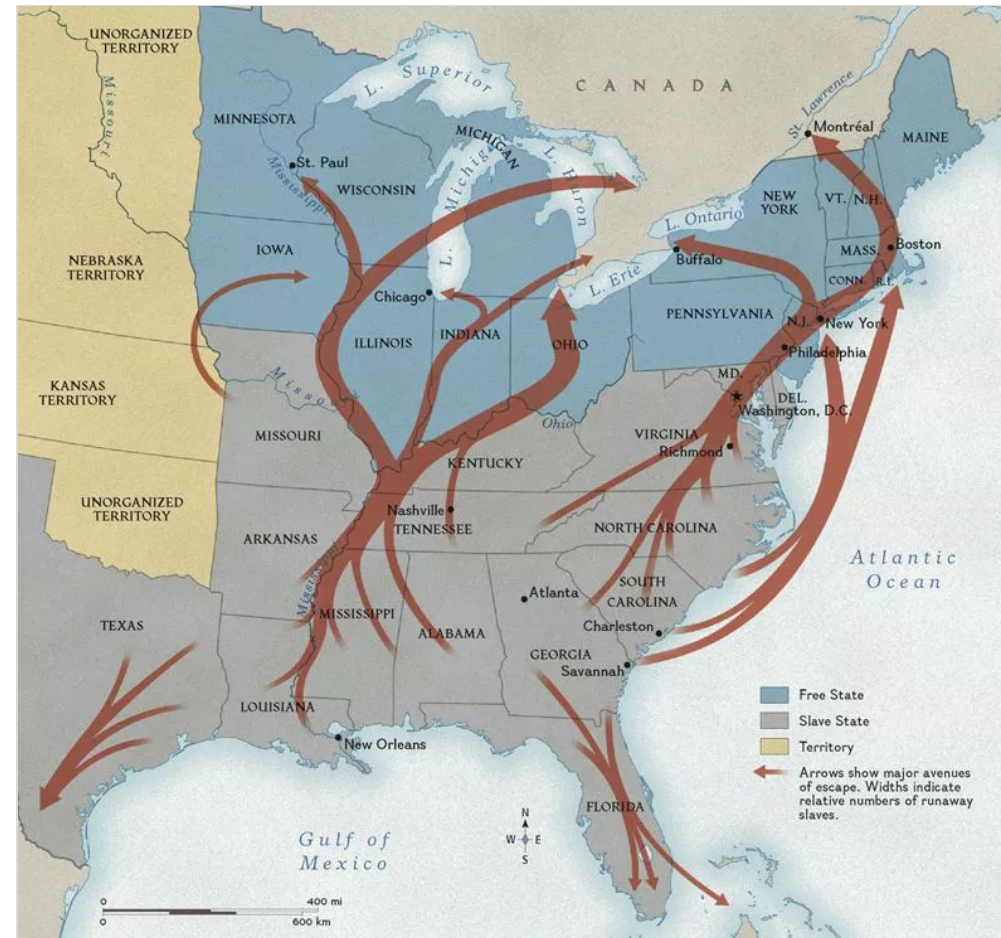
