

Concluding Analysis

Continuing the Heroic Struggle for Equality: The Civil Rights Movement



To what extent did Founding principles of liberty, equality, and justice become a reality for African Americans during the civil rights movement?

- ☐ I can interpret primary sources related to Founding principles of liberty, equality, and justice in the civil rights movement
- ☐ I can explain how laws and policy, courts, and individuals and groups contributed to or pushed back against the quest for liberty, equality, and justice for African Americans.
- ☐ I can create an argument using evidence from primary sources.
- ☐ I can analyze issues in history to help find solutions to present-day challenges.

Directions: Sort the documents into the categories listed in the table below. Some documents might fit in multiple categories. Then fill in the table based on your groups. Include a short explanation for your choice.

Document Title and Date	Laws and Policy	The Courts	"We the People" - Individuals and Groups
Richard Wright, <i>Black Boy</i> , 1945			<i>Writer shows that racial hostility and violence are normalized in the Jim Crow South</i>
<i>Sweatt v. Painter</i> , 1950			
Ralph Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , 1952			
<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , 1954			

Martin Luther King, Jr., Montgomery Bus Boycott Speech, 1955			
The Southern Manifesto, 1956			
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee Founding Statement, 1960			
James Baldwin “Fifth Avenue, Uptown”, 1960			
Freedom Rides photographs, 1961			

Martin Luther King, Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail, 1963			
Martin Luther King, Jr., I Have a Dream, 1963			
John Lewis, speech at the March on Washington, August 28, 1963			
“We Shall Overcome”			
Malcolm X, Message to the Grassroots, 1963			

Civil Rights Act, 1964			
Fannie Lou Hamer Testimony before the Credentials Committee, Democratic National Convention, August 22, 1964			
Images of Bloody Sunday, 1965			
Voting Rights Act, 1965			
<i>Loving v. Virginia</i> , 1967			

Analysis Questions

1. How did civil rights activists demonstrate courage during this period of the civil rights movement? Discuss one specific example from the documents.

2. What influence did religious belief have on African American protest in the civil rights movement?

3. What continuities and changes do you find between the Reconstruction Era and the civil rights movement?

4. To what extent were Founding principles of liberty, equality, and justice realized for African Americans during the civil rights movement?