



Civil Rights and Protests

Kiana & Derek



The Gray Commission



- 32-member commission established by Governor of Virginia Thomas B. Stanley on August 23, 1954
- Studied the effects of the U.S. Supreme Court decisions in Brown v. Board of Education
- The commission proposed a plan with a local option that technically allowed desegregation, but its goal was to inhibit any actual desegregation.

The Gray Commission

- After Brown V.S The Board of Education the school district implemented a “freedom of choice” plan, where students could decide where they wanted go.
- Only a few African American students transferred to New Kent and no white students transferred to George W. Watkins.

The Stanley Plan



- In July, two separate judges ordered the desegregation of Charlottesville and Arlington County.
- African Americans continued to sue more school districts throughout the state.
- However, Governor Stanley declared that Virginia would not permit integrated schools within the state.

The legislation and accompanying government actions in Virginia are what came to be known as Massive Resistance.

Actions of Massive Resistance

- Actions against integration
- Pushback from 1954
Brown v. Board of
Education of Topeka,
Kansas
- Attn. Gen. J Lindsay
Almond jr., an active
supporter of the Massive
Resistance, shut down
multiple schools and
locked out over 13,000
students.



Actions of Massive Resistance



- Even when Almond was told his actions were harmful to the state and its economy, he would not reopen the schools.
- White parents who favored integration started the Virginia Committee for Public Schools to help with the integration crisis. (Largest citizen organization involved in the school matter)
- In January of 1959, the Virginia Supreme Court agreed that Almond closing public schools was highly unconstitutional.

The Perrow Plan

- Created by The Almond Administration
- Relied on the idea of “freedom of choice,” where parents could select which schools to enrol their kids in.
- The plan kept most schools segregated by placing the burden of the student placement on parents, who had to appeal to the Pupil Placement Board
- It also repealed state compulsory attendance requirements.
- Despite Massive Resistance, the plan passed both houses of Virginia Legislature.

Green V.S New Kent County



- United States Supreme Court case dealing with the freedom of choice plans created to avoid compliance with the Court's mandate in Brown II.
- New Kent County had two schools that taught elementary through high school kids
 - New Kent School taught all white students
 - George W. Watkins school taught all African American Students

Green VS New Kent County



- After Brown V.S The Board of Education the school district implemented a “freedom of choice” plan, where students could decide where they wanted go.
- Only a few African American students transferred to New Kent and no white students transferred to George W. Watkins.
- Several students and parents brought this action against the school district, claiming that they weren’t properly integrating the school system.
- The district court upheld the plan

The Blossom Plan

- The Blossom Plan was a gradualist plan that allowed the superintendent to select the black students that would be integrated into the previous white-only schools.
- This plan allowed for the compliance of Brown minimally.
- With the use of “tokenism” only a handful of black students would be integrated into white-only schools.



The Blossom Plan

- The Blossom plan was to begin with the integration of elementary schools and then move on to high schools several years later.
- However, many white parents objected to beginning with younger kids, and the plan was revised to begin with a token integration in high schools in 1957
 - In 1963 elementary schools would then start with desegregation.
- The NAACP sued for immediate integration, but the federal court ruled there was nothing unconstitutional about the Blossom Plan

CCC- Capital Citizens' Council

- Formed to build support against integration
- The CCC formed rallies and brought in guest speakers to promote white supremacy and demand segregation
- The CCC also sponsored the MLCHS (Mother's League of Central High School)

MLCHS - Mother's League of Central High School

- Used to provide a “feminine” slant to the issue
- Only 20% of the members of MLCHS were actually mothers of Central High School students.

MLCHS and CCC

- Both MLCHS and CCC requested that Governor Orval Faubus prevent implementation of the first steps of integration at Central High, citing potential violence.



**DO YOU WANT NEGROES
IN OUR SCHOOLS?**

IF YOU DO NOT THEN GO TO THE POLLS THIS COMING MON-
DAY AND **VOTE** AGAINST REMOVAL
FOR REMOVAL

LAMB MATSON TUCKER	McKINLEY ROWLAND LASTER
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THIS IS THE SIMPLE TRUTH. IF THE INTEGRATIONISTS WIN THIS SCHOOL BOARD FIGHT, THE SCHOOLS WILL BE INTEGRATED THIS FALL. THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING YOU OR WE CAN DO TO STOP IT.

