

JIM CROW AND WHITE SUPREMACY

In the years following 1890, white Southerners deprived African Americans of the rights won during the Civil War and Reconstruction. In state after state they passed laws which denied black people the ordinary legal rights taken for granted by white American citizens, including the right to vote. Rigid segregation laws dictated where black people could live, work, go to school, worship, even be buried. The Supreme Court upheld segregation in Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896. This elaborate system of segregation and oppression was called Jim Crow. Anyone who defied Jim Crow risked the sheriff - or the terror of a lynch mob. According to an NAACP study, there were 3436 lynchings between 1889 and 1922. Jim Crow laws were not dismantled until the victories of the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s.

QUESTION:

**How did white landholders, merchants and businessmen stand to benefit from Jim Crow?
What about white sharecroppers and working people?**

QUESTION:

In 1954 in Brown vs. Board of Education, the Supreme Court finally declared segregated education a violation of the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. Why would this be so?