



Look at the documents and read the paragraph below.

PLESSY V. FERGUSON

SEPARATE, BUT EQUAL

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The Plessy v. Ferguson played an important role in U.S. history. Homer Plessy decided to sit in a white train car even though he knew he was going to get in trouble. Plessy later got arrested and his case made it all the way to the supreme court. The court ruling had a huge impact on the United States and on society.

→ In the case of *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racially separate facilities, if equal, did not violate the Constitution. Segregation, the Court said, was not discrimination. Then the laws established the “separate but equal” standard in the American society as shown below.

“Jim Crow” Laws. Read the following text and complete the grid.

The name « Jim Crow » is often used to describe the segregation laws. Jim Crow was a black character (a caricature of a silly black slave) performed by a white actor, from Virginia, called Thomas Rice or ‘Daddy’ Rice. He used the character of Jim Crow to make fun of black people. He wore a blackface makeup: he darkened his face with charcoal paste or burnt cork to resemble a black man. He was clad in old-fitting clothes (=rags). Then, he sang and danced a routine in caricature of a lazy and buffoonish black person.

Jim Crow used to be a stock character in an old song, in a minstrel show in the 1830's. The minstrel show was an American form of entertainment developed in the 19th century in the USA.

The term « Jim Crow » soon came to be used as an insult against black people and it came to stand for segregation and discrimination against African-Americans. By 1900, the term was generally identified with those racist laws and actions that deprived African Americans of their civil rights by defining blacks as inferior to whites. Those laws were enforced by various American States from 1896 to 1964.



Name		
Job / status		
Black or white ?		
When ?		
Where ?		
Personality		

Conclude :TheLaws were a series of..... laws that in various states of the USA (especially in the.....) from.....to.....

They deprived Black people of theirand defined them asto white people.