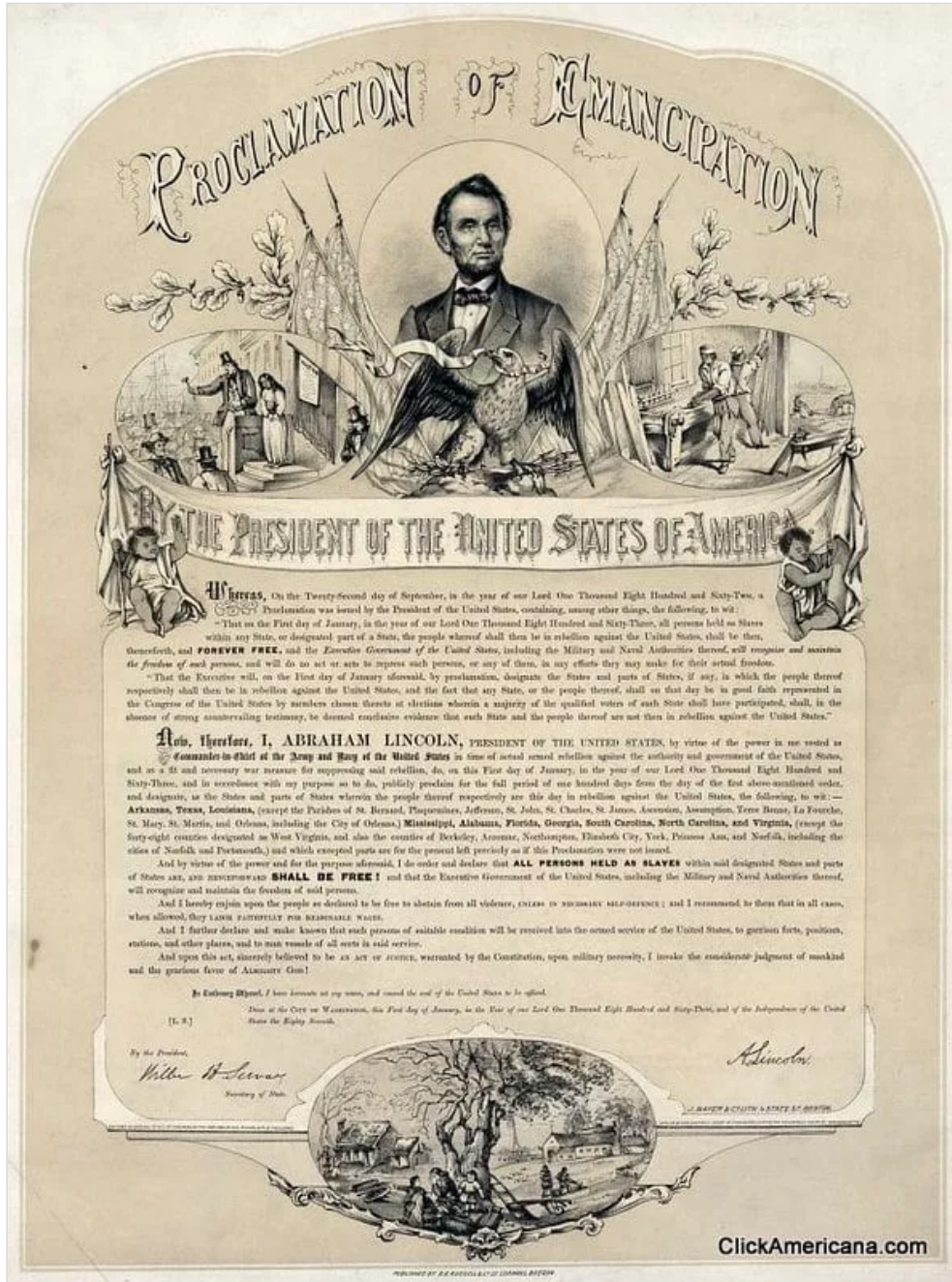


