# Aim: What obstacles did African Americans face following Reconstruction?

**<u>Do Now</u>**: In you opinion, was Reconstruction too lenient or too harsh on the South? Explain?

#### **Homework**:

Thurs 10/4: Review Sheet Due

Add – Booker T. Washington

W.E.B Dubois

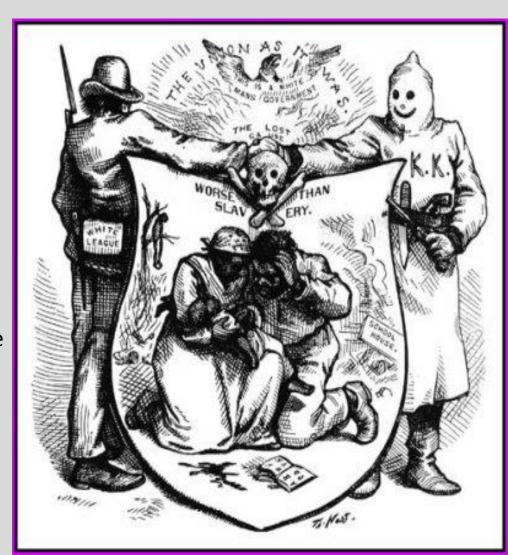
<u>Fri 10/5</u>: Exam-Civil War, Reconstruction and the New South

## Solid South

• **Elections** 

## Political Developments

- The "Solid South" –
   Democratic Party
   dominated until 1960s
- Gov'ts led by Redeemers
  - Reactionary nostalgia for the "Old South"
  - Supported:
    - States rights limited role of federal government
    - White Supremacy
- Disenfranchisement of southern blacks



 How were the rights of African Americans restricted in the New South?

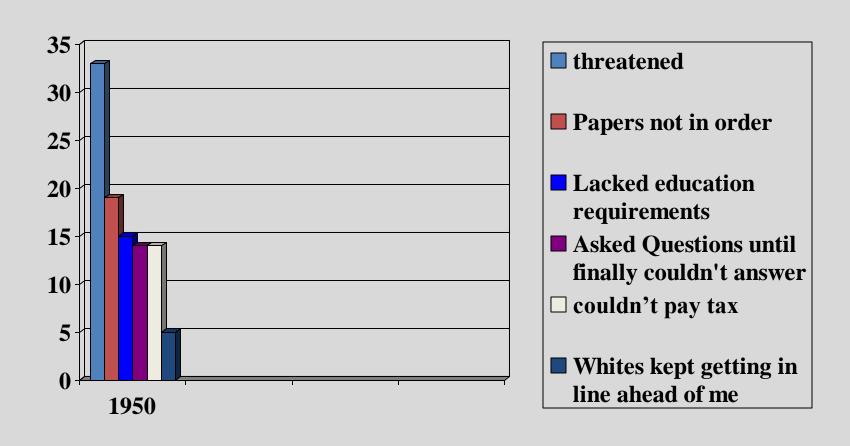
## **Voting Restrictions**

- Legal
  - Poll taxes: fee to vote
  - <u>Literacy Tests</u>: answer questions in order to vote.
  - Grandfather Clause:
     exempt from poll tax and literacy test if your grandfather voted before Reconstruction
- Intimidation



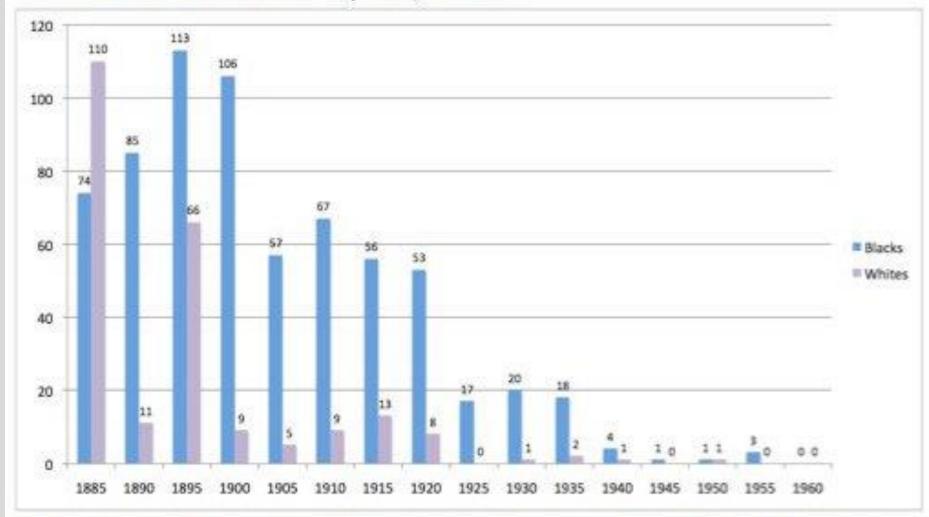
- Suffrage the right to vote
- Franchise the right to vote
- Disenfranchisement: the act of depriving someone of the right to vote