PLEASE VOTE RIGHT!!!
*Join hands with us in this fight—
send your contributions to*

THE MOTHERS' LEAGUE

P. O. BOX 3321 • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
Ad Paid for by Margaret C. Jackson, President; Mary Thomason, Secretary

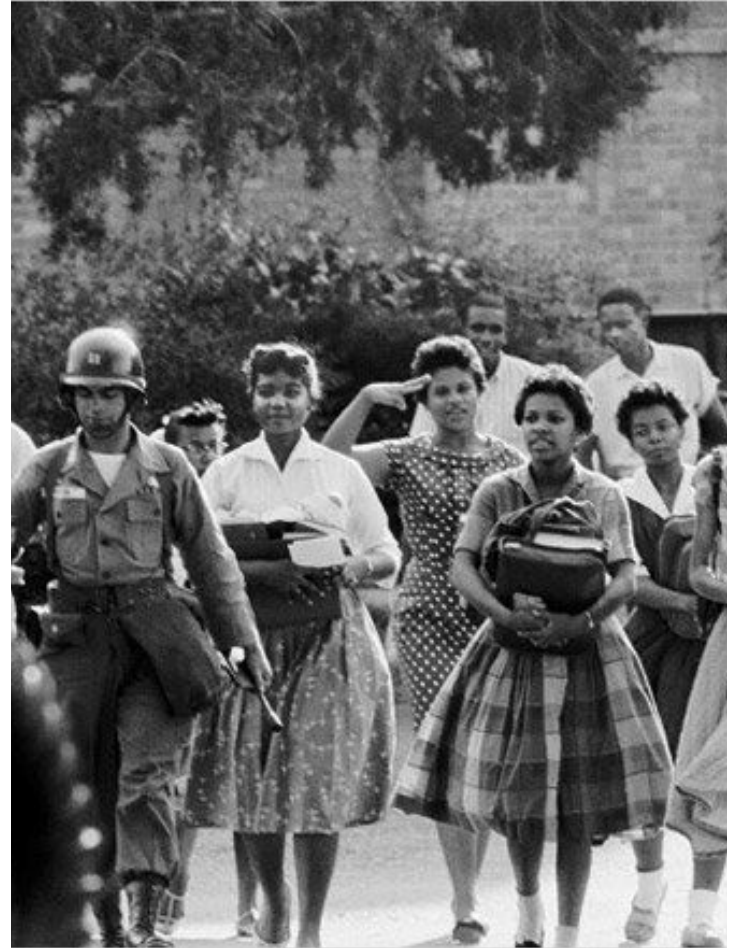
Central High School Incident

- Central High was an all white school.
- Governor Orval Faubus ordered the Arkansas National Guard to prevent African American students from enrolling at Central High School.
- Eventually, the troops were removed allowing the entrance of the nine students through a side door
- An angry crowd of over 1,000 white Americans assembled and soon the police removed the students from the school.



Central High School Incident

- The incident required for federal assistance and mayor Woodrow Mann would send the telegram requesting for it.
 - *“The immediate need for federal troops is urgent. The mob is much larger...mob is armed and engaging in fistticcuffs and other acts of violence. Situation is out of control.”*