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Around 500,000 enslaved people leave the plantations. Some form their own communities. Most go to the Union territory. Many join the Union army. Almost 200,000 Black people fight in the Union Army.



This rule said that all enslaved people in the Confederate states were free. In effect, the purpose of the war becomes to end slavery. Enslaved people only actually went free when they freed themselves or when the Union Army arrived.



1865--January--"40 Acres and a Mule"

As he marches the Union Army through the South, General Sherman issues Special Field Order 15. This rule plans to give freedpeople 40 acre plots of land to farm, along with a mule. Because of changes later in the U.S. government, no land is given out.

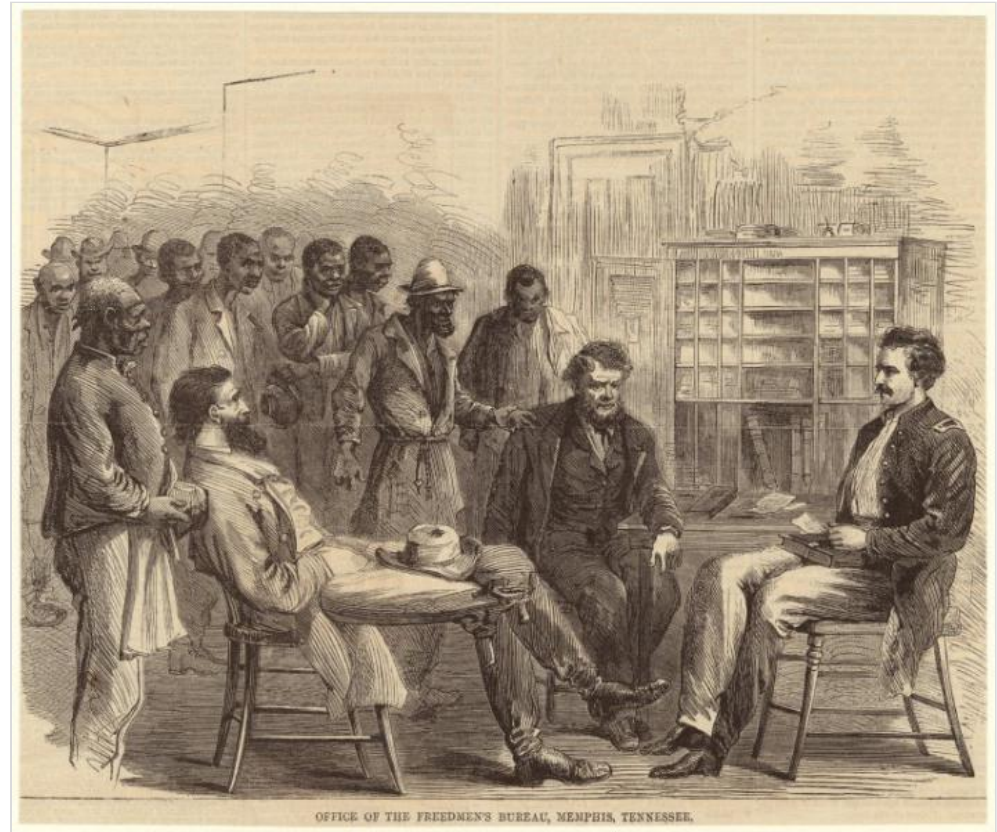
1863--June--Harriet Tubman Leads Combahee River Raid

Harriet Tubman becomes the first woman to plan and lead a combat operation in U.S. history. She goes behind enemy lines in South Carolina and frees hundreds of enslaved people.



1865--Spring--Freedman's Bureau Established

The U.S. government creates the Freedman's Bureau, an agency meant to help enslaved people transition to freedom by providing education, training, medical care, and more.



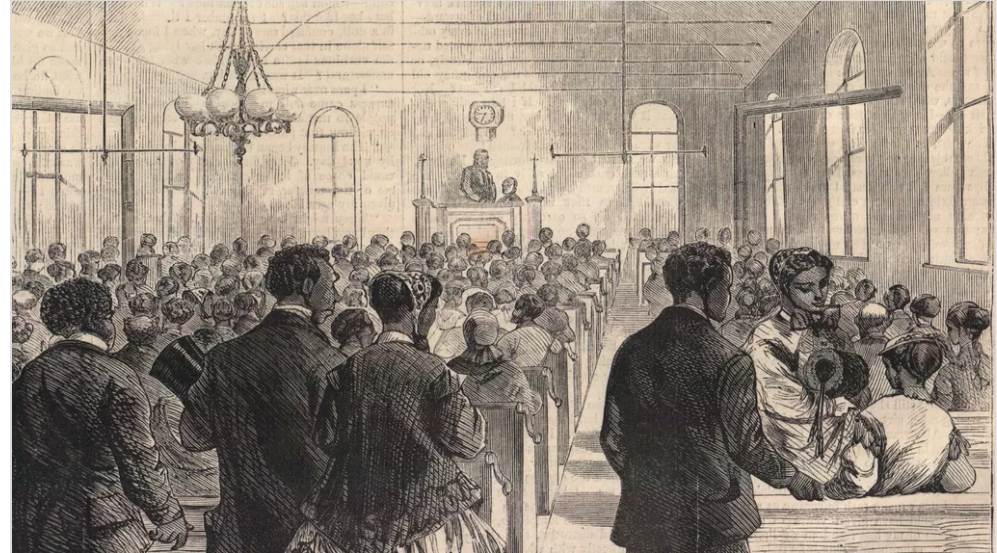
1865--April--Abraham Lincoln is Assassinated

6 days after making a speech discussing the right to vote for Black soldiers, President Lincoln is murdered. Southern Democrat Andrew Johnson becomes president.



1865--Fall--"Colored Conventions"

Black Americans have mass meetings known as "Colored Conventions" where they strategize, plan, and make demands for how to achieve equality, the right to vote, and freedom.



1865--Civil War Ends

The Confederate States surrender. The Union Army begins occupying the South. In June, the Union Army arrives in Galveston, Texas, ending the enslavement of the people there. June 19th is celebrated as "Juneteenth."



1865--Fall--Southern States Create Black Codes

Southern States enact laws called "the Black Codes" to re-establish white supremacy in the South.

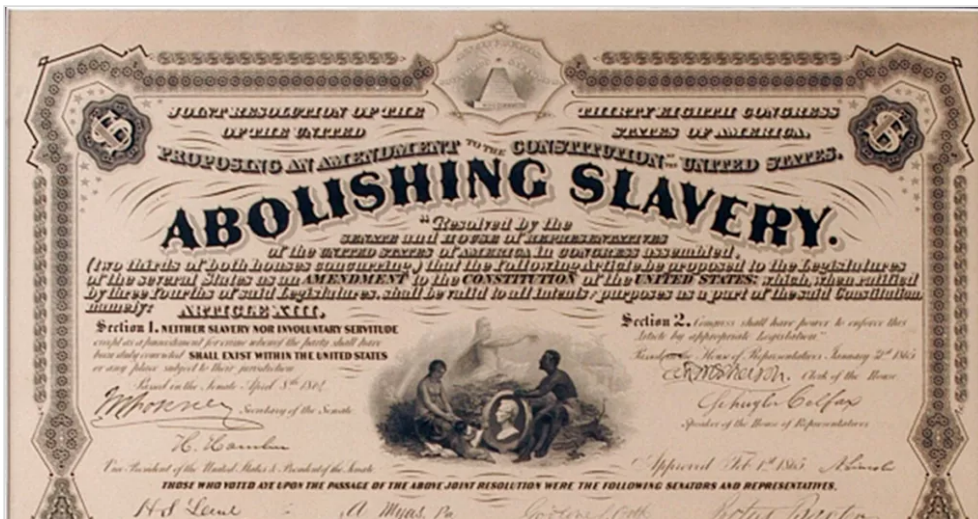
BLACK CODES

- Could not own property or guns
- No voting rights
- If no job, could be arrested and forced to work for no pay



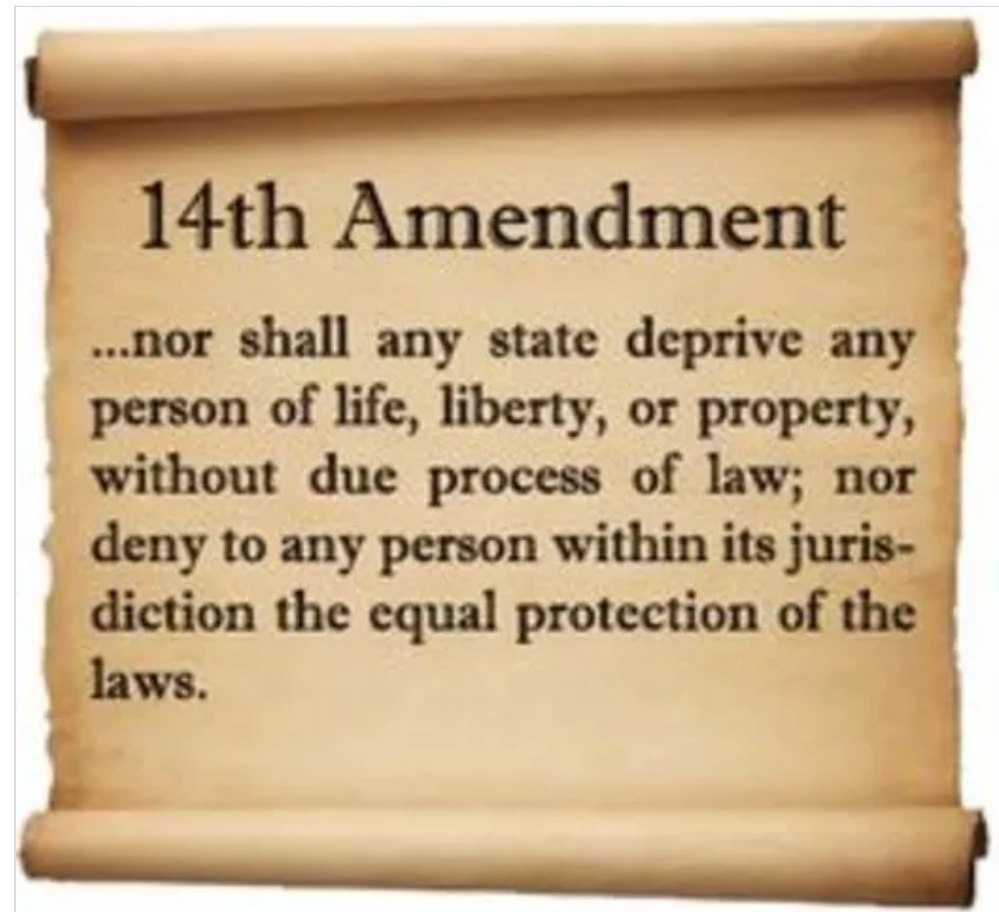
1865--December--13th Amendment Ratified

The 13th Amendment to the Constitution makes slavery illegal in the United States, except as punishment for a crime.



1868--July--14th Amendment Ratified

The 14th Amendment grants citizenship to anyone born in the United States, and guarantees due process of law for all citizens.



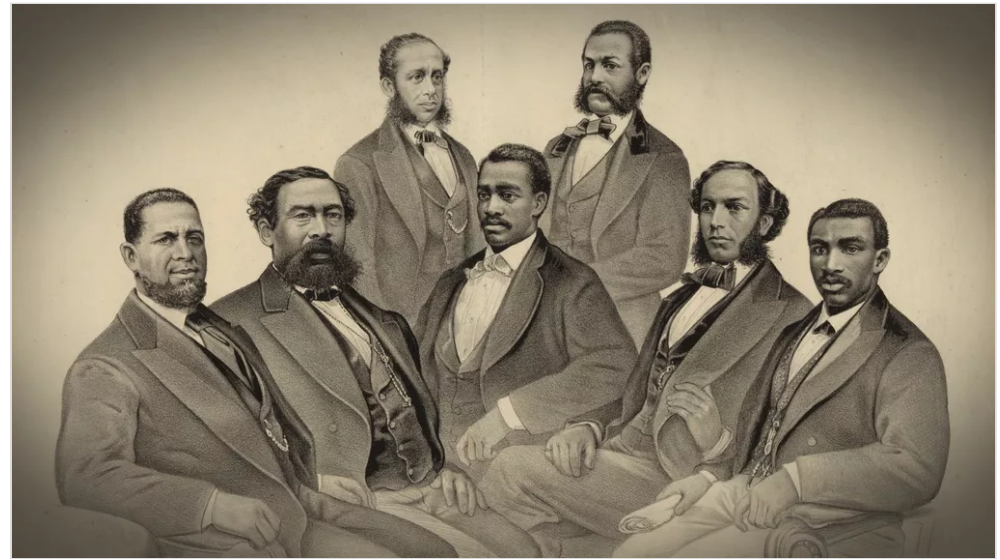
1870--Winter--15th Amendment Ratified

The 15th Amendment to the Constitution allows Black men to vote.



1870--Winter--Black Presence in Congress

Hiram Revels of Mississippi becomes the first Black man in Congress. Over 600 Black men serve in state legislatures during the Reconstruction period.



1877--The End of Reconstruction

Republicans and Democrats make a deal. After a disputed election, Republicans get the presidency and promise Democrats to end Reconstruction, removing U.S. government soldiers from the South. Antislavery violence, segregation, and sharecropping go unchecked in the South and the U.S. generally.



