

THE DECISION TO MOVE

The decision to move to a strange city is never an easy one. Although segregation, lack of economic opportunity, poor schools, and the daily humiliations of Jim Crow were strong incentives to leave the South, personal considerations complicated the decision. Many African Americans found a deep sense of security in their families, friends, and communities. Moving, especially to a large, unfamiliar and distant city, would mean breaking those bonds. How will you survive? Does one family member move first, get settled, and then bring the others? Will you make find new friends? Many African Americans remained in the South like Unita Blackwell in Goin' to Chicago who in the 1960s became a leader in the civil rights movement.

QUESTION:

What would be your biggest concerns if you had to move to a strange city today?

QUESTION:

How did the black migration resemble and differ from earlier European immigrations to the U.S?