

Civil Rights Movement Packet

High School / College



TRUMBULL
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Voices Oral History Project

Introduction

In this packet students will explore topics and themes related to The Civil Rights Movement, a decades long struggle by Black Americans to end institutionalized racism in the United States in the 1950s-1960s. People like Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, the Little Rock Nine, the Freedom Riders, and others, fought to end formal and informal segregation and gain equal voting rights for Black Americans. This packet provides resources to understand why the Civil Rights

Movement occurred, how leaders in the Black community and everyday citizens reacted to the events at the time, and how the Civil Rights Movement is still relevant and with us today.



01



02

i. **Cover:** The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X meet at the U.S. Senate on March 26, 1964, after a hearing on the 1964 Civil Rights Act **The Library of Congress**

01. A Young Woman Holds a Banner at the Civil Rights March on Washington, D.C., on August 28, 1963 U.S. **National Archives and Records Administration/Wikimedia Commons**
02. Civil rights march on Washington, D.C. **Library of Congress**
03. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. addressing the crowd during Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in Washington, D.C., 1957 **Leonard Freed; Library of Congress**



03

Voice Interviews / Primary & Secondary Sources

Voice Interviews

Violet Clark discusses attending the march on Washington

<https://bit.ly/3jtzmOg>

Mary Wright discusses her involvement with local civil rights organizations

<https://bit.ly/2YYycBa>

Herbert Caldwell discusses the local movement to support Marcus Garvey

<https://bit.ly/3p2LbfJ>

Eugene Dawson talks about segregation during the Civil Rights Movement

<https://bit.ly/2YWCPvp>

Primary Sources

Non-violence vs. Jim Crow

<https://bit.ly/3cWrUKm>

How the Black Panther Party was Organized

<https://bit.ly/39YXrcI>

Call to Negro America to March on Washington for Jobs and Equal Participation in National Defense, 1941

<https://bit.ly/3tErjTx>

Documented Rights Exhibit, U.S. National Archives

<https://bit.ly/3rtXFyk>

Freedom Summer Digital Collection

<https://bit.ly/3jw55yp>

Civil Rights Digital Library

<https://bit.ly/2MEdu7a>

Black Panther's Digital Collection

<https://bit.ly/2YUge2J>

Veterans and the Civil Rights Movement

<https://bit.ly/2MEdXWY>

Negro Traveler's Green Book

<https://on.nypl.org/3q3NRuG>

Martin Luther King's article, "Nonviolence and Racial Justice"

<https://stanford.io/2Z3J5Br>

Secondary Sources

Podcast featuring a variety of Civil Rights themes

<https://wapo.st/2OjIH0t>

Collective of resources on a variety of Civil Rights topics

<https://bit.ly/3aKAucD>



05



06



07



08



Writing Prompts / Activities

01.

How powerful are we? An individual is powerless to change society. An individual has the power to change society. Which statement does the history of the civil rights movement most support? Draw on specific evidence from the civil rights movement to support your answer.

02.

How is the struggle against the forces of injustice to be waged? In the essay "Nonviolence and Racial Justice" (1957), Martin Luther King, Jr., asks, "How is the struggle against the forces of injustice to be waged?" Answer his question by arguing which strategies best helped civil rights activists achieve the goal of overcoming

injustice. Draw on specific evidence from the civil rights movement to support your answer. What would your dream world be like?

03.

Watch the video *White Resistance*, found here:

<https://bit.ly/3q5RLn4>

The term white supremacy refers to a system that maintains legal, political, and economic privilege for whites. It includes, for example, discriminatory laws against African Americans and other people of color; an absence of protection for such groups; police and other public servants who enforce discriminatory laws; and individual citizens who obey those laws.

Can you cite examples from the past or present that support this definition? (Look for examples throughout the lesson.)

What was the purpose of racial segregation? What is the first image that comes to mind when you think about whites who actively opposed racial desegregation?

04.

Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement Activity:

<https://bit.ly/3rCV9G2>

05. Malcolm X waits at Martin Luther King press conference, head-and-shoulders portrait **Trikosko, Marion S; U.S. News & World Report Magazine Photograph Collection**
06. On March 21st, demonstrators began marching from Selma to Montgomery for voting rights. When they reached the Alabama State Capitol Building, their numbers exceeded 25,000, 1965 **Wikimedia; Selma to Montgomery National History Trail Archive**
07. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, 2017 **Wikimedia**
08. Monument to Martin Luther King Jr. **Theodore Grenz**



ii.

- i. Policeman maintains watch from roof of Unity funeral home where body of Malcolm X is reposing, 1965 **Orlando Fernandez; World Telegram & Sun**
- ii. Martin Luther King Jr. during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, during which he delivered his historic "I Have a Dream" speech, calling for an end to racism, 1963 **National Archives at College Park; Still Picture Records Section, Special Media Archives Services Division (NWCS-S)**

