Aim: What obstacles did African Americans face following Reconstruction?

**Do Now:** In your 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

**Fri 10/5:** 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
  – **Literacy Tests**: 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

Papers not in order
Lacked education requirements
Asked Questions until finally couldn't answer
couldn’t pay tax
Whites kept getting in line ahead of me
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. © The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
Lynchings
Lynching Postcard
Dallas, Texas
“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 or MEXICANS
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.
Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

- **Constitutional Issue:** Do Jim Crow (Louisiana Railway Segregation Laws) Violate the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th 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 19th Century?
• What do you think will be the effect of the Courts decision in Plessy vs. Ferguson?