

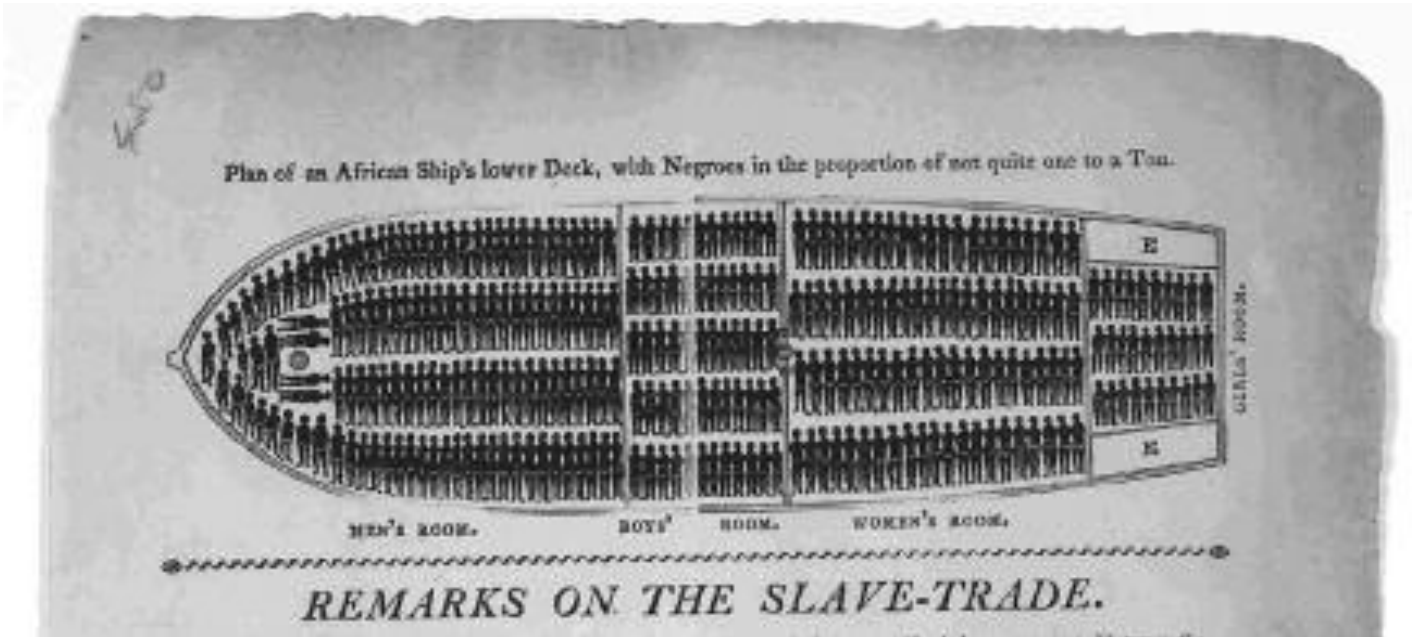
1455



Pope Nicholas V grants the nation of Portugal the divine right to vanquish ‘all pagan kingdoms whatsoever,’ taking their land and possessions, and enslaving their people.

Forty years later, after the discovery of the ‘New World,’ Pope Alexander VI grants the same rights to Spain.

1619



SLAVERY BEGINS. First shipload of African slaves to American colonies arrives in Jamestown, Virginia.

1789



Northern and Southern states debate taxation, representation, and slavery at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

In the final compromise, the United States Constitution decrees that individuals held in slavery will be counted as ‘three-fifths of a person.’

1830



Removal Act mandates the removal of Native Americans from east of the Mississippi River to “Indian Territory” in Oklahoma. Over 30,000 people die during forced migration, which the Cherokee remember as “The Trail of Tears.”

1846-1848



Mexican-American War: The U.S. invades Mexico for control of land and resources. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is signed in 1848, transferring over 55% of Mexican land to the U.S. (present-day Arizona, California, New Mexico, Texas, and parts of Colorado, Nevada and Utah).

Mexican citizens living in this territory have the choice to gain U.S. citizenship within one year, although many forcibly lose their land.



