

African American Civil Rights



1863

The Emancipation Proclamation – President Lincoln frees slaves in Confederate states.

1868

The 14th Amendment guarantees citizenship to all people born or naturalized in the U.S., including former slaves.

1896

Plessy v. Ferguson – Supreme Court determines that segregation is legal using “separate but equal” argument.

1865

The 13th Amendment abolishes slavery.

1870

The 15th Amendment grants the right to vote for all male citizens, regardless of race.

1890s

Jim Crow laws are common in many Southern states and segregate black people from white people.