

# Knowledge organiser: How far was equality achieved by the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century?

## Topic Summary:

During the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, people fought for equality in many ways, such as peacefully or violently, through legal changes or through inspiring individuals. This unit will look at the **CHANGE** of equal rights.

## Key Dates:

**1964**

The Civil Rights Act (USA) ended segregation in public places and banned employment discrimination on the basis of race, colour, religion, sex or national origin.

**1967**

Homosexual acts between two men were decriminalised.

**1994**

Nelson Mandela became President of South Africa. This marked the end of apartheid.

**1965**

The Race Relations Act banned racial discrimination in public places and made the promotion of hatred on the grounds of 'colour, race, or ethnic or national origins' an offence.

**1970**

The Equal Pay Act prohibited any less favourable treatment between men and women in terms of pay and conditions of employment.











**1995**

The Disability Discrimination Act protected disabled people against various forms of discrimination.

## Key people:

<b>ANC</b>	The ANC began as a nonviolent civil rights organisation that actively opposed apartheid. In 1961, the ANC formed a military wing called MK, which began a campaign of sabotage against the government.
<b>Martin Luther King</b>	King sought equality and human rights for African Americans, the economically disadvantaged and all victims of injustice through peaceful protest.
<b>Malcolm X</b>	Malcolm X believed that black people were superior to white people. He encouraged black Americans to use violent campaigns against white people.
<b>Brixton Riots</b>	The riots were a series of clashes between mainly black youths and the Metropolitan Police in Brixton, London. It resulted from racist discrimination against the black community by the mainly white police.
<b>Ford Dagenham Strike</b>	In 1968, 187 women sewing machinists at the Ford Motor Company plant in Dagenham, Essex, went on strike. Their jobs had been re-graded at a less skilled grade than men, meaning they were being paid 85% of the rate paid to men.

## Vocabulary:




<b>Discrimination</b> 	The unjust treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.
<b>Equality</b> 	The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, or opportunities.
<b>Racism</b> 	Discrimination against a person based on their race.
<b>Apartheid</b> 	A South African policy or system of segregation or discrimination on grounds of race.
<b>Civil Rights</b> 	The rights of citizens to political and social freedom and equality.
<b>Black Power</b> 	A political slogan that focuses on racial pride and self-determination.
<b>Segregation</b> 	Separating people based on their race.
<b>Disability</b> 	A physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities.
<b>Homosexuality</b> 	A sexual attraction, romantic attraction, or sexual behaviour between members of the same sex or gender.
<b>Feminism</b> 	The promotion of women's rights on the basis of the equality of the sexes.

**Core Knowledge:**

<p><b>Lesson 1:</b> How did people in South Africa fight to end apartheid?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Apartheid</b> was a system in South Africa (1948–1990s) where the white minority controlled everything, and <b>people of other races were treated unfairly and denied basic rights.</b></li> <li>• In the 1970s and 80s, more people began to protest apartheid, and the government responded with violence. Some small changes were made, but they didn't fix the problem.</li> <li>• Between 1987 and 1994, the government and the ANC (led by Nelson Mandela) worked together to end apartheid. Mandela was freed in 1990, and South Africa had its first fair election in 1994.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 2:</b> How did African Americans fight for civil rights in America?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A major effort in the U.S. to end racial segregation, discrimination, and unfair voting rules, using <b>nonviolent protests and grassroots activism.</b></li> <li>• <b>The Civil Rights Act</b> (1964) banned discrimination and segregation; the <b>Voting Rights Act</b> (1965) protected minority voting rights; the <b>Fair Housing Act</b> (1968) ended housing discrimination.</li> <li>• These laws gave all Americans stronger legal protections for equality in schools, jobs, public places, voting, and housing.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 3:</b> How did the Black Power Movement bring about change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many African Americans, especially young people, felt the Civil Rights Movement didn't address the deeper issues of poverty and powerlessness caused by long-term racism and discrimination.</li> <li>• In the 1960s and 70s, the <b>Black Power movement</b>, inspired by Malcolm X and global liberation movements, <b>focused on Black pride, economic empowerment, and building independent political and cultural institutions.</b></li> <li>• Some Black Power groups, like the <b>Black Panther Party</b>, were more willing to use violence, following Malcolm X's idea of seeking freedom and justice "by any means necessary."</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 4:</b> How did black people fight for civil rights in Britain?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the 1950s, Britain invited Caribbean workers to help rebuild after the war, but they faced <b>rising racial violence and discrimination, with many immigrants forced into low-paying jobs despite their skills.</b></li> <li>• By the 1960s, as Britain's economy declined, Black workers were the first to lose their jobs, often working harder for less pay, experiencing racism similar to that in the U.S., though on a smaller scale.</li> <li>• Key figures like Paul Stephenson led movements like the 1963 <b>Bristol Bus Boycott</b>, which successfully ended racial hiring discrimination. By the 1970s, Britain introduced stricter immigration rules and laws making racial discrimination illegal.</li> </ul>

