


A.P. GOVERNMENT

Unit 3
The Judiciary, Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

“Civil Rights (Part I)”
Mr. Ahlberg

Notes #4



A.P. GOVERNMENT

It All Started with the Civil War...Right?

- Civil War:
 - Not the only issue, but Slavery was clearly defined as a war issue when Lincoln issued the **Emancipation Proclamation**.
- Emancipation Proclamation
 - Declared slaves free in “Rebel States”
 - Not all slaves were liberated
 - Increased the power of the Federal Gov’ t.



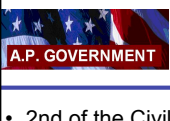
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13th Amendment (1865)

- 1st of the Civil War Amendments
 - Abolished Slavery as an institution in the United States.
 - **Section 1:** Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, ...shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.
 - **Section 2:** Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.




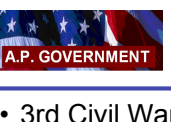
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14th Amendment (1868)


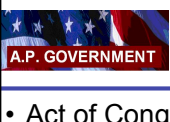
- 2nd of the Civil War Amendments
 - Ratified as part of Reconstruction
 - Main goal--prevent Southern states from depriving freed slaves of rights.
 - Made African Americans citizens of the U.S.
 - Reversal of Dred Scott case of 1857
- Created the **Due Process** and **Equal Protection** Clauses

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15th Amendment (1870)

- 3rd Civil War Amendment
- Banned any laws that prevented African Americans from voting based on their race or previous status as a slave




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*Civil Rights Act of 1875

- Act of Congress that banned discrimination in most areas of society
 - hotels
 - restaurants
 - railroad cars
 - jury duty
- *The Supreme Court declared this Act unconstitutional in 1883


A.P. GOVERNMENT **Jim Crow Laws**

- States, cities and towns begin passing discriminatory and segregationist laws
 - Assisted by Supreme Court's narrow view of 14th and declaration of Civil Rights Act of 1875 as unconstitutional.

A.P. GOVERNMENT **Voting Restrictions**

- Poll Taxes**
 - A tax paid to vote. Sometimes had to be paid months in advance.
- Literacy Tests**
 - Had to read obscure legal texts or from the works of Shakespeare and explain the significance
- Grandfather Clauses**
 - You did not have to pay the Poll Tax or pass a Literacy Test if your Grandfather voted in the past



A.P. GOVERNMENT **Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)**

- Supreme Court ruling that allowed southern states to twist Equal Protection clause of the 14th Amendment.
- “Separate but Equal”** doctrine was established
- The case only ruled on the issue of equality in railcars, but the principle was quickly applied to all areas of society.

