# Segregation & Discrimination Turn of the Century Race Relations

# Ida B. Wells



"Thomas Moss, Calvin McDowell, and Lee Stewart had been lynched in Memphis...[where] no lynching had taken place before....This is what opened my eyes to what lynching really was. An excuse to get rid of **Negroes** acquiring wealth and property and thus keep the race terrorized."

#### Reconstruction

Civil War Amendments-13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments

-for at least 10 years after the end of Reconstruction in 1877, A-A in the South cont'd to vote & occasionally hold political office

-but by the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Southern states had adopted a system of racial discrimination

# **Voting Restrictions**

**Literacy Tests** 

**Poll Taxes** 

#### grandfather clause \*Jan. 1, 1867

-during the 1870s & 1880s, the S.C. failed to overturn the poll tax or grandfather clause, even though the laws undermined all fed. protections for A-A civil rights

### Jim Crow Laws



# Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)



# Homer Plessy



# Turn of the Century Race Relations

**Racial etiquette**-informal rules & customs that regulated relationships b/t whites and blacks

-typically intended to belittle or humiliate A-A, enforcing their secondclass status

-consequences of not following racial etiquette: VIOLENCE

#### Violence

-between 1882 & 1892, more than 1,400 A-A men & women were shot, burned or hanged without trial in the South

> -lynching peaked in the 1880s & 1890s but cont'd well into the 20<sup>th</sup> c.

### Discrimination in the North

-by 1900, a large # of A-A had moved to N. cities in search of better-paying jobs & social equality

#### De jure vs. De facto segregation

-violence sometimes broke out in the N. b/tA-A & working-class whts.-NYC race riot of 1900

