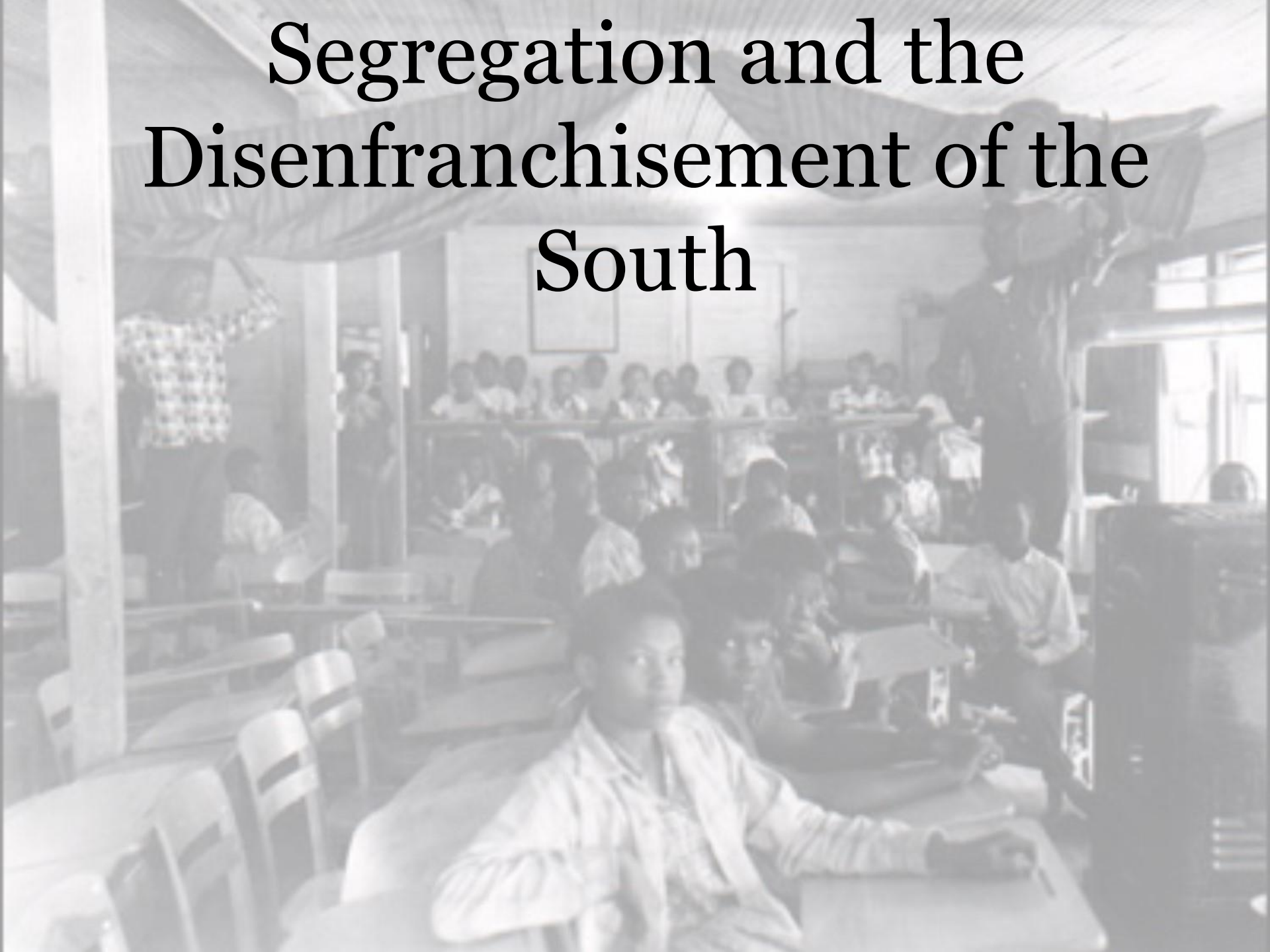


# Segregation and the Disenfranchisement of the South



# Political Rights After Reconstruction

- Poll taxes, literacy tests, and “Grandfather Clauses” were all used to indirectly deny blacks the right to vote
- The 15<sup>th</sup> amendment was being circumvented as well as threats/intimidation from the KKK

