

TEACHