

# Louisiana: Our History, Our Home

## *Presentations, Quick Notes & Internet Activities*

### Chapter 14: Louisiana from 1940 to 1972: Politics, War, and Civil Rights

#### Summary:

In this lesson, students will explore websites to learn about Civil Rights challenges due to Jim Crow laws in Louisiana and across the southern United States.

**Duration:** 45-60 minutes

#### Notes:

- Many activities and resources are available at the [PBS – The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow](#) website. Many photos, videos, and audio files could be shared in a class setting.
- Extension: Data gathered in this lesson could be graphed and further analyzed. Similar data for other states could be collected as well.
- Technical Note: Real Player software is required for some videos to play. Also, headphones or speakers are required to hear audio.
- Additional information from the site includes these data. Discuss the problem of “street justice” exemplified in the data.

State	Black Lynching	White Lynching
California	2	41
Mississippi	539	42
New York	1	1
Louisiana	40	82

Extension Writing: Have students write a reflective piece contrasting their life in Louisiana without Jim Crow and life in the last century when the Jim Crow laws were in place.

#### Answer Key:

1. Answers vary by student choice.
2. Answers vary by student choice.
3. The Plessy decision set the precedent that “separate” facilities for blacks and whites were constitutional as long as they were “equal”.
4. Answers will vary but should include information about the Tulsa riot such as the date: 1921, over 35 city blocks were burned to the ground, 20 whites were killed, and an unknown number of blacks (20-300). Additional facts are acceptable.
5. Answers vary by student choice.

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6. Constitutional amendments in 1907 and 1931 made separate schools for “colored” and “white” children a requirement of the state government.
7. Langston University, 1897
8. See completed chart for answers – trend answers will vary

<b>Year</b>	<b>Black Population</b>	<b>White Population</b>	<b>Black Migration</b>
1870	364,000	362,000	n/a
1890	559,000	558,000	3,300
1910	714,000	941,000	-16,100
1930	776,000	1,323,000	-25,500
1950	882,000	1,797,000	-113,800
1960	1,039,000	2,212,000	-66,200