importance of the Commission, their work and affirmative action.
6. The video mentions a number of influential African-American athletes, politicians and artists. Write a research paper about one of those mentioned and the challenges they have faced.
7. Learn the story behind the Civil Rights Memorial via the Internet: <http://www.splcenter.org/centerinfo/ci-index.html> and visit the online version of the memorial.
8. Construct a bulletin board celebrating the life of an influential person mentioned in the video.
9. Compare and contrast the ideas and visions of the following: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Black Panthers, Malcolm X and Louis Farrakan.
10. Compare and contrast the plight of African Americans to other minorities in the United States.
11. Research a Kwanzaa celebration and have students prepare and present different aspects of the celebration.
12. Compare and contrast the health statistics of African Americans to others.
13. Research and discuss the influence of Rap music on American culture.
14. Construct a bulletin board promoting multiculturalism.

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Black American History Series Volume 4: Civil Rights #8641
- We Shall Overcome: A History of the Civil Rights Movement #2695



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid-safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **AFRICANA.COM**
<http://www.africana.com/index.htm>
- **THE AFRICAN AMERICAN JOURNEY**
<http://www.worldbook.com/fun/ajourney/html/index>
- **U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC)**
<http://www.eeoc.gov>
- **KWANZAA INFORMATION CENTER**
<http://www.melanet.com/kwanzaa/>
- **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP)**
<http://www.naacp.org/index.shtml>