ORIGINAL

**POLL TAX RECEIPT**

ROLL PAGE 52 LINE 21

1924

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF MILAM

No. 79

WARD DATE 10/14 1924

RECEIVED OF A. L. Caywood

ADDRESS Rockdale R. F. D. 3

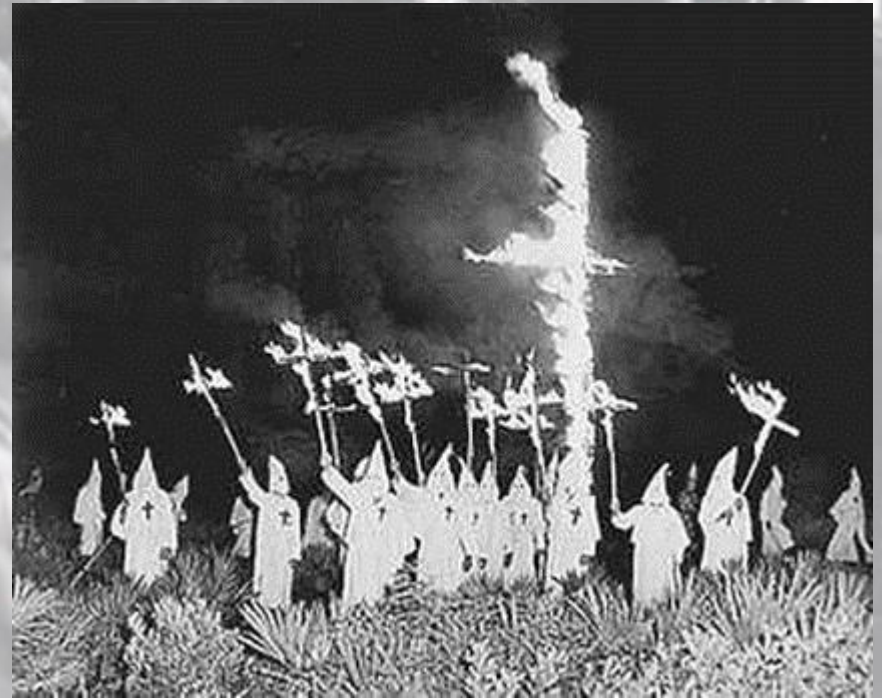
|                       |            |        |    |            |         |
|-----------------------|------------|--------|----|------------|---------|
| PRECINCT<br>No.<br>20 | RESIDED IN | AGE    | 36 | OCCUPATION | Farming |
|                       |            | STATE  | 33 |            |         |
|                       |            | COUNTY | 33 |            |         |
|                       |            | CITY   |    |            |         |

RACE: WHITE — COLORED  
SEX: MALE — FEMALE

PAID BY \_\_\_\_\_ AGENT

THE SUM OF ONE AND 75/100 DOLLARS IN PAYMENT OF POLL TAX FOR THE YEAR A. D. 1924  
THE SAID TAX PAYER BEING DULY SWORN BY ME, SAYS THAT THE ABOVE IS CORRECT  
ALL OF WHICH I CERTIFY.

BY J. L. M. DEPUTY M. A. Bonelli  
TAX COLLECTOR OF ABOVE SAID COUNTY





# *Plessy v. Ferguson*

## Issue:

-In 1890, Louisiana passed a law declaring that all train cars in LA must provide “separate but equal” accommodations for white and non-white passengers.

-The penalty for sitting in the wrong compartment was a fine of \$25 or 20 days in jail

-In 1892, Homer Plessy, who was one-eighth black, purchased a first-class ticket and sat in the white-designated railroad car