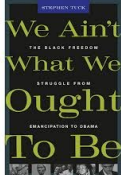
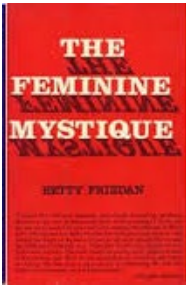
Pace	Extent	Nature
Rapidity	Length	Category
Speed	Range	Complexity
Rate	Scope	Type
Swiftness	Proportion	Diversity
Quickness	Degree	Character
Velocity	Magnitude	Essence
Tempo	Scale	Variety
Momentum	Level	Quality

**Core Knowledge:**

<p><b>Lesson 5:</b> How far did the position of disabled people transform in the twentieth century?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW1 helped to change views that people with disability were a burden on society. Many disabled war veterans fought for the right to work as part of the <b>Unemployed Workers Movement</b>.</li> <li>• Through the work of organisations and influential people with disabilities, the <b>Disability Discrimination Act</b> was passed in 1995.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 6:</b> How far did legal reform advance the movement for LGBTQ+ rights in the Twentieth Century?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite extreme oppression and discrimination, hundreds of thousands of LGBTQ+ historical figures pushed hard for their and others' freedom. Their rights have transformed from <b>homosexuality being punishable by imprisonment or death, banned from being taught in schools, and diagnosed as a mental illness, to being celebrated in Pride parades and given equal marriage and adoption rights.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson 7:</b> Did legal equality result in actual equality for women?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Women's Liberation Movement of the 1960s-80s employed shock tactics in their fight, which largely <b>focused on gaining equality over the right to control their bodies with right to abortion and the contraceptive pill, equal pay for equal work, and legal equality to overcome sex discrimination.</b></li> <li>• In 1968, 40 women workers at Ford's Dagenham factory went on strike for equal pay, leading to the <b>Equal Pay Act of 1970</b>, which addressed wage discrimination between men and women.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Enquiry Outcome:</b> How do I complete the enquiry outcome well?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Political</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Economic</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Social</p>  </div> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You need to give evidence of the different campaigns for equality in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and to what extent they changed people's lives.</li> <li>• You need to make a <b>judgement</b> on how far equality <b>changed</b> during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century by considering the <b>scale, scope and impact</b> of each campaign.</li> </ul>

**What do historians say?**

**How can I find out more?**

<p><b>Stephen Tuck 'We Ain't What We Used To Be - The Black Freedom Struggle from Emancipation to</b></p> 	<p>It highlights the deep-rooted impact of white supremacy and systemic racism on U.S. society. Tuck emphasizes the diversity of strategies within the movement, from nonviolent resistance to more militant approaches, and explores the achievements and setbacks of Black Americans, such as the Civil Rights Act and ongoing inequality. Despite progress, racial injustice persists, underscoring that the struggle for true equality is far from complete.</p>
<p><b>Betty Friedan 'Feminine Mystique'</b></p> 	<p>Friedan critiques the idealization of women as fulfilled only by domesticity and motherhood, arguing that this "feminine mystique" led to widespread dissatisfaction and a loss of identity. She highlights how societal pressures, media, and advertisers reinforced this limiting role. Friedan calls for a reevaluation of women's roles, advocating for equal opportunities, education, and the freedom to pursue careers and personal fulfilment beyond traditional gender expectations, sparking the second-wave feminist movement.</p>

- BBC Bitesize – Civil Rights Campaigns 1945-1965



- Made in Dagenham

