

Lesson Plans for African-American History

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“Stony the Road We Trod Institute 2019”

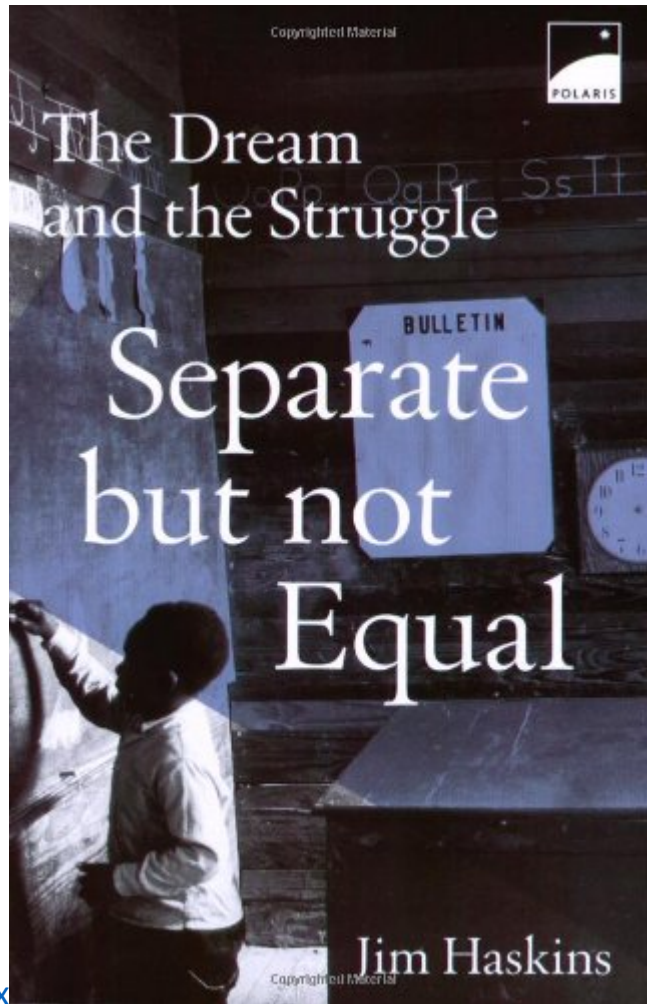
Group Concept- Institutionalization

Lesson Plan Title- From Plessy to Brown

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Subject: African-American History

Images: [Separate but equal](#)



[Images.docx](#)

Introduction- The events leading up to the Landmark Decision of Plessy v. Ferguson of 1896 related to Homer Plessy wanting to sit in a passenger car on a train allotted only to White passengers. Plessy challenged the separate but equal doctrine on a New Orleans train stating that it was unconstitutional. Plessy lost his case based on Social status of the Negro compared to Whites. This caused Southern states to implement more harsh segregation laws against Negroes. This cultural way of life for White Southerners will be challenged in the Landmark Decision of Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas 1954. This case will challenge the separate but equal doctrine relating to public schools in the south. The attorney for the Brown family will be Civil Rights attorney, Thurgood Marshall. He and other Civil Rights attorneys will be successful in arguing the case before the U.S. Supreme court. The Supreme Court will rule to end segregation in public schools. The major theme that will shape the instruction of this topic will be segregation in the south after Plessy compared to segregation of the south after Brown.

The lesson will include a review of the events leading up to the Landmark U.S. Supreme Court case of Plessy v. Ferguson of 1896. The events that happen in the south after the decision. The events leading up to the Landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Brown v. Board of Education and the aftermath of the decision in the south. The goals will be to get my students to think critically about these U.S. Supreme Court decisions and how they changed the course of American legal history relating to the rights of Black Americans.

Guiding Questions:

1. Why did Adolf Homer Plessy challenge segregation on train cars in New Orleans back 1892?
2. What was the outcome of the case in Plessy v. Ferguson?
3. How did the decision affect the way of life of Black Americans in the south?
4. What was the purpose of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case: Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas 1954?

Learning Objective: Lifestyle for Black Americans in the South after the Plessy decision compared to the lifestyle of Black Americans in the South after the Brown decision.

Class Periods- All African-American History classes (90 minutes)

Lesson Plan Details- Florida Sunshine State Standards: (SS 912A.2.5) How Jim Crow laws influenced life for Black Americans.

Preparation, Lesson Activities and Assessment- 1) Teacher will give a 10 minute introduction of the lesson relating to the lesson plan title. 2)Teacher will give 20 minutes of instruction on the U.S. Supreme Court cases: Plessy v. Ferguson and Brown v. Board of Education using the guiding questions listed above. 3) Students will be placed in 2 groups with one group doing research on the Plessy decision and the other group doing research on the Brown decision. Students will be required to find at least two events leading up to each case. Students must list the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in each case. Students must list whether they agree with the decision and how that decision changed the course of American legal history. 4)The students will use information from teacher instruction and computer research to collaborate about these events in the south after the Plessy and Brown decisions. 5) Students will be given 30 minutes to collaborate and 30 minutes to present from their groups. Their presentations must consist of the information listed in section 3 of the assessment. 6)The link that the students will use will be CPALMS.org.

Lesson Extensions, Reference Websites and Materials- Students will be assigned homework relating to why segregation in public schools still existed after the Brown decision. The written requirement will be the students writing a 1 page essay explaining factual information on why segregation still existed in the south after the Brown decision. Students will be allowed to use reference websites to assist them in writing their essays. The materials that I will use will be the resources obtained from “Stony the Road We Trod Summer Institute 2019”.