

Critical Race Theory

HISTORY

The History of the Democratic Party on Matters of Race from Reconstruction through the New Deal – and Other Insults to Humanity.

[Complete references on the reverse side]

- ❖ 1865. In the post war south, Democrats passed numerous laws in response to the emancipation proclamation and the 13th amendment in order to try to maintain the social controls of slavery to maintain white supremacy in the south. These laws became known as the "Black Code"¹
- ❖ February 1866: Republican Congressman Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania introduced legislation to give 40 acres and a mule to male, former slaves. Democrat President Andrew Johnson vetoed the measure.²
- ❖ April 9, 1866: Republicans overrode a Presidential veto to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1866. This act affirmed the citizenship of African Americans.³
- ❖ On 30 July 1866, the local Republican party held a mixed-race meeting to address the problem of the "black codes" form of discrimination against Blacks and the rights of Blacks to vote. The democrat Mayor of New Orleans declared the meeting illegal. The meeting commenced with many Blacks attending to show their support. Sanctioned by the democrat Mayor and City Council, the Sheriff of New Orleans, a former confederate general, deputized a posse of democrats in order to disrupt the meeting. The democrats fired into the crowd and savagely beat those trying to escape the carnage. At least 34 blacks were killed with 119 wounded. White (Republican) casualties were 3 dead and 17 wounded.⁴
- ❖ 8 January, 1867: Republicans in Congress voted to override Democrat President Andrew Johnson's veto of a bill that gave African Americans in the District of Columbia the right to vote. Of the Republicans that voted, 98% voted to override the veto. No Democrats voted to override the veto. The override was successful passing 113 to 38.⁵
- ❖ In March of 1868, President Andrew Johnson, when faced with impeachment charges from Republicans, stated "This is a country for white men, and by God as long as I am President, it shall be a government of white men."⁶
- ❖ In May 1868, Republicans introduced the first two African Americans to serve as Presidential Electors. For this, the democrat vice presidential candidate condemned them in his democratic party acceptance speech, accusing Republicans of substituting as electors, men of their own race in favor of a host of "ignorant negroes".⁷
- ❖ September 1868: The Democrat-controlled Georgia state legislature expelled all 33 of its African American members. Action by the Republican-held U.S. congress was able to see them restored to their positions. The next year, the Supreme Court of Georgia ruled that African Americans had the right to hold office in Georgia.⁸
- ❖ In September 1868: About 200 African Americans were murdered by a Democrat mob while they tried to defend a Republican newspaper editor.⁹
- ❖ 22 October, 1868: Republican (white) Congressman from Arkansas was murdered by a member of the Ku Klux Klan while campaigning for Ulysses S. Grant. His murderer was neither arrested nor tried.¹⁰
- ❖ 1/23/1869: The Senate passes a bill providing for the 15th Amendment to the Constitution and guaranteeing the right to vote and hold office for all citizens regardless of race. 91% of Republican who voted, voted in favor of the bill. 100% of Democrats who voted, voted against it. The bill passed 33 to 9.¹¹
- ❖ December 10, 1869: John Campbell, the Republican Governor of the Wyoming Territory, made Wyoming the United States territory or state to grant women the right to vote.¹²
- ❖ 3 February, 1870: The Republican House of Representatives passed the 15th Amendment, granting all male Americans, including African Americans the right to vote. The vote in the House was almost entirely along party lines, with no Democrats supporting the bill and only 3 Republicans voting against it. Only 3% of the house democrats supported the measure. Some "nay" votes were based on the perception that the amendment did not go far enough in its protections. Only Republicans voted for the bill in the Senate. Five Republicans joined 8 Democrats in voting against the bill. The bill passed 39 to 13.¹³
- ❖ 31 May 1870: Republican President Grant signs the Enforcement Act which provided for stiff penalties for people that would be convicted of depriving Americans of their civil rights. The act also attempted to restrict the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and other terrorist organizations from harassing, torturing and killing African Americans. The bill, H.R. 1293 passed almost entirely on party lines. All 54 Democrats who voted, voted against. They were joined by one Republican. 132 of 133 Republicans who voted, voted for the bill. The Senate vote was similar with 41 of 42 voting Republicans voting in favor; one Republican voting with the full complement of seven voting Democrats, voting against the bill.^{14 15 16}
