**IV. Equality Before the Law**

A. Equal Protection

* **Discrimination –**
*

B. Segregation in America

* **Segregation –**
* After the end of Reconstruction every Southern state rewrote their constitutions to include segregation
* **Jim Crow Laws –**

C. Separate But Equal

* **Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)**
* Louisiana law required separate seating for blacks and whites on public railroads
* Homer Plessy argued that his right to equality were violated

D. Court’s Ruling

* Ruled that segregation was permitted if facilities were equal – **Separate but Equal**
* Segregation was the law of the land for the next 60 years

E. Times a Changing

* **Gaines v. Canada (1938)**
* Lloyd Gaines, an African American, was not allowed to attend law school at an all-white University of Missouri
* State offered no separate school for blacks

F. Court’s Ruling

* State was required to admit Gaines or create a new school for him to attend
* School decided to admit Gaines
* Court upheld the separate but equal doctrine

G. Time for Real Change

* **Brown v. The Board of Education (1954)**
* **L**inda Brown and others was not permitted to attend a local school because she was black

H. Court’s Ruling

* Court ruled that separate had never been equal
* No room for discrimination in the realm of public education
* Overturned Plessy v. Ferguson
* States were forced to bus students and integrate schools
* Massive resistance erupted across the South
* **Meredith V. Jefferson County BOE (2007)**

I. Civil Rights Movement

* Civil rights workers throughout the South peacefully broke laws that supported racial segregation
* **Rosa Parks –**
* **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. –**
* Practice nonviolent resistance to protest governmental policies

J. Civil Rights Act 1964/Voting Act 1965

* Prevented giving federal funds to aid any state where race or sex discrimination was practiced
* 1)
* 2)
* 3)
* 4)