# Why Blacks who tried were not always able to register to vote



#### Lynching in America

Number of black and white citizens lynched, 1885-1960



Source: "Lynchings: By State and Race, 1882-1968". Statistics provided by the Archives at the Tuskegee Institute.

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# Lynchings



# Lynching Postcard Dallas, Texas



#### **Back of Post Card**

"Well John, This is a token of a great day we had in Dallas, March 3, a negro was hung for an assault on a three year-old girl. I saw this on my noon hour. I was very much in the bunch. You can see the negro hanging on the telephone pole.



• **Lynch**: To put to death, especially by hanging, by mob action and without legal authority.

• **Lynch Mob**: A group of people intent on lynching someone.

## White Supremacy

The belief, theory, or doctrine that white people are inherently superior to people from all other racial groups, especially black people, and are therefore rightfully the dominant group in any society

# Aim: What obstacles did African Americans face following Reconstruction?



# Social Developments: Rise of Jim Crow (Segregation)



#### Jim Crow Laws

Segregation Laws – legal Separation of the Races



# WE SERVE WHITE'S only NO SPANISH MEXICANS



DOGS NEGROES MEXICANS

CONFERRN PRETADERN ADDR.

REWHITE

REST ROOMS ITE COLORED

L&N

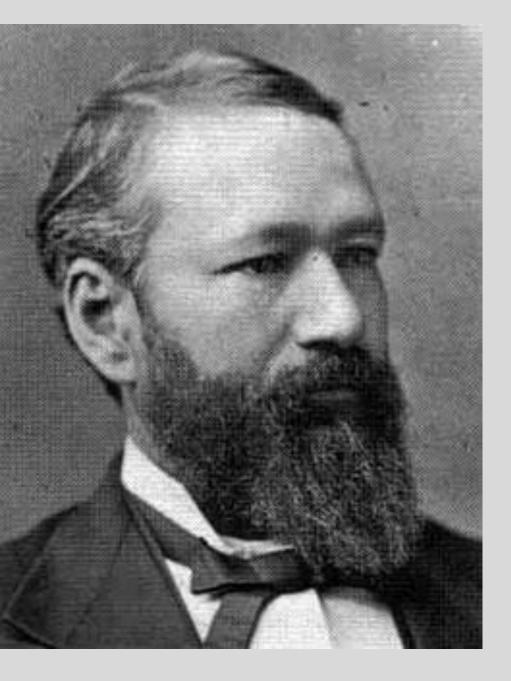
BAJ SIDING 193

# COLORED SEATED IN REAR

BAASIGN CO.

AUGUST 1, 193

In 1890, Louisiana passed the Separate Car Act, requiring black and white patrons to sit in separate sections of railcars on intrastate railroads. Homer Plessy, in a pre-meditated act of defiance, boarded a train in New Orleans and announced that he was neither white nor inclined to move to a section for African Americans. For this he was arrested and convicted of violating the Act.





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## Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

- Constitutional Issue: Do Jim Crow (Louisiana Railway Segregation Laws) Violate the Equal Protection Clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment?
- Supreme Court Decision: Louisiana law (segregation laws) were Constitutional
- Established "Separate but Equal"
- Separate facilities for African Americans do not violate their rights as long as those facilities are equal to those provided for white Americans

- Why might Homer Plessy be called the Rosa Parks of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century?
- What do you think will be the effect of the Courts decision in Plessy vs. Ferguson?