

Black discrimination

Historic facts:

The Apartheid was a system of institutionalized racial segregation that existed in South Africa from 1948 until the early 1990s. Apartheid was characterised by an authoritarian political culture based on white supremacy, which ensured that South Africa was dominated politically, socially, and economically by the nation's minority white population. According to this system of social stratification, white citizens had the highest status, followed in descending order by Asians, Coloured, and black Africans. The economic legacy and social effects of Apartheid continue to the present day (The police's bias when it comes to arresting black people and “accidentally “shooting them). Nelson Mandela fought all his life against the Apartheid and won by becoming president of South Africa.

Black Lives Matter is a decentralized political and social movement protesting against incidents of police brutality and all racially motivated violence against black people. The movement started in July 2013 after the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the shooting death of African-American teen Trayvon Martin. The movement became nationally recognized for street demonstrations following the 2014 deaths of two African Americans resulting in protests in Ferguson, Missouri. It returned to national headlines and gained further international attention during the global George Floyd protests in 2020 following its murder in Minneapolis by a police officer. An estimated 15 million to 26 million people participated in the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests in the United States, making it one of the largest movements in the country's history.

Jim Crow laws were state and local laws that enforced racial discrimination in the South of the US. All were enacted in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by white Democratic-dominated state legislatures. (ex: *"It shall be unlawful for a negro and white person to play together or in company with each other at any game of pool or billiards."*)

1955 : Rosa Parks refuse to give up her seat: civil rights movement

1964 : The civil rights act : banned discrimination based on “race, sex color or national origin”

2014 : The Ferguson Riots : a series of protests began after the fatal shooting of a young black man, Michael Brown.

Examples of Black discrimination today:

Systemic racism: also known as institutional racism is a form of racism that is embedded as normal practice within society or an organization. It can lead to such issues as discrimination in criminal justice, employment, housing, health care, political power, and education, among other issues

Criminal justice:

Police and criminal justice systems are still heavily biased against Afro-Americans:

-1/3 black baby born today is expected to go to jail during his lifetime

- Black men are 6 times more likely to go to jail than white men for committing the same offense

-BLM and George Floyd

On May 25, Minneapolis police officers arrested George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, after a convenience store employee called 911 and told the police that Mr. Floyd had bought cigarettes with a counterfeit \$20 bill. Seventeen minutes after the first squad car arrived at the scene, Mr. Floyd was unconscious and pinned beneath three police officers, showing no signs of life. He was dead : this unjustified murder lead to a wave of riots in the country. In the wake of the murder, a lot of people, demonstrated in order to denounce police violence which regularly happens. Some went to demonstrate at the White House. D.Trump, who was then President, took refuge in a bunker.

Employment:

African Americans Face Systematic Obstacles to Getting Good Jobs: African American workers still face more hurdles to get a job than their white counterparts. They continue to face systematically higher unemployment rates, fewer job opportunities, lower pay, poorer benefits, and greater job instability. These persistent differences reflect systematic barriers to quality jobs, such as outright discrimination against African American workers, as well as occupational segregation—whereby African American workers often end up in lower-paid jobs than whites

Housing:

Most still live in disadvantage inner-cities such as the notorious Watts neighborhood in LA and South Side in Chicago where underemployment, drug abuse and violence are endemic

Health care:

Infant mortality rates are higher among African-American
Black Americans died of Covid-19 at 3 times the rate of white people in the US: they are more affected by diabetes, obesity because they cannot afford healthy food and a good health coverage.

Political power:

Until 2009, Black personalities were underrepresented in the US political system while they represent 12% of the American population.

First women vice president : Kamela Harris : **'Harris Has the Potential To Change the**

Face of U.S. Politics'

America will have its first female vice president, as well as its first Black and South Asian-American vice president. She will be second in line for the most powerful office in the world. She committed to fighting against racism

Education:

Many are still uneducated largely because of underfunded education system

Culture:

In 2018, Marvel released its first movie putting forward a black superhero, embodied by Chadwick Boseman.

Other facts:

Single-parent families are disproportionately common among them

Problématiques :

Has racial discrimination disappeared ? Are Laws the most efficient tools to protect Black people's rights ?

Vocabulary :

Systemic racism

Apartheid

Segregation

Police blunder

Protests

Demonstrations

Drug abuse

inner-city

choke

segregation

to demonstrate

a manslaughter = un homicide volontaire

white supremacy

a minority

to be biased