

**This is not the be-all-end-all but a start for your Study  
1950s U.S. Society/Civil Rights/Cold War Exam Study Guide:**

### **1950s Domestic Society**

1. What exactly was the Baby Boom and how did it affect American society after World War II?
2. What is meant by “suburbanization?”
3. How did William Levitt contribute to the growth of the suburbs after World War II?
4. What fears arose about the youth of the 1950s? Why?
5. What kinds of television shows were popular in the 1950s?
6. What president passed the Interstate Highway Act, what did the law do, and what were its important effects?
7. What was the G.I. Bill and how did it affect America?
8. What were Truman's major policy objectives and accomplishments?
9. What was the Taft-Hartley Act? Why did it pass and what was Truman's opinion on it?
10. What were two causes of the increasing materialism of Americans in the 1950s?
11. What were the gender roles promoted in literature and the media during the 1950s?
12. What was “White Flight” and what caused it?
13. What does social conformity mean and what were three developments of the 1950s that led to social conformity? How?
14. How did cars change American society during the 1950s?
15. How did music change American society during the 1950s?
16. What does the trend of building family and public bomb shelters say about U.S. society during the 1950s?
17. What was the Beat Movement and how did it challenge the values of the 1950s?
18. What was the GI Bill and what important effects did it have?
19. Who gave the order to desegregate the military, and when and why did he do it?
20. How did television change American society during the 1950s?
21. What role did Jackie Robinson play in the early civil rights movement?

### **The Cold War**

19. When and where was the United Nations created?
20. What special powers does the U.N. Security Council have? Who are its five permanent members and what special powers do they have? What is the U.N.'s General Assembly?
21. What does the term “Cold War” mean? Which two countries fought the Cold War and when did the Cold War end?
22. After W.W.II was over, what happened to the countries of Eastern Europe?
23. Who coined the term “iron curtain” and what exactly did it mean?
24. What were the Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine, & N.A.T.O. & their significance? How did Truman first assert his doctrine in Greece and Turkey?
25. Know the major cold war events of the 1940s and 1950s thru the Cuban Missile Crisis (e.g. Yalta, Potsdam, Berlin Blockade/Airlift, Massive Retaliation and Invasion of Hungary, A-Bomb, H-Bomb, Sputnik, Thaw, U2 Incident & Bay of Pigs)
26. What is meant by “containment” strategy and how was it influenced by the domino theory?
27. What did the Allies do with the territory of Germany after World War II?
28. What would be five effects of the dropping of a nuclear bomb on San Francisco?
29. What does the term “Red Scare” refer to? Who was its main propagator?
30. What was the Lavender Scare?
31. According to the U.S. what would be considered the start of the Cold War? According to the Soviets, what would be considered the start of the Cold War?

32. The Chinese Civil War which ended in 1949 was between what two sides represented by what two leaders? Where did the defeated leader and his followers go after they lost?
33. How did Truman first assert his doctrine in Greece and Turkey? What was HUAC and what role did it play during the Red Scare?
34. Who were the Hollywood Ten, what happened to them, and how did this relate to the Red Scare?
35. What is McCarthyism and why is this named after Senator Joseph McCarthy?
36. When and why exactly was the Berlin Wall built? When was the wall finally torn down?
37. In what decade did the U.S. get involved in a war in Korea? How did it start? At what point did China get involved?
38. What did General MacArthur want to do once China entered the war? Why did Truman fire him?
39. How did the Korean War end and what is the situation in Korea today?
40. Who was the communist leader of Cuba from 1959 to 2008? What exactly happened at the Bay of Pigs? What was the biggest cause of its failure?
41. What was the Cuban Missile Crisis and how did the U.S. respond to it?

## Civil Rights Study Guide

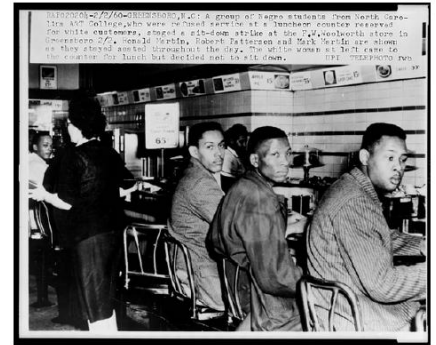
1. What is the Civil Rights Movement?
2. What president desegregated the military in 1948?
3. What did the NAACP work to end?
4. What decision stated that "separate but equal" WAS constitutional?  
5 Look at the picture to the right. What event is it explaining?
6. In the case Brown vs. the Board of Education, the Supreme Court argued that separate schools violated the \_\_\_\_\_ amendment.
5. Who was Emmett Till and what was his significance?



*"We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."*

Read the quote above. This quote expresses the decision in....

8. What was the result of Rosa Parks arrest in 1955?
9. What leader emphasized passive resistance against discrimination?
10. What were 4 major Civil Rights organizations and what did they do?
11. What event is depicted in the photo to the right? Is this event an example of a passive resistant activity?
12. What were the Freedom Riders protesting?
13. Where did Martin Luther King Jr. give his famous "I have a dream" speech?
14. What was the purpose of the March on Washington?
15. What were the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, 1965, and 1968 and what did they do?
16. Why did the solidarity of the Civil Rights Movement's non-violent resistance end in 1968 and what organizations were crucial in the change?



16. What is happening in photo to the right? Is it an example of a passive resistant activity?



17. In your opinion, do you think the protesters of the Civil Rights Movement were successful?

18. Who awakened women to the issues they were having in the 1950s and 1960s with what book

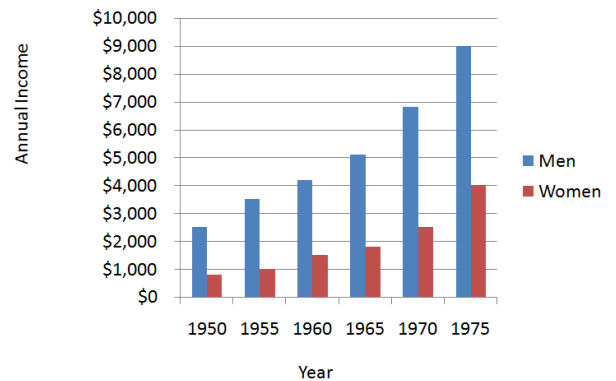
19. Name two work place disadvantages for women.

20. How did the Kennedy administration push the ball forward on women's rights?

21. What is Title IX?

22. Look at the chart to the right. Write a test question using the chart.

### Median Incomes of Men and Women, 1950-1975



24. How has the role of women changed from World War II to today? Include specific examples and legislation to support your answer.