

**Unit II: UNDERSTANDING
DOMINANT-MINORITY RELATIONS
IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY**

SOC/SWK 4100
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**Focus on African
Americans**

“Jim Crow Laws”

series of laws put in place to disenfranchise the freed
slaves and other minority groups

**Plessy versus Ferguson
(1896)**

legalized “separate but equal” accommodations

**Brown versus the
Board of Education of
Topeka, Kansas (1954)**

formal challenge to Plessy ruling in area of education
ruled that separate but equal had no place in education

**Reactions to “Brown v
Board”**

- riots, protests and school boycotts
- Gov. Faubus in Arkansas
- Gov. Wallace in Alabama
- Ruby Bridges in Louisiana

Rosa Parks in Montgomery Alabama (1955)

- arrested for not giving up her seat on a bus
- city wide boycott of bus system led by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- city desegregated bus system

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)

organization founded by Martin Luther King, Jr.
organized marches, protests, events and spread information (non-violent direct actions)

Civil Rights Act of 1964

outlawed Jim Crow practices, discrimination and segregation of public facilities

Black Panthers and “Black Power”

vigilante group focused on overturning power structure
“black power” was the group’s mantra

Black Nationalism

focus on embracing African culture and cultural pride
linked to Malcolm X and Nation of Islam (a Muslim faith)

White Privilege

Criminal Justice

- rates of incarceration
- war on drugs
- racial profiling
- stigma
- family implications
- use of excessive force

Social and Economic Networks

Connections to:

- policies and politics
- housing
- education
- work opportunities
- health and mental health

Focus on Native Americans

U.S. Policy of separation

tribes treated as separate Nations (treaties and negotiations handled through Sec. of War)

Indian Removal Act (1830)

relocated Eastern tribes to west of the Mississippi River
"Trail of Tears"

U.S. Policy of assimilation

shift in policy by 1880's to assimilate tribes into the general U.S. population (distinct cultural components)

General Allotment Act (known as the Dawes Act) (1887)

- goal to encourage assimilation
- used blood quantum as qualifier
- given land and 25 years to make it productive or it would be reclaimed

Indian Claims Commission Act (1946)

established to hear disputes with Dawes Act
no power to act on complaints

Use of boarding schools for children

Termination Act (1953)

phasing out of Bureau of Indian Affairs services
intended to give independence to tribes

Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (1975)

tribal control over educational opportunities
established tribally run colleges
prevent "brain drain"

American Indian Movement (AIM)

- “Red Power”
- Nationalist movement (cultural pride)
- used confrontation and media attention
 - Fish-ins, marches, occupations and protests

Use of resources and industry development

Connections to:

- policies and politics
- housing
- education
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- health and mental health

Focus on LatinX Americans

Terminology and groups “lumped” under term LatinX

anyone Spanish speaking or from South America
our largest sub-population in the U.S.

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848)

resolution of Mexican-American War
U.S. paid \$15 million to annex TX, NM, AZ and most of CA (protection given to Nationals there)

Immigration policies (Border restrictions were not official until 1965)

- Repatriation (1929 - 1935)
- Los Braceros Program (1942 - 1964)
- Operation Wetback (1954 - 1959)
- NAFTA (1994 -)
- DACA (2001 - 2017)

Puerto Ricans (1898)

U.S. annexed Puerto Rico due to its strategic location

Jones Act (1917)

unrestricted access between island and mainland

Puerto Rico commonwealth (1952)

have full citizenship rights except no representation in Congress (therefore no Federal voting, no Federal taxes)

Immigration from Cuba

- 1959 - 1962
- 1962 - 1965
- 1965 - 1973
- 1980's ("Freedom Flotilla")
- Mariel boat lift ("Marielitos")
- Wet feet / Dry feet

Connections to:

- policies and politics
- housing
- education
- work opportunities
- health and mental health

Focus on Asian Americans

Groups “lumped” under the term Asian

approximately 59 separate groups
40% are Chinese and Filipino
60% mainly Japanese, Asian Indian and Korean

Chinese (1848)

first documented immigrants from China
started flow of immigration into U.S. for labor work

California immigration tax (1855)

“head tax” of \$55 per immigrant in addition to required fees for immigration to the U.S.

California outlawing Chinese immigration (1858)

attempt to limit individuals coming into the State

Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)

Congress suspended Chinese immigration to the U.S. for a period of 10 years (no citizenship for those here)

Amendment to Chinese Exclusion Act (1888)

- exemption given for merchants, students, teachers, government officials
- extended until its repeal in 1943

Transcontinental Railroad (1869)

labor for Western portion of railroad
excluded from ceremony for completion

“Gentleman’s Agreement” with Japan (1907)

limiting number of labor workers or their family
members able to emigrate to the U.S.

Alien Land Act (1913)

- California
- prohibited anyone not eligible for citizenship from owning property (Chinese, Japanese, Native Americans....)
- declared unconstitutional in 1948 Supreme Court ruling

December 7, 1941

- “Day that will live in infamy”
- Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, HI
- belief Japanese Americans helped to plan the attack

Executive Order 9066 (February 19, 1942)

- authorized “military zones” and “relocation camps”
- approx. 110,000 relocated (1/8 Japanese)
- forced sell of property unless in trustee care

Korean American immigration (1903 - 1905)

- arrived initially in HI, then on to CA - experienced low wages and poor conditions
- Korea banned immigration to U.S. until post Korean War (1950's)

“Kye”

system of rotating loans within the Korean American communities (low interest rate, high support)

Tension between Asian American and other minority communities

access to resources, job opportunities and businesses
locations often in close proximity
1992 riots in Los Angeles approx. 2000 Korean owned businesses damaged

Connections to:

- policies and politics
- housing
- education
- work opportunities
- health and mental health

Perception of “Model Minority”

Focus on Arab Americans

Who are Arab Americans?

anyone who speaks an Arabic based language, practices Islam or identifies with Arab traditions

Naturalization Act of 1790

limited citizenship to “free white persons”
early Arab immigrants did not qualify for citizenship

Sojourner orientation in 19th Century

make money in the U.S. then return to country of origin (served in Middle Man positions)

Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996

increased govt. authority to detain and interrogate individuals suspected of links to terrorism
suspended civil rights in process

Patriot Act of 2001

expands govt. power to detain, question and deport
indefinite detention, warrant-less searches

Executive Order 13769

- “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry”
 - focused on religious affiliation
 - “Muslim ban”

Connections to:

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- housing
- education
- work opportunities
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Focus on New Immigration patterns

Debate over cost and benefits of immigrants

Trends for immigration

- “Waves”
- 1. Northern and Western Europe
- 2. Southern and Eastern Europe
- 3. All over the globe