Eisenhower's Intervention

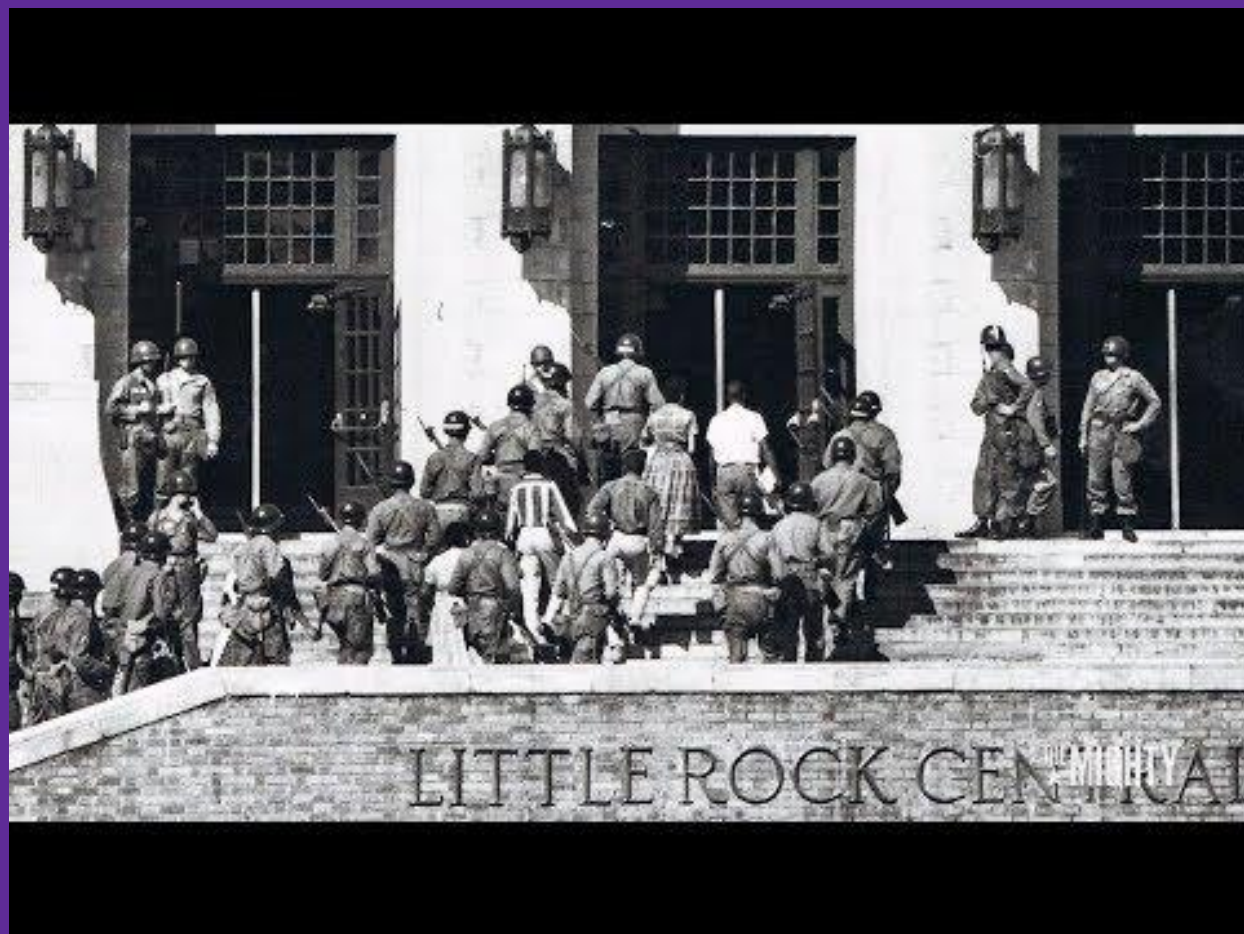


- Eisenhower ordered 1,200 troops from the 101st airborne division to go immediately to Little Rock
- Eisenhower told the American public:
 - *“Whenever normal agencies prove inadequate to the task...to uphold the Federal Courts, the president’s responsibility is inescapable.”*
 - *“Mob rule cannot be allowed to override the decisions of the courts.”*
- Eisenhower also federalized the Arkansas National Guard, removing the troops from the governor’s control.



The Little Rock Nine

- On September 25th, the Little Rock Nine were escorted into Central High School by US Army Soldiers.
- The soldiers escorted the students from class to class
- On October 1st the US Army troops were replaced by the National Guard
 - They remained at Central High School for the majority of the year.



LITTLE ROCK CENTRAL

Cooper V.S Aaron

- The Governor and the Legislature of Arkansas openly resisted the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*.
- They refused to obey court orders designed to implement school desegregation.
- Local officials delayed plans to do away with segregated public facilities.
- The Supreme Court ruled that the state of Arkansas could not pass legislation undermining the Court's ruling in *Brown v.s Board of Education* (1954) that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

Cooper v.s Aaron

What part of
'separate-but-equal' is not equal"
doesn't the State of Arkansas
understand?



The
"not"
part.



Act 115

Act 115 of 1958 [Anti-NAACP Law]

- Act 115 outlawed state employment of NAACP members
- Act 10, a law designed to expose NAACP members on state payrolls by requiring state employees to list their political affiliations
- NAACP sued on behalf of B. T. Shelton, a Little Rock teacher whose contract was not renewed
- A three-judge federal district court heard the case in June 1959
- Declared the act violated the 14th Amendment



Other Protests and Actions

- Public facilities and transport were also integrated in the 50s and 60s
 - Montgomery Bus Boycott
 - Freedom Rides
- Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Voting Rights were also focused on
 - Freedom Summer
 - Other various organized campaigns
- Voting Rights Act of 1965

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