1896--Plessy v Ferguson and Legal Segregation

A legal case before the Supreme Court makes racial segregation legal in the United States. This will not change until Brown v Board of Education, 1954.



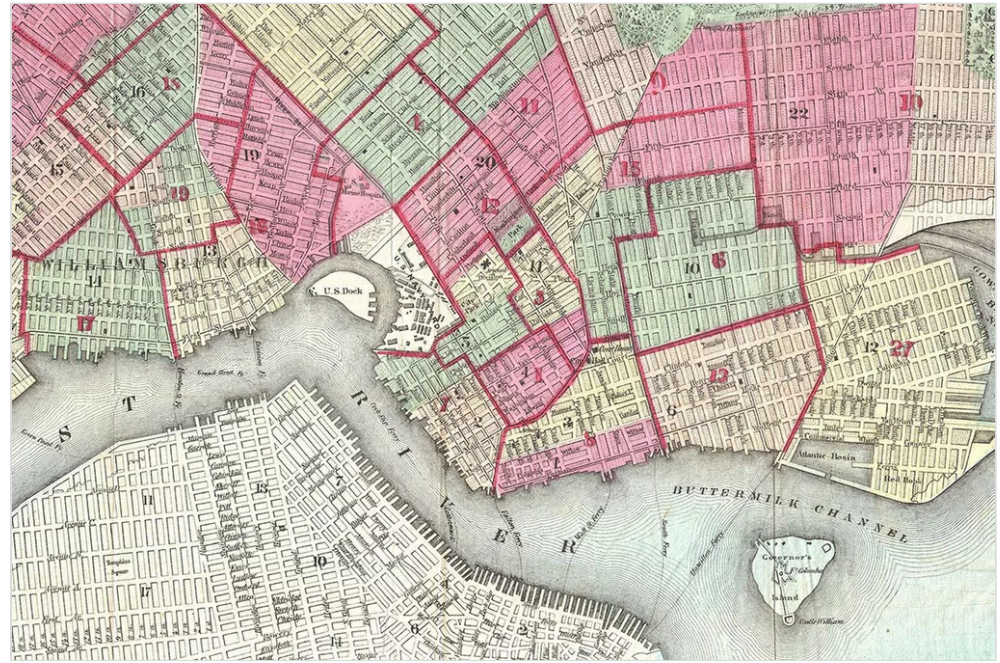
1910s-1970s The Great Migration

For decades, millions of Black Americans move from the Southern U.S. to cities across the country in the North. They come in search of better jobs and freedom from Jim Crow violence and segregation. They form strong communities in these cities, while facing different forms of segregation and discrimination.



1930s-Onward--Redlining

During a large part of the 20th century, discrimination in housing makes it much easier for white people to buy homes and build wealth.



1954--Brown v Board of Education

The Supreme Court case ends legal segregation in the United States.



1955--Murder of Emmett Till

Emmett Till, 14, is murdered by white men in the South after a white woman falsely accuses him of harassment. The funeral gains national attention when Till's mother chooses to keep his funeral casket open. This event is a major spark of movement for civil rights.



1964--The Civil Rights Act

This law makes discrimination based on race and gender illegal.



1965--Voting Rights Act

This law protects the right to vote for all Black citizens after they had been systematically kept from voting in the South for decades.



