



Teaching with Primary Sources - Civil Rights Fellowship

SC in the Civil Rights Movement - From Isaac Woodard to *Brown v. Board of Education* Frances Meetze and Joye Taylor

Overview

Title: SC in the Civil Rights Movement - From Isaac Woodard to *Brown v. Board of Education*

Overview: This lesson looks at the blinding of Isaac Woodard in Batesburg, SC and follows how this event led to major changes in the fight for civil rights, including the connection to *Briggs v. Elliott* and *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Understanding goal: The goal of this lesson is to show how a little known incident in a small South Carolina town led to major changes for African Americans in the whole country: integration of the military and schools.

Objectives: TSWBAT:

- 1) Analyze primary sources to make connections to major events of the Civil Rights Movement.
- 2) Explain how the blinding of Isaac Woodard led to Executive Order 9981.
- 3) Explain the role of South Carolina in the landmark civil rights case, *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Investigative question: What does Batesburg, SC have to do with the landmark court case, *Brown v. Board of Education*?

Grades: 10-12

Subjects: United States History - CP, Honors, AP; African American Studies

Standards

Standards: USHC.5.CC Evaluate continuities and changes during the Civil Rights Movement and other subsequent movements for equal rights.

APUSH 8.L: Explain how and why various groups responded to calls for the expansion of civil rights from 1960 to 1980.

APUSH 8.M: Explain the various ways in which the federal government responded to the calls for the expansion of civil rights.

Materials

Materials:

For Breakout Room: [Directions](#)

- ABC multilock
- Directional multilock
- 3-digit lock
- 4-digit lock
- Keyed lock
- 5 locked boxes

LOC [document analysis sheets](#)

Butcher paper for Cause and Effect ladders

Glue

Scissors

Resources

Resources:

Primary Sources:

- 1) [Isaac Woodward](#)
- 2) [Orson Welles Reading Affidavit](#)
- 3) [Truman discusses Woodard](#)
- 4) [Executive Order 9981](#)
- 5) [Judge Waties Waring dissenting opinion - *Briggs v. Elliott*](#)
- 6) [Brown v. Board Decision](#)
- 7) [The Nation](#) newspaper article
- 8) [New Republic](#) NY newspaper article about Isaac
- 9) [Police Chief Charged](#) newspaper article
- 10) [Chief Acquitted](#) newspaper article
- 11) [Advertisement for benefit concert](#)

Secondary Sources

- 1) [Briggs v. Elliott](#)

Procedure

Procedure:

- 1) Students are broken into groups based on the number of Breakout Room/Boxes available to you (3 are suggested). Students will then compete in a “Breakout Room” with information to tell the story of how the blinding of Isaac Woodard led to the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

- 2) Students are then split into different groups of 3-4 students and are given folders with the primary and secondary sources in them. Students will read through the sources to try to lay out the events in order. **Two of these sources are digital and will need to be shared electronically.** Students will be told that the events range from 1946 to 1954.
- 3) While looking at each document, students will use the LOC [document analysis sheets](#). ([Teachers Guide](#))
- 4) Based on their analysis, students will put the sources in order and create a cause and effect ladder, explaining each connection. These will be glued onto butcher paper with the explanations between each document on how they lead to the next event/document.
- 5) Have students present their cause and effect ladders to the class. Students will discuss and debate any differences in their ladders and then create one class ladder.
- 6) In their groups, students will create a podcast or TedTalk to explain how the blinding of Isaac Woodard connects to the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Evaluation

Evaluation: Students will create a [Podcast or Ted Talk](#) to explain how the blinding of Isaac Woodard connects to the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Extensions: Students can choose one aspect of this story (Executive Order 9981, Briggs v. Elliott, Brown v. Board of Education, Judge Julius Waties Waring, Thurgood Marshall) to dig deeper into and write a research paper on their findings.

Credits

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