- ❖ 1 July, 1870: The Republican Congress established the US Department of Justice at the request of President Grant in order to counter terror attacks perpetrated by the Democrat led and supported Ku Klux Klan. The DOJ would also work to protect the right to vote and other civil liberties for African Americans.¹⁷
- ❖ 7/11/1870: Republicans pass House Vote #447, the resolution that made the 14th and 15th amendments part of the U.S. constitution. Specific ratification votes in the House and Senate that took place in previous congresses did not have participation by southern states due to a state of martial law being imposed on them after their unsuccessful secession. The 14th Amendment recognized African Americans rights to due process and equal protection under law. The 15th Amendment protected the voting rights of African Americans. Of members that voted on the bill, 99% of Republicans voted in its favor. 97% of Democrats voted against the bill. At the time this bill passed, 138 Representatives voted "yea" while 32 voted "nay" and 60 Representatives, almost evenly split between Republican and Democrat, abstained from voting.¹⁸
- ❖ 1877. Like the Black Code, "Jim Crow law" describes any of a number of laws drafted and passed primarily by white supremacist Democrats in southern states as de-facto extensions of the black codes. Jim Crow laws would enforce racial segregation and help maintain a social power structure favoring whites at the expense of African Americans.¹⁹
- ❖ The Buffalo Sunday News of 10 July, 1887 reported that then democrat lawyer Grover Cleveland had entered into an agreement with a George Brinski in order for Mr. Brinski to fight in the place of Mr. Cleveland in the civil war. This practice was not illegal. Mr. Brinski indicated in an interview that Cleveland, even after he assumed the Presidency of the United States (as a Democrat) refused to pay Mr. Brinski the final half of his \$300 agreed upon fee. President Cleveland would not even help Mr. Brinski get his pension or provide any assistance to Brinski, who was disabled due to injuries sustained in the war.²⁰
- ❖ 8 May 1896. The US Supreme Court ruled on the Plessy vs. Ferguson case. The case was about racial segregation on train cars and was brought by Homer Plessy. As a result of the ruling on the Plessy vs. Ferguson case it was determined that the concept of "separate but equal" as applied to racial segregation, did not violate the 14th Amendment. This ruling was perceived as reinforcement of the validity of so-called "Jim Crow laws".²¹
- ❖ 1902. Future (Democrat) President Woodrow Wilson was appointed President of Princeton University. As President of the university, Wilson discouraged African Americans from applying to the university. No African-Americans were hired as faculty or admitted as undergraduate students during his tenure. Wilson even tried to delete all records that African Americans ever attended or taught at the university.²²
- ❖ 4 March, 1913. Democrat Woodrow Wilson is inaugurated as the 28th President of the United States. President Wilson instituted racial segregation throughout the federal government. This restricted the ability of African Americans to be hired for or promoted within government jobs. Many African American federal employees were fired or demoted- especially if they supervised any Whites. The segregation was so profound that in the U.S. Postal Service, African Americans worked separately from Whites and had separate lunch counters, separate bathrooms and separate water fountains. Working areas were partitioned into cubicles to prevent interracial mingling. Support for the physical segregationist policies of that time were often couched in suggestions that African Americans were characteristically unclean and carried diseases.^{23 24}
- ❖ President Wilson was an apologist for the KKK, stating that KKK was "an invisible Empire of the south, bound together in loose organization to protect the southern country from some of the ugliest hazards of a time of revolution." He helped popularize the pro-KKK movie "The Birth of a Nation", screening the movie in the White House. The movie even quoted from his book "A History of the American People"- which itself did much to defend the KKK.²⁵
- ❖ 25 February, 1922. As a result of KKK violence including lynching, Republicans proposed federal anti-lynching legislation. Of all the members of congress who voted in favor of the bill to protect African Americans from lynching, 96% were Republican. Of those who voted against the bill, 86% were democrats. The bill passed the house narrowly. Of those voting "ne" were 4 future Speakers of the House. All were democrats. When the bill was handed to the senate it failed to pass or even be voted on due to diversionary parliamentary maneuvers and threats of filibuster by Democrats. It would be 15 years before the issue would be addressed again by Congress.^{26 27}