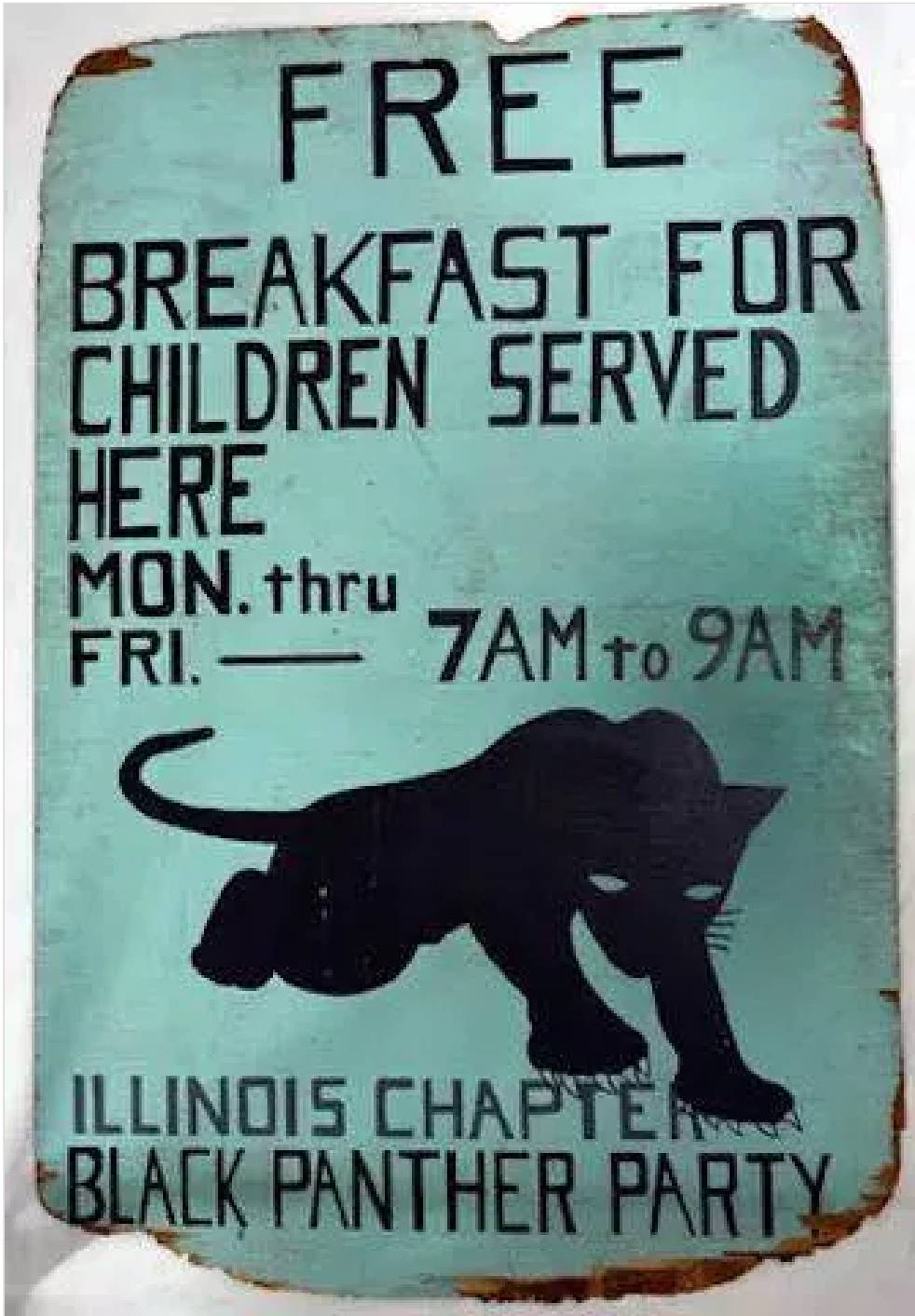
1968--Martin Luther King Jr. Assassinated

A white gunman murders Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee. Uprisings occur throughout the United States.



1969--The Black Panther Party Begins Free Breakfast Program

The Black Panther Party for self defense forms in California, and chapters form all over the country. The Panthers advocate armed self defense for Black people, community care, and the end of the Vietnam war. They defend against police brutality, create free breakfast programs, health clinics, and education centers.



