

# CIVIL Rights Movement

## CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964



### CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

The presidential race of 1960, John F. Kennedy emerged as a candidate with a vision for transforming the nation. Promising a time of change, Kennedy aimed to address the needs of citizens, particularly focusing on those living in poverty, particularly African Americans. He acknowledged the need for equality for African Americans, emphasizing the oppression in the South and the need for change and equality during his life. Despite facing ongoing challenges, Kennedy garnered significant support, with his administration implementing significant changes for African Americans.

As the bill moved through the legislative process, it faced opposition from segregationists and those who opposed the bill's provisions. Kennedy's administration was criticized for its perceived inaction on civil rights. However, Kennedy's leadership and the support of his administration were instrumental in the passage of the bill.

On July 2, 1964, President Kennedy signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law. This landmark legislation prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in employment, public accommodations, and federal government services. The act also established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to enforce the provisions of the act.



**PASSING**  
President Johnson faced formidable challenges in pushing the comprehensive civil rights bill through Congress. Southern lawmakers strongly opposed the act, with one senator famously stating, "I don't think we should have any more niggers in this country."



### THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

Comprehension Questions  
1. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson.  
2. The act prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in employment, public accommodations, and federal government services.  
3. The act established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to enforce the provisions of the act.

**NO-PREP & EDITABLE**

# READING COMPREHENSION



## CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

In the presidential race of 1960, John F. Kennedy emerged as a candidate with a vision for transforming the nation. Promising a time of change, Kennedy aimed to address the needs of all citizens, particularly focusing on those living in poverty and African Americans. He acknowledged the unfulfilled promise of equality for African Americans after the Civil War, emphasizing the persisting issues, such as voter suppression in the South and the impact of Jim Crow laws on daily life. Despite facing ongoing challenges, Kennedy's dedication to civil rights garnered significant support, with 70% of African Americans voting for him in the 1960 election.



### LACK OF PROGRESS

Despite John F. Kennedy's promise in the 1960 presidential campaign, during the initial years of his presidency, progress from Southern lawmakers and to take substantial action. It was not until after he took office that he began intensifying efforts for the hardships faced by African Americans. Kennedy aimed to address segregation, but his assassination in November 1963 delayed the civil rights bill. Lyndon Johnson took up the cause and declared a renewed push for civil rights legislation.

### ASSASSINATION

Following President Kennedy's assassination, leaders were unsure about the future of the Lyndon Johnson, Kennedy's successor in leadership, leaving doubts about whether Johnson surprised many by passing the civil rights bill as a lasting tribute to Kennedy's commitment. This period marked a reassured civil rights period in the legislative process.

### PASSING

President Johnson faced formidable challenges in pushing the comprehensive civil rights bill through Congress. Southern lawmakers strongly opposed the act, with one senator voting to fight against racial integration. In the House of Representatives, the Civil Rights Act passed with a vote of 290-130 in February 1964. However, the Senate presented a tougher battleground, with a tactic to block the bill. Southern senators initiated a filibuster, and the Senate eventually dismissed the filibuster's impact. President Johnson strategically diminished the filibuster's impact by lobbying Southern senators from all faiths and backgrounds to lobby for its passage. This concerted effort proved successful, and the Senate eventually voted 73-27 in favor of the Civil Rights Act. On July 2, 1964, President Johnson signed the historic bill into law, marking a significant triumph for the civil rights movement.



### ACT

The Civil Rights Act of 1964, signed into law on July 2, was a historic breakthrough. This transformative legislation made racial discrimination illegal in public places, covering restaurants, theaters, hotels, and other facilities, challenging employers to offer fair pay to individuals of all races. Additionally, the Act aligned voting laws across the nation and empowered the Federal government to withhold funds from states failing to comply. This comprehensive set of laws marked the most substantial federal intervention since the adoption of the Constitution in 1787, setting the stage for significant changes in civil rights.

### EFFECTS

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 had profound effects on the struggle for equality. Making racial discrimination illegal in public places, it paved the way for equal opportunities in employment and aligned voting laws. The establishment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the introduction of affirmative action marked significant steps. While not an instant solution, the Act addressed pressing issues, and its legacy contributed to ongoing changes in civil rights. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 further enhanced these efforts by increasing African American voter participation.



READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W  
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

## Comprehension Questions

**DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.**

1. When was the Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed into law?

- a. 1963
- b. 1964
- c. 1965
- d. 1966

2. What did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 make illegal in public places?

- a. Gender discrimination
- b. Racial discrimination
- c. Religious discrimination
- d. Age discrimination

3. Who signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law?

- a. John F. Kennedy
- b. Lyndon Johnson
- c. Martin Luther King Jr.

- a. Voting laws
- b. Education policies
- c. Desegregation
- d. All of the above

4. How did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 enforce compliance with its provisions?

- a. Federal Courts
- b. State Courts
- c. Local Courts
- d. All of the above

5. How did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 lay the foundation for the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1967?

a. Title VII

b. Title VIII

c. Title IX

d. Title X

6. What was the primary purpose of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 specifically?

- a. To eliminate racial discrimination in public places
- b. To prohibit racial discrimination in public places
- c. To ensure equal employment opportunities for African Americans
- d. To ensure equal housing opportunities for African Americans

7. What is the lasting legacy of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

- a. Changes in civil rights laws
- b. Changes in segregation laws
- c. Impact on equality in public places
- d. Progress in justice

8. What are the main provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and how it impact racial discrimination in public places?

- a. Title I (EEOC) and its role in preventing on-the-job discrimination
- b. Title II (EEOC) and its role in preventing on-the-job discrimination
- c. Title III (EEOC) and its role in preventing on-the-job discrimination
- d. Title IV (EEOC) and its role in preventing on-the-job discrimination

9. How did the challenges faced by President Lyndon Johnson in passing the Civil Rights Act, especially considering strong Southern opposition, address these challenges?

- a. The impact of the Civil Rights Act on employment opportunities
- b. The impact of the Civil Rights Act on employment opportunities
- c. The impact of the Civil Rights Act on employment opportunities
- d. The impact of the Civil Rights Act on employment opportunities

## Answers Key

### MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS:

1. When was the Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed into law?  
Answer: b. 1964 (mentioned in the "Passing the Bill" section)

2. What did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 make illegal in public places?  
Answer: b. Racial discrimination (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

3. Who signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law?  
Answer: b. Lyndon Johnson (mentioned in the "Assassination" section)

4. What did the Act mandate in terms of employment opportunities?  
Answer: a. Equal pay for equal work (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

5. What was the purpose of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)?  
Answer: b. Preventing on-the-job discrimination (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

6. What did the Civil Rights Act aim to align between the North and the South?  
Answer: a. Voting laws (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

7. How did the Act enforce compliance with its provisions?  
Answer: b. Withholding Federal Funds (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

8. What policy did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 lay the foundation for?  
Answer: b. Affirmative action (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

9. What challenge did the Voting Rights Act of 1965 specifically address?  
Answer: a. Voting obstacles faced by African Americans (mentioned in the "Effects: A Landmark Victory For Civil Rights" section)

employment

ment Opportunity

een the North

MCQ'S & QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

**READY TO PRINT**

**NO-PREP !**

**JUST PRINT AND GO!**



**EASY EDITING**

**EDITABLE**

**\*FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