- ❖ 5 April, 1933. Democrat President Franklin Delano Roosevelt outlawed the private ownership of gold and sent government agents to private homes to seize gold on behalf of the government- compensation was in the form of government debt instruments of uncertain value and at well below the market value of gold.²⁸
- ❖ 12 May, 1933. In the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 FDR first introduced into law restrictions on agricultural production per acre and paid farmers to produce less in order to artificially raise prices. Millions of acres of crops were ordered to be destroyed. As a result, the cost of feeding livestock increased and millions of head of baby livestock were killed. Large farms tended to benefit from the government subsidies and many invested in new technologies to mechanize processes. However, the policy put many tenant farmers out of work entirely as the land they tended was taken out of production. Many people went hungry due to FDR's misguided economic experiments that affected the price of food for people already struggling through an economic depression.^{29 30 31}
- ❖ 27 May, 1935. FDR's economic policies were contrary to basic free-market principles. FDR felt it was the federal government that should determine the cost of goods and services- and not the mutually beneficial agreements that are the basis of the free market. So pervasive were FDR's attempts to overrule basic free-market principles that he tried to make "kosher laws" as applied to Jewish food, illegal. A pair of orthodox Jewish brothers had to fight for their right to uphold their own, more restrictive food safety and sanitary standards in front of the Supreme Court, where they prevailed and FDR's National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) was ruled unconstitutional.³²
- ❖ 5 February 1937. FDR attempted a Supreme Court packing scheme where he allowed himself the privilege of appointing an additional justice for each sitting justice over the age of 70. The court's most conservative members at the time were over 70 so FDR's policy would have achieved the political goal of ensuring a pro-socialist supreme court for decades.³³
- ❖ In 1939 Eleanor Roosevelt attended a hearing by the House Committee on Un-American Activities to serve as moral support for the admitted communist revolutionary Joseph Lash. The first lady was reported to have even coached Mr. Lash and his fellow revolutionaries on how best to answer the committee questions. Lash later became Ms. Roosevelt's biographer.³⁴
- ❖ 16 September, 1940. FDR instituted the first peace-time draft ever in the United States.³⁵
- ❖ 27 September 1940. FDR presided over a segregated armed forces. At one point African American leaders requested that African Americans be provided the same treatment, opportunities and responsibilities that were afforded to whites. FDR agreed to the request but neglected to follow through on it. When the African American group leaders returned to FDR to repeat their request the President offered African Americans that wanted to defend their country jobs on ships as musicians.³⁶
- ❖ In 1942, FDR commuted the 48 month sentence of American Communist Party Lead Earl Browder (Venona code name "FATHER") that he received for falsifying his passport so he could travel to Russia. It was widely understood that FDR did this in order to receive Browder's support in the next Presidential election- which he did receive.³⁷
- ❖ In 1943, when Army Intelligence surveillance uncovered a sexual affair between Eleanor Roosevelt and communist Joseph Lash, a vindictive FDR abused his authority and ordered that Lash be sent to a combat zone to fight, immediately.³⁸
- ❖ 1943. FDR commuted the prison sentence (for abusing his passport privileges) of General Secretary of the Communist Party USA, Earl Browder. His administration also violated the 1940 Smith Act to block the deportation of his wife, Raissa Browder who entered the United States illegally and also to allow her to re-enter the United States after she left to visit Moscow. The Smith Act provided that an alien communist could not legally enter the United States.^{39 40}
- ❖ Under FDR the United States Government was allowed to become rife with communist moles or spies. The Venona Papers revealed that the Treasury Department penetrated at the highest levels and that the Office of Strategic Services housed between 15 and 20 spies. Within the White House itself, lawyer and confidant to FDR, Alger Hiss and personal assistant Lauchlin Currie, were revealed to be Soviet moles. The Venona Papers also call out a spy code named "19"- who is widely suspected of being Harry Hopkins, FDR's top advisor. So bad was the compromise of the U.S. State Department under FDR that one Congressional committee Chairman said "It makes me wonder if there is any representation of the United States in the State Department."^{41 42 43}

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