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-13th, 14th, 15th 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 20th 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 20th 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

