The Civil Rights Era

Outcome: The Movement Makes Gains
Linda Brown
1. Brown v. Board of Education (*personal statement* & *legal action*).
   a. 2nd grader Linda Brown attended black school in Topeka, Kansas --> **farther** away and much **poorer** facility than white school; separate was **NOT** equal
   b. Case was argued by NAACP lawyer **Thurgood Marshall**
   c. 1954 case Brown v. Board of Ed. **overturned** standard of “separate but equal” with 9-0 ruling
   d. This was beginning of the **end** for **segregation**
The Movement Makes Gains

2. Montgomery Bus Boycotts (*civil disobedience* & *economic pressure*)
   a. Began 100 days after murder of *Emmett Till*
   b. In 1955, Rosa Parks *refused* to give up her seat on a bus to a white rider and was *arrested*
   c. Blacks in Montgomery responded with massive bus *boycott* that lasted *381* days
   d. *MLK* got his start in the movement by leading the boycott
   e. *Victory*: Busses in Montgomery were *desegregated*
The Movement Makes Gains

3. Brown v. Board of Ed. II
   a. Supreme Court ruled in 1955 that all public schools must integrate “with all deliberate speed”
   b. Met with massive resistance in the south
Crisis at Little Rock Central
The Movement Makes Gains

4. Crisis at Little Rock Central (*personal statement & legal action*)
   a. The Little Rock Nine: **Nine black** students chosen to break the color barrier at Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas in 1957
   b. **Governor** Orval Faubus deployed Arkansas National Guard to **prevent** the students from entering; claimed **State’s rights**
   c. President **Eisenhower** supported Federal government’s decision to integrate and sent 101\textsuperscript{st} Airborn Division of US Army to assist the students in entering the school
   d. Proved **Federalism was stronger** than State’s Rights
   e. Victory for **integration** & **federalism**
The Little Rock 9
Escorted by Troops
States’ Rights vs. Federalism

Orval Faubus

President Eisenhower
Sit-ins
The Movement Makes Gains

5. Sit-Ins (*civil disobedience*)
   
   a. Typically Southern lunch counters did **not serve** blacks
   
   b. The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (**SNCC**) staged several **sit-ins** in Greensboro, NC and Nashville, TN
   
   c. **Peacefully sat** at lunch counters all day; eventually met with **violence/arrests**
   
   d. **Victory**: Lunch counters **started serving** blacks
The Movement Makes Gains

6. Freedom Riders (*personal statement, legal action*)
   a. **Bus facilities** for interstate travel were **segregated**
   b. Blacks and whites known as **Freedom Riders** travelled on busses throughout the South to protest
   c. **Victory**: The Interstate Commerce Committee **desegregated** bus facilities
Freedom Riders
BACKGROUND MAP

1961 FREEDOM RIDES

* Violence

- APRIL 22
- MAY 4
- MAY 17
- JUNE 13
- JUNE 13
- JULY 8
- AUG 2
- NOV 1
- NOV 29
- DEC 1
James Meredith
6. **James Meredith** *(personal statement & legal action)*

   a. Attempts to enroll in **all white** University of **Mississippi** (Ole Miss)
   b. Gov. Ross Barnett claims State’s Rights to **prevent** integration
   c. JFK sends in **5,000 troops** to ensure admission (riots leave 2 dead)
   d. **Victory** for **integration** and **federalism**
8. Birmingham 1963 aka Bombingham
   a. Known as “most segregated city in the South;” protesters target city
   b. 18 bombings occur between 1957 and 1963
   c. MLK Jr & SCLC hold marches and are arrested
   d. Police Chief Bull Connor uses dogs and water hoses on the protesters; caught on TV and horrifies the nation
   e. JFK: “Segregation is now everyone’s problem”
   f. Victory: JFK proposes Civil Rights Bill
The Movement Makes Gains

8. March on Washington 1963 *(group demonstration & legal action)*
   a. **200,000** protesters attempt to pressure Congress to pass JFK’s proposed Civil Rights bill
   b. Martin Luther King gives his “*I have a Dream*” speech
   c. **Victory**: Lyndon Johnson passes Civil Rights Act of 1964 *forbidding* segregation in all *public* places.
The Movement Makes Gains

10. Mississippi Freedom Summer Project 1964 (martyrdom)
   a. Goal was to register blacks to vote
   b. Victory: 1200 new voters registered
   c. Unfortunately, 3 civil rights workers killed
Marches from Selma
The Movement Makes Gains

10. Marches from Selma 1965 (group demonstration)
   a. MLK organizes voter registration march from Selma to Montgomery
   b. Gov. Wallace attempts to stop the march; police use tear gas and clubs
   c. LBJ sends in troops to protect marchers
   d. Victory: Pressure leads to Voting Rights Act of 1965; V.R. goes up 50%