Late 60s-1980s--COINTELPRO

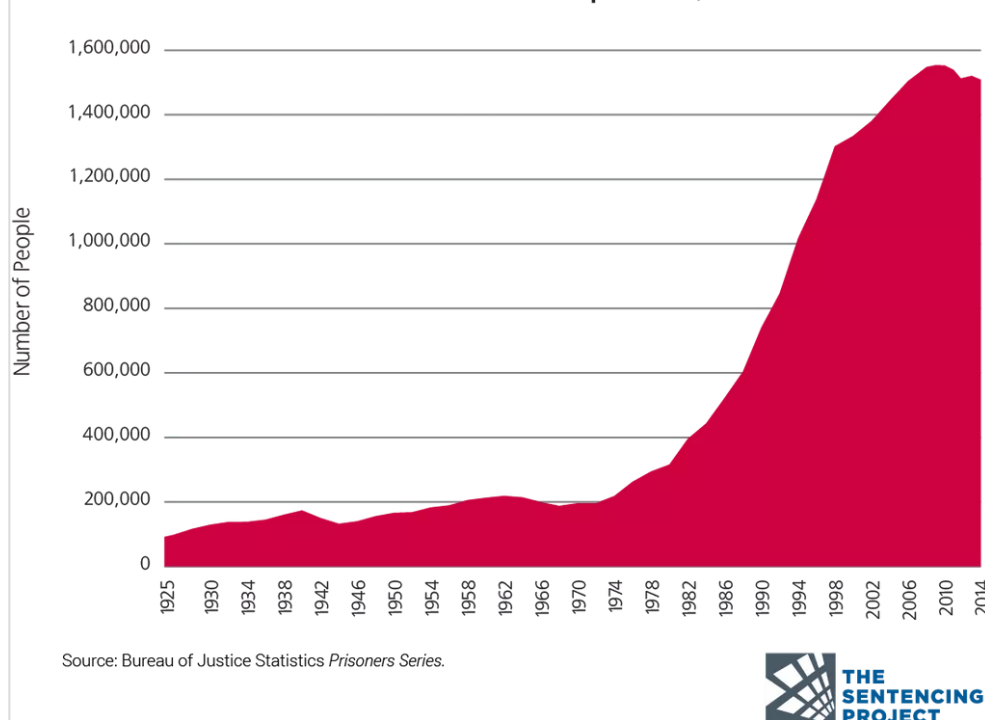
The United States government uses COINTELPRO (Counter-Intelligence Program) to create divisions in radical groups like the Black Panther Party and to kill Panther leaders such as Fred Hampton.



Late 1970s-Present Day--Mass Incarceration and the Prison Industrial Complex

In the late 1970s, the United States begins expanding and filling its prison system. At its peak, over 2 million people are in U.S. prisons and jails. The prison population is disproportionately Black.

U.S. State and Federal Prison Population, 1925-2014



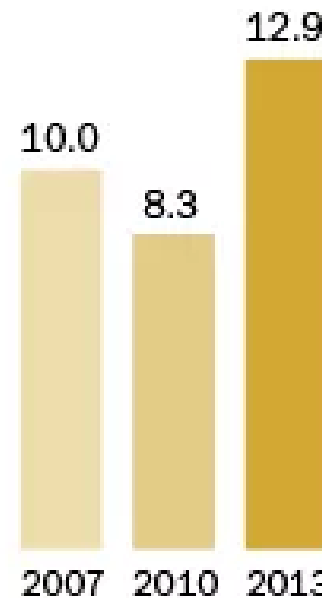
2007--U.S. Recession and Housing Crisis

After the housing market crashes in 2007/2008, Black Americans experience the largest drop in wealth. White Americans average 13x as much wealth as Black Americans.

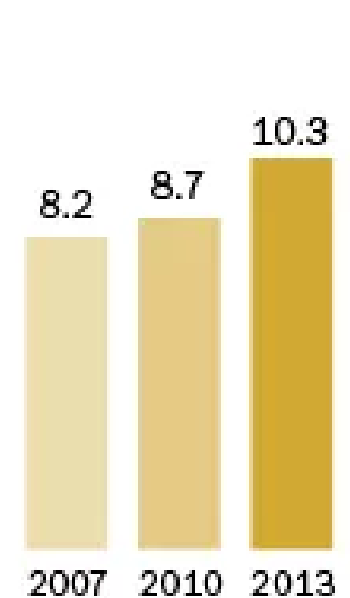
Wealth Inequality by Race and Ethnicity Has Grown Since 2007

Median wealth ratios

WHITE-TO-BLACK



WHITE-TO-HISPANIC



Note: Blacks and whites include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of Survey of Consumer Finances public-use data

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2013-Present Day--Movement for Black Lives

In the 2010s, a series of police and extrajudicial murders of Black people (including Trayvon Martin, Breonna Taylor, Michael Brown, and George Floyd) spark a movement known as "Black Lives Matter." Uprisings continue through to the present day.