1865 (June)

Some 40,000 freed slaves were settled on what was referred to as “Sherman’s Land” on some 400,000 acres of land in Georgia and South Carolina. Much of this land was for rice cultivation. The Freedmen created their own government, denied white access to the area and cultivated their land

1865 (Summer)

President Johnson reverses Sherman's Field Order 15 by ordering that virtually all plantation lands given to freed slaves be returned to the original plantation owners.

1865 (October)

Petitions by Blacks were drafted to protest betrayal. The first stated: "General, we want Homesteads, we were promised Homesteads by the government. If it does not carry out the promises its agents made to us...we are left in a more unpleasant condition than our former....You will see this is not the condition of really free men." (Eric Foner & Joshua Brown, Forever Free: The Story of Emancipation and Reconstruction)

1887-1934



As a result of the **General Allotment Act of 1887** (also called the Dawes Act), 90 million acres of Indian land—nearly two-thirds of the total Indian land base—were taken out of Indian ownership and control. From 1887 to 1934, 60 million acres of “surplus” Indian lands were sold or transferred to non-Indians and another 30 million acres were lost due to the 1906 Burke Act, forced sales and other takings. All of these alienated Indian lands remained within reservation boundaries but were no longer under Indian ownership and control. In the end, land that had been held in common by the entire tribe was now divided into a jumbled mix of trust lands, fee lands, and lands owned by the tribe, individual Indians and non-Indians.

1896



Plessy v. Ferguson: Supreme Court rules that 'separate but equal' facilities for people of color are valid under the Constitution. The ruling opens the door for Jim Crow laws and racial segregation in every aspect of public life.

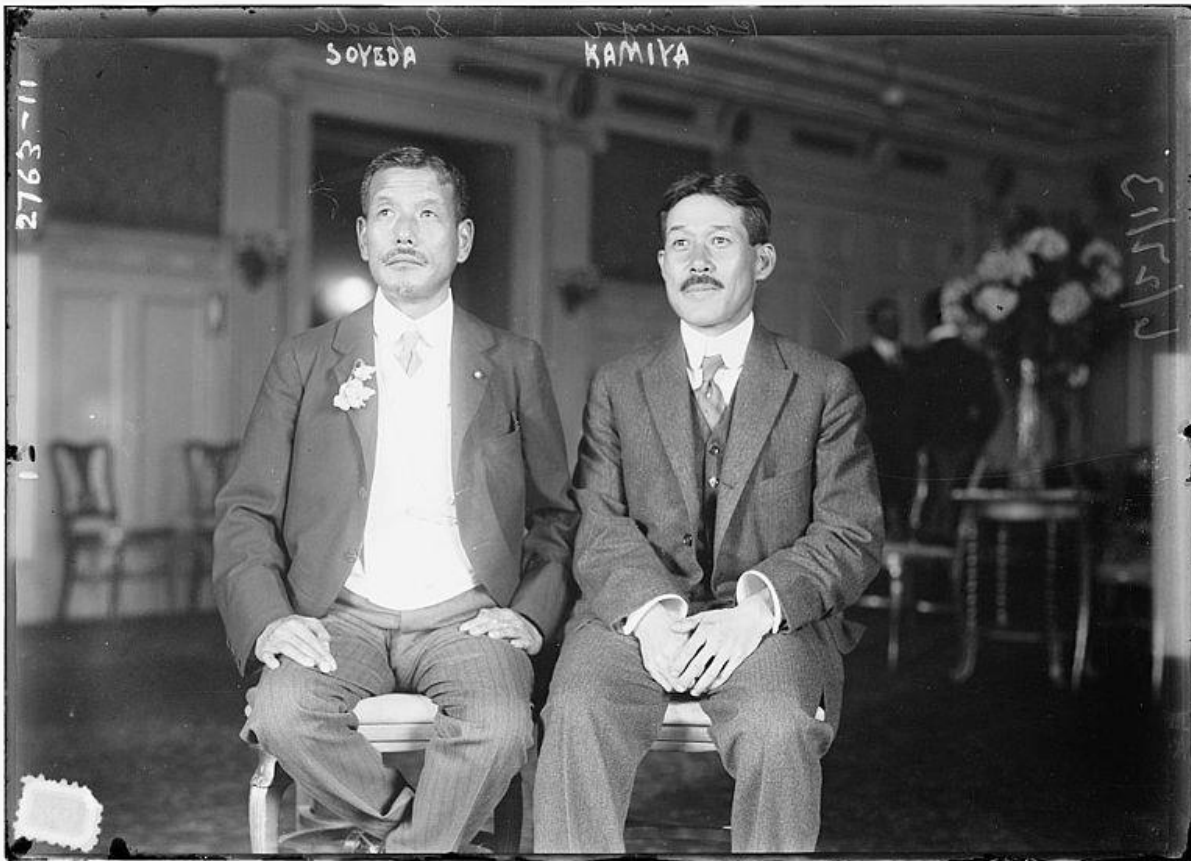
1910-1940



“Having fun at roller skating rink of Savoy Ballroom,” and “House and children in Negro section of Chicago, Illinois 1941.”

Great Migration: Over 1 million African Americans migrate from the South to the North to escape lynchings, Jim Crow laws, and economic hardship. They seek out better jobs and an overall better life in the North.

1913



Juichi Soyeda and Tadao Kamiya of Japan arrive in 1913 to lobby against the law

The California Alien Land Law of 1913 (also known as the Webb-Haney Act) prohibited "aliens ineligible for citizenship" from owning agricultural land or possessing long-term leases over it, but permitted leases lasting up to three years. [1] It affected the Chinese, Indian, Japanese, and Korean immigrant farmers in California. Implicitly, the law was primarily directed at the Japanese.

1942



Japanese Internment. Over 112,000 Japanese Americans, most of them U.S. citizens, are placed in military internment camps during World War II.

1943



The Bracero Program brings in over 5 million temporary workers from Mexico, mostly to fill agricultural labor shortages during World War II. The program was ended in 1964 and all braceros were deported.

1954



Brown v. Board of Education: Supreme Court rules that racial segregation in public schools violates the Constitution. The next year the Court orders that desegregation occur "with all deliberate speed."

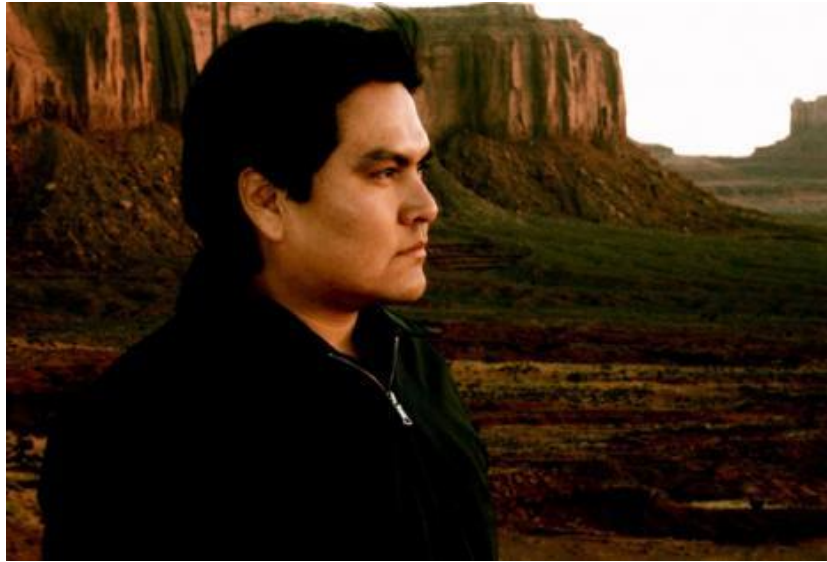
1964



Civil Rights Act outlaws discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin. The Act includes a section that specifically addresses discrimination and segregation in primary and secondary schools.

Title VI of the Act requires that individuals with Limited English Proficiency must receive 'an equal level and quality of service' under any federally funded program, including public schools.

1960s



By 1900, the Indian population within the borders of the United States, which numbered in the millions when Europeans first reached North America, had been reduced to 250,000, most of them living in extreme poverty on reservations. But contrary to the expectations of many white Americans, Indians stubbornly refused to ‘die out’. Instead, their population began to rebound. It reached four million in the 2000 census. Meanwhile, thanks to the American Indian Movement, one of the numerous social crusades spawned by the 1960s, Indians embarked on a militant campaign for greater rights and historical restitution.

1980s to today

In 1920, 1 in every 7 farmers was black; in 1982, 1 in every 67 farmers was black.

In 1910, black farmers owned 15 million acres of farmland; in 1982, black farmers owned 3.1 million acres of farmland.

By the late 1980s, there were fewer than 2000 African-American farmers under the age of 25.

Today, there are fewer than 18,000 black farmers, representing less than 1% of all farms in America.

1998



In 1998, a lawsuit was filed against the US Department of Agriculture on behalf of Black farmers in regards to been denied loans and other assistance that had been routinely extended to white farmers (Johnson, 2009). The period covered by the law suit was from 1981 to 1999 and exposed how USDA personnel were hostile to Black farmers. There were about 925,000 African American farmers (owners, tenants, croppers) in the 1920s, but by 1997 the number of Black farmers had dropped to 18,451 (Johnson, 2009). Much of the problem resulted because Black farmers were not represented on local USDA committees, and both federal and private lending agencies were unresponsive to the needs of Black farmers (Gilbert and Sharp, 2002).

2005



New Orleans and the Gulf Coast had relatively high percentages of Black home ownership (over 40% in 1995 (Bureau of the Census, 1995, pp. 2 & 3), for example), but significant homes and property have been lost since the Hurricane in 2005. According to Appleseed (no date), after the devastation left by the hurricane, heir property owners in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the storms could not qualify for various Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) and the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rebuilding grants unless and until they could provide a clear title to their land. Heir property remains a serious issue and continues to contribute to asset stripping in African American communities, particularly in the southeast. The value of heir property as an asset is limited because heir property cannot be adequately documented, and thus cannot be used as collateral for a loan nor can it be used as a share against an investment (Pennick 2010: 11).

2006-Present

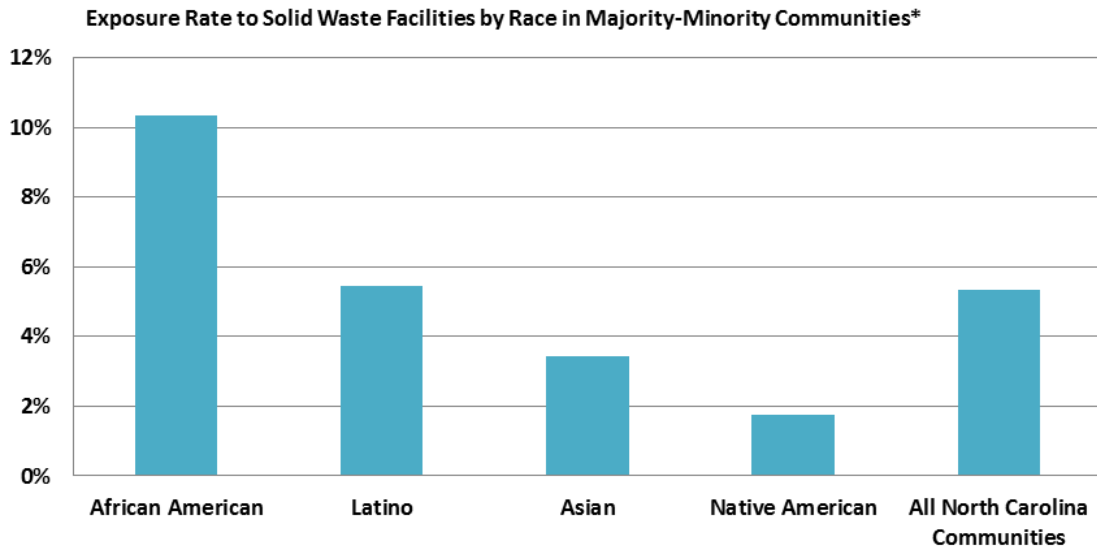


287(g) and Secure Communities: Department of Homeland Security begins policies that authorize local law enforcement to act as immigration officers. Immigrant communities across the country report skyrocketing rates of racial profiling, police checkpoints, and human rights abuses.

Today



PLACE MATTERS:
Majority-African American Communities are Most Exposed to Solid Waste Facilities in North Carolina



*Distance used in exposure rate is within one mile

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Source: UNC Center on Civil Rights, State of Exclusion Report, 2013.