

# Segregation in the US

## -Overview-



After the United States abolished slavery, Black Americans continued to be marginalized through enforced segregated and diminished access to facilities, housing, education—and opportunities.

To marginalize = jdn an den Rand drängen

diminished = verringert, geringer

Segregation is the practice of requiring separate housing, education and other services for people of color. Segregation was made law several times in 18th- and 19th-century America as some believed that Black and white people were incapable of coexisting.

To require = verlangen

incapable = not possible

### Black Codes/Jim Crow laws

The first steps toward official segregation came in the form of “Black Codes”. These were laws passed throughout the South starting around 1865 that dictated most aspects of Black peoples’ lives, including where they could work and live. The codes also ensured Black people’s availability for cheap labor after slavery was abolished.

To ensure = sicherstellen

Segregation soon became official policy enforced by a series of Southern laws. Through so-called Jim Crow laws (named after a derogatory term for Blacks), legislators segregated everything from schools to residential areas to public parks to theaters to pools to cemeteries, asylums, jails and residential homes. There were separate waiting rooms for white people and Black people in professional offices and, in 1915, Oklahoma became the first state to even segregate public phone booths.

To enforce = durchsetzen, erzwingen

derogatory = abfällig



### Civil Rights Movement

In the 1950s and 1960s the Civil Rights Movement around famous activists like Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and Malcolm X gained momentum. The movement was an empowering yet precarious time for Black Americans. The efforts of civil rights activists and countless protesters of all races brought an official end to segregation, Black voter suppression and discriminatory employment and housing practices.

suppression = Unterdrückung

### Segregation in the 21st Century

Segregation persists in the 21st Century. Studies show that while the public overwhelmingly supports integrated schools, only a third of Americans want federal government intervention to enforce it.

To persist = Fortbestehen

The term “apartheid schools” describes still-existing, largely segregated schools, where white students make up 0 to 10 percent of the student body. The phenomenon reflects residential segregation in cities and communities across the country, which is not created by overtly racial laws, but by local ordinances that target minorities disproportionately.

ordinance= Erlass

To target= auf jdn. Abzielen

minority = Minderheit



- 1) What was the purpose of segregation?
- 2) How did it affect Black people in their daily life?
- 3) Is segregation a concept of the past?