

Analyzing History

Hannah Bourdon

Southern New Hampshire University

HIS-200

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Question 1: In the space below, specify which historical lens you would like to use for this exercise.

The historical lens that I'll use for this exercise is the political and legal lens.

Question 2: Next, formulate a research question about the civil rights movement (historical time from 1954–1968), using the lens you have chosen.

Did the civil rights movement of 1954-1968 result in significant policy change?

Question 3: First, go back and review the research question you developed in Step 1. For Step 2, first name two different primary sources that you might use to answer that question. Be as specific as you can. Your primary sources should be found using the Shapiro Library.

1. Document Title: An Act To provide means of further securing and protecting the civil rights of persons within the jurisdiction of the United States

Foner, E. (1988). *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution 1863-1877*. New York: Harper & Row.

Dunning, W. (1907). *Reconstruction, Political and Economic, 1863-1877*. New York: Harper & Brothers.

Question 4: Next, name two different secondary sources you could use to answer your research question. Again, be as specific as you can. Your secondary sources should be found using the Shapiro Library.

Conflict of Interests: Organized Labor and the Civil Rights Movement in the South, 1954-1968. Periodical By: Taillon, Paul Michel. In: ILR Review. 1996, Vol. 49, Issue n2, pages. 374-375; Sage Publications, Inc., 1996., Database: Business Insights Global Subjects: Conflict of Interests (Book) -- Book reviews; Books -- Book reviews

Blindness and insight: the civil rights movement in photographs and text. Alternate Title: exhibit Authors: Anderson, David A. Source: Afterimage; September/October 1998, Vol. 26 Issue 2, p4-7, 4p

Question 5: Construct a thesis statement that provides an answer to the research question you posed in Step 1. Base your response on the historical evidence that has been presented in this course so far, as well as any research you may have done on your own.

The civil rights movement led to significant policy changes.

Question 6: Name three specific historical events that can be considered contributory causes of the passage of the Voting Rights Act. Briefly explain why you believe each of these events contributed to the passage of the Act.

Major events that contributed to the passage of voting rights were: Montgomery violence. This historical event was a march of 500 to 600 African Americans from Selma to Montgomery to

protest the unfair treatment they were given when it came down to voting. After mistreatment, their cause attracted the sympathy of many people. Secondly, the passage of the 24th amendment that eliminated poll tax fees, and lastly, the 14th amendment which gave citizenship to all naturalized persons.

Question 7: Based on what you read about the passage of the Voting Rights Act on page 1 of this learning block, name one event that was part of the *course* of this bill's passage by Congress. Supreme Court case, Brown v. Board of Education was one event that had far-reaching implications as it prohibited the segregation of public schools.

Question 8: Name three specific consequences caused by the passage of the Voting Rights Act. The passage of the voting right act made southern states change their laws to suppress black voting. They achieved this by use of literacy tests and the poll tax. It also ensured that many African Americans registered as voters. The southern states engaged in gerrymandering in order to reduce the effect of African American votes.

Question 9: One of these scholars relied heavily on evidence about the *substance* of today's political debate. Which scholar was that? What sort of evidence did he use?

David M. Kennedy. He gives evidence of the real issues that separate democrats and republicans ideologically. The examples he adduces are abortion and gay marriage.

Question 10: One of these scholars relied heavily on evidence about the *political process*. Which scholar was that? What sort of evidence did he use?

Richard Pildes. He opines that the voting rights bill encouraged the participation of more African Americans and other voters thus changing the dynamics of politics. As a result, one party monopoly was not possible to retain as the new voters were relatively liberal.

Question 11: What is the topic of this essay? Does the author make it clear in the introduction?
2. What is the author's thesis?

3. What kind of sources and evidence do you think the author will use to support his thesis?

The topic of this essay is "The Fight Was Instilled in us". The author makes it clear in the introduction using captivating words. The thesis for this essay is High School Activism and the Civil Rights Movement in Charleston. The author can support the thesis with newspaper articles, pictures taken from that day, and interviews with the participants.