

# African-American Ethnogenesis: From Slavery to Reconstruction to Jim Crow to Civil Rights

**1619 - 1865      The Ante-Bellum Period: Chattel Slavery and “Free Negroes”**

**1865 - 1877      The Reconstruction Period: 4 Million Freedmen**

- a) 13th Amendment (1865) -- Abolition of slavery
- b) Reconstruction Act (1867) -- Military Governors installed over Southern States to safeguard freedmen
- c) 14th Amendment (1868) -- Due process and equal protection
- d) 15th Amendment (1870) -- Voting rights extended to Blacks
- e) Civil Rights Act of 1875 -- Public desegregation statute

**1878 - 1950s      The “Jim Crow” Era: Racial Segregation From Cradle to Grave**

- a) Denial of Black suffrage -- (*Williams v. Mississippi*, 1898) upholds poll taxes and literacy tests
- b) Public transportation is lawfully segregated through case law in the *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896) case
- c) **NAACP** founded in 1909
- d) Public school segregation – the “separate and equal doctrine” is embraced
- e) Denial of Black jury service through the usage of “peremptory strikes”
- f) Housing segregation enforced by application of “racial covenants”
- g) Exclusion of Blacks from major labor unions and other voluntary organizations
- h) Exclusion of Blacks from federally subsidized home loans (FHA)

**1954-1965      The Movement: The Civil Rights Era**

- a) Donald Gaines Murray Case (1935)
- b) Jackie Robinson desegregates professional baseball by joining the Brooklyn Dodgers (1947)
- c) Truman’s desegregation of the US Armed Forces (1948)
- d) *Shelley v. Kraemer* (1948)
- e) *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* (1954)
- f) Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott -- Rosa Parks (1955)
- g) March on Washington (1963)
- h) Freedom Summer Mississippi -- Chaney, Swerner, and Goodman killed
- i) Civil Rights Act of 1964
- j) Voting Rights Act of 1965
- k) Fair Housing Act of 1968