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Chapter 1 : MBEAW: White Racism

racism and the law the legacy and lessons of plessy Download Racism And The Law The Legacy And Lessons Of Plessy ebook PDF or Read Online books in PDF, EPUB, and Mobi Format. Click Download or Read Online button to RACISM AND THE LAW THE LEGACY AND LESSONS OF PLESSY book pdf for free now.

Print Below is an excerpt from an article by Keith W. Medley author of *We As Freemen*: It is a powerful story of organizing, fundraising, the use of the media, legal strategies, and more. Front of Plessy v. Ferguson marker in Louisiana. Click image to view a larger image. It was the passage of this bill that finally launched Homer Plessy into history. The Crusader was a formidable enemy. Click to view a larger image. The son of a Cuban mother and a Haitian father, Desdunes worked as a customs agent by day and, with smoking pen, scribbled polemical columns by night. Hundreds of his articles, still preserved in the archives of Xavier University in New Orleans, offer a window into the desperate fight to keep civil rights from slipping away. The s were not a good time to exercise civil disobedience in the American South, or to get on the wrong side of a mob, whether you were black or not. The year alone produced mob murders, mostly of black men, the highest number in the recorded history of lynchings. In New Orleans, on March 14, , a newspaper editor and a prominent attorney led a crowd of several thousand to Parish Prison. Angry over the acquittal of Italian immigrants accused of the killing of police chief David Hennessy, they broke in, hunted down a group of 11 Italians, shot them, then hanged some from streetlamps and shot them again. To fight the Jim Crow car law, it was prepared to solicit funds not only from benevolent, social and religious societies in town but from former abolitionists in such faraway cities as Washington, D. For one thing, on the face of it, if you gave any thought to the intent of the men who wrote the 14th Amendment, the Separate Car Act seemed a clear violation of the constitutional rights of the black citizens of Louisiana. But public opinion in the North had changed rapidly, and so, in the years after had the makeup of the Supreme Court, which lost its reasonable mix of justices sympathetic to the subject of civil rights. Some railroad companies initially had been against the bill. In a city that had for so long seen so much racial mixing, railway conductors would now have to decide who was white and who was blackâ€”a touchy business, especially since some wives and husbands would not be allowed to ride together. One of the reasons that Homer Plessy was picked for the job [of creating a test case to fight the law] was that he had fair skin. It was to depart at 4: Hardly had the train started moving when conductor J. Plessy stated that he had paid for his ticket and intended to ride to Covington. Dowling signaled the engineer to stop. The law is plain and must be obeyed. Plessy was 30 years old. The future of constitutional rights for blacks in America would ride on his day in court. Reprinted here with permission from the author.

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Plessy v Ferguson () established racial segregation in American constitutional law for over fifty years and its moral and political legacy lives on, despite attempts in the United States to counter its devastating effects during the last half century.

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Plessy v Ferguson () established racial segregation in American constitutional law for over fifty years and its moral and political legacy lives on, despite attempts in the United States to counter its devastating effects during the last half century. Ironically, in the current debate over.