



***Civil Liberties and
Civil Rights***

Government

Civil Rights

Obligations that government has to protect citizens from discrimination and to guarantee equal citizenship

Fourteenth Amendment

Equal Protection Clause

No state may deny any person equal protection of the law.

Discrimination Categories

- *Race*
- *Gender*
- *Age*
- *Disability*
- *Sexual Orientation*

Racial Discrimination

Segregation Cases

- **Plessy v. Ferguson**
 - Allowed segregation through the “separate but equal” doctrine
 - Tried to fight segregation on train cars. Supreme Court said if facilities were equal, it was acceptable to separate by race.
- **Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka**
 - Overturned Plessy; integration of public schools “with all deliberate speed”

Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Stopped public segregation, job discrimination
 - Extended to all racial, religious, gender and ethnic minorities
 - Now applied to disabled, elderly, homosexuals

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- Ensured minority right to vote
- Worked to end poll taxes, literacy tests, grandfather clauses, etc...

Women's Suffrage Movement

- Led by Susan B. Anthony – Organized Women's Rights Convention in 1848
- 19th Amendment – Right to vote - 1920
- **Comparable Worth** – Equal pay for equal work - 1963
- **Equal Rights Amendment** – Guarantee for equality (states said already in 14th)
 - Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Affirmative Action

- Aimed at increasing representation of women and minorities
 - Used in college admission and job hiring
 - Ranges from recruiting efforts to the use of quotas
- Reverse Discrimination
 - Discrimination against a MAJORITY group
 - Regents of the **University of California v. Bakke**