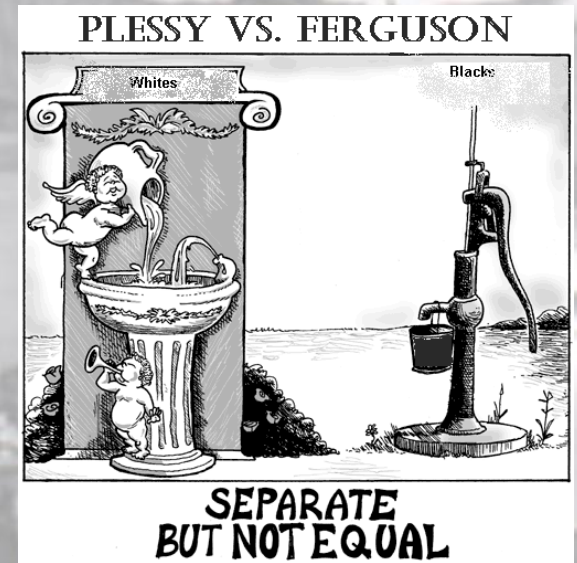
-Arrested and argued in court that the act violated the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments



Court Ruling: racial segregation does NOT violate the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment as long as it follows the “Separate but Equal” doctrine

# Jim Crow Laws

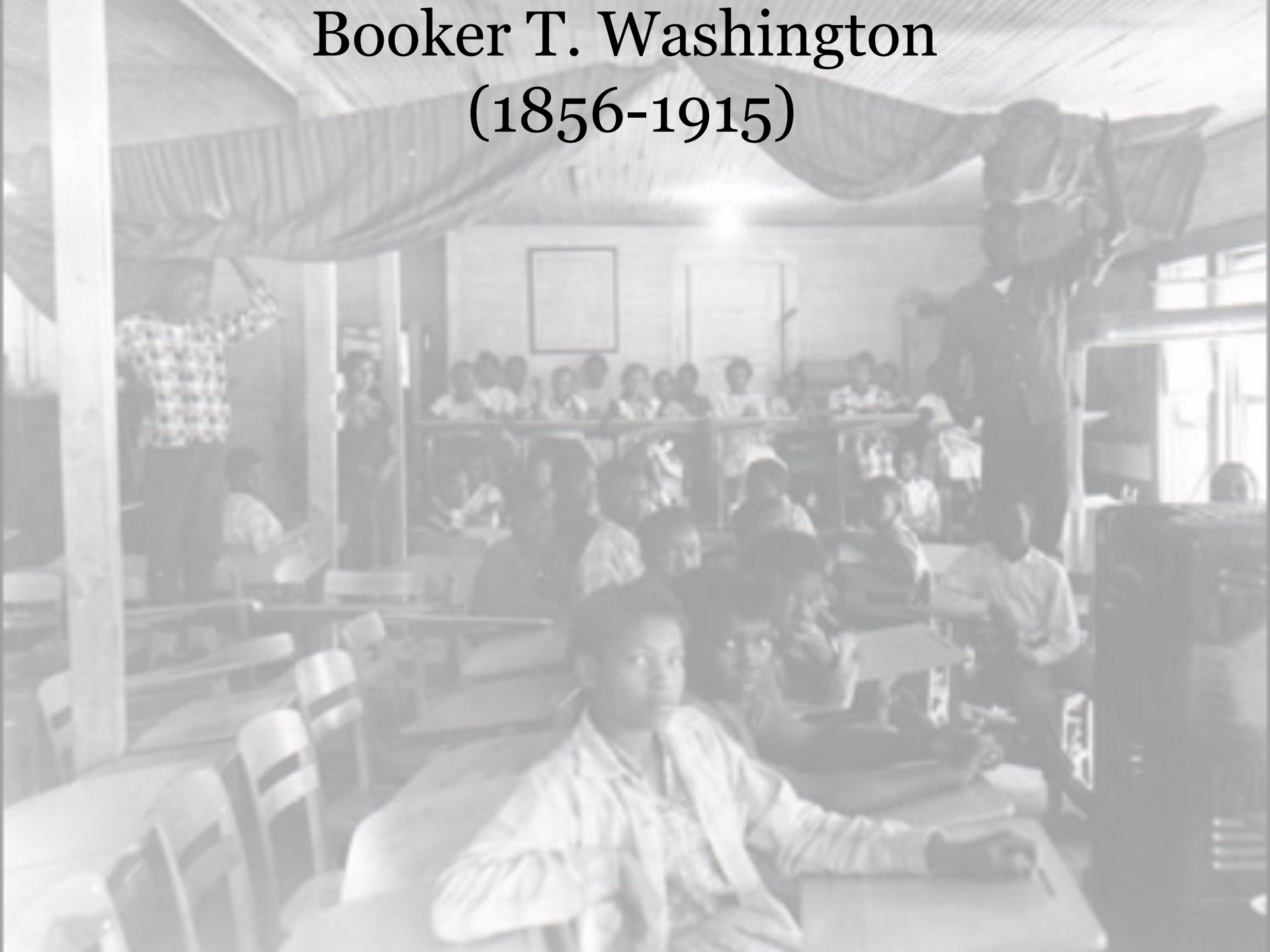
*De Jure* Discrimination: laws passed in the South that set up a system of legal separation between the races in public places



*De Facto* Discrimination: the social practice of discrimination through custom or practice; not upheld by law and common in the North and South



# Booker T. Washington (1856-1915)







*"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome."*

*Booker T. Washington*

# Washington's Beliefs

- Philosophy of self-help, racial solidarity, and accommodation of whites
- Urged blacks to accept discrimination for the time being and concentrate on elevating themselves through hard work and material prosperity ("Accommodation")
- Believed in education in the crafts, industrial, farming skills
- Advocated the cultivation of the virtues of patience, enterprise and thrift
  - Believed these skills would win the respect of whites and lead to blacks being fully accepted as citizens and integrated into all strata of society
- Work from the "bottom up"

# Tuskegee Institute, AL



**Booker T. Washington's  
formula:**

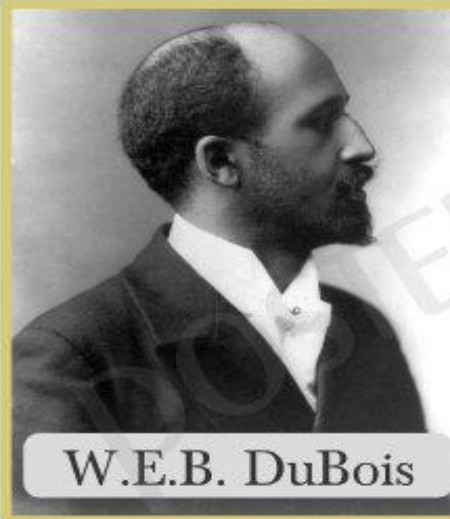
Economic success  
+ Vocational Education  
= **Equality**

Washington  
opened what would  
become Tuskegee  
Institute in 1881 to  
train blacks to  
become teachers





# W.E.B. DuBois



W.E.B. DuBois

"Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. It is today that our best work can be done and not some future day or future year. It is today that we fit ourselves for the greater usefulness of tomorrow. Today is the seed time, now are the hours of work, and tomorrow comes the harvest and the playtime."

- Blacks should be free to pursue a college education in advanced liberal arts education; argued education without equality is pointless
- Blacks should openly strive for their rights
- College-educated blacks would have the best opportunity to turn the “flood of discrimination”
- Washington's strategy would serve only to perpetuate white oppression
- Work from the “top down”
- When his “Niagara Movement” failed → NAACP
- Argued that social change could be accomplished by developing the small group of college-educated blacks he called "the Talented Tenth:"

**"The Negro Race, like all races, is going to be saved by its exceptional men. The problem of education then, among Negroes, must first of all deal with the "Talented Tenth." It is the problem of developing the best of this race that they may guide the Mass away from the contamination and death of the worst."**





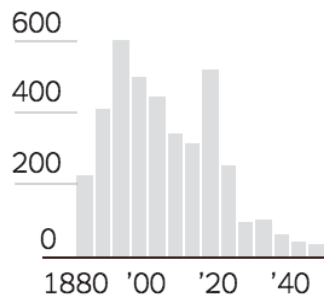
The way to right wrongs is to turn  
the light of truth upon them.

— Ida B. Wells —

AZ QUOTES

- 1880 - Memphis, TN attended Fisk University
- "I will not begin at this late day by doing what my soul abhors; sugaring men, weak deceitful creatures, with flattery to retain them as escorts or to gratify a revenge."
- Led a campaign against segregation on the local railway; after being forcibly removed from a "whites only" carriage she successfully sued the Chesapeake, Ohio & South Western Railroad Company. However, this was overturned three years later by a ruling from the Tennessee Supreme Court
- 1884 Wells began teaching in Memphis; also wrote articles on civil rights for local newspapers and when she criticized the Memphis Board of Education for under-funding black schools, she lost her job as a teacher
- Used her savings to become part owner of *Free Speech*, a small newspaper in Memphis; concentrated on writing about individual cases where black people had suffered at the hands of white racists; included an investigation into lynching and discovered during a short period 728 black men and women had been lynched by white mobs
  - Of these deaths, two-thirds were for small offences such as public drunkenness and shoplifting

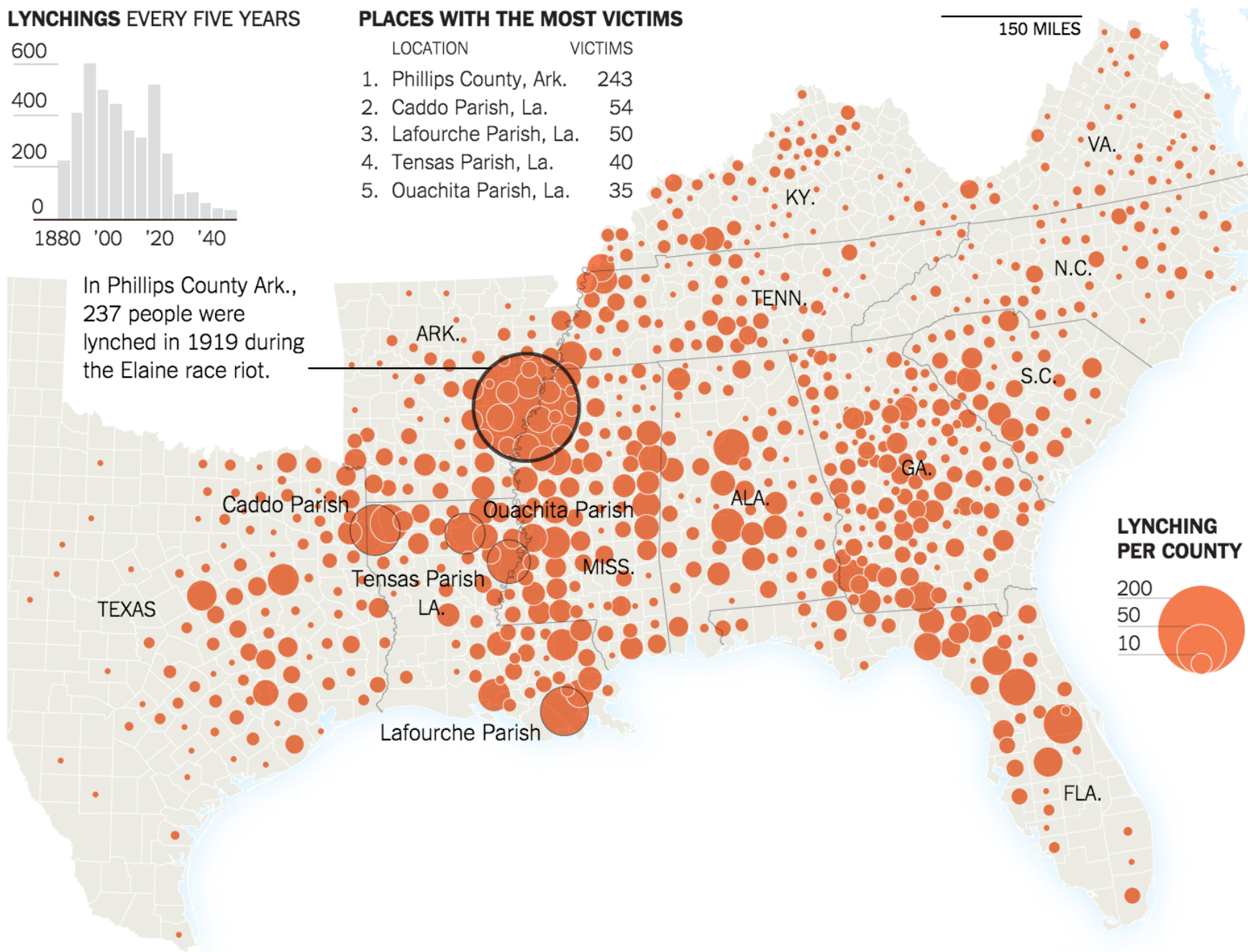
## LYNCHINGS EVERY FIVE YEARS



## PLACES WITH THE MOST VICTIMS

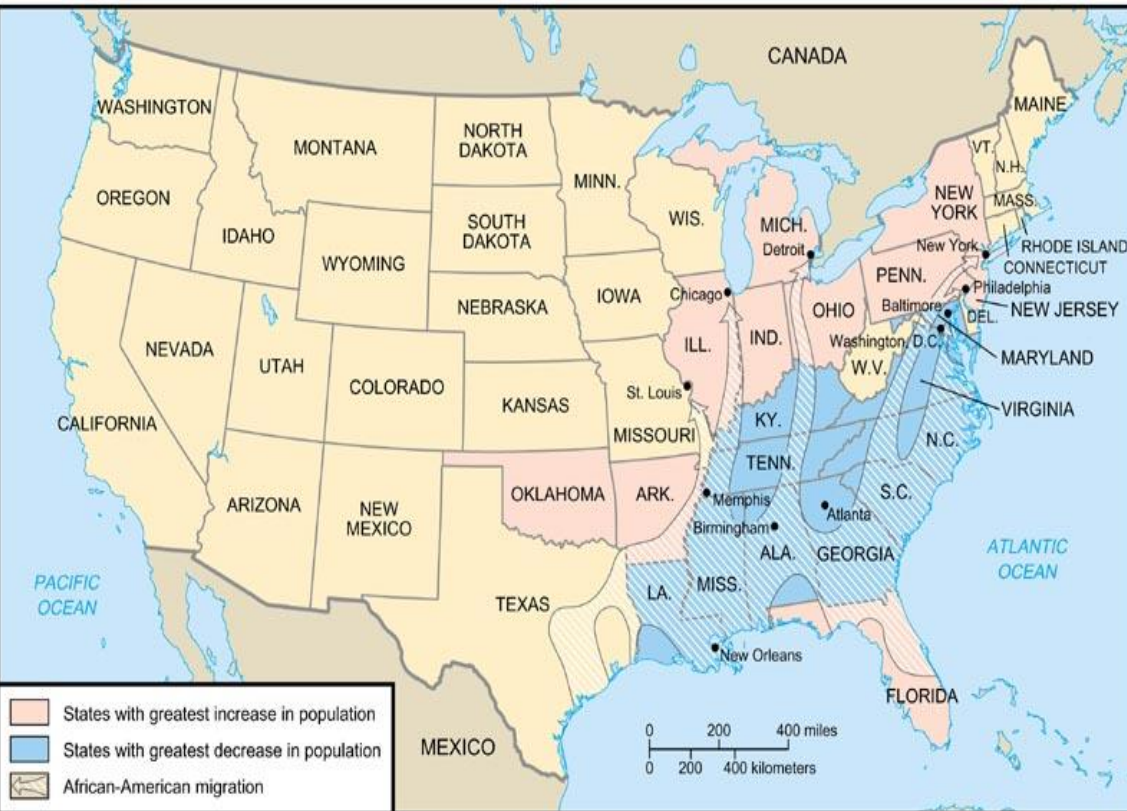
| LOCATION                 | VICTIMS |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 1. Phillips County, Ark. | 243     |
| 2. Caddo Parish, La.     | 54      |
| 3. Lafourche Parish, La. | 50      |
| 4. Tensas Parish, La.    | 40      |
| 5. Ouachita Parish, La.  | 35      |

In Phillips County Ark., 237 people were lynched in 1919 during the Elaine race riot.





# Great Migration: 1910-1920



AFRICAN AMERICAN MIGRATION NORTHWARD, 1910-1920

- Some blacks “voted with their feet” leaving the South for Northern cities
- While there was racial injustice in the North, there were opportunities too

Cities like New York, Chicago, and Detroit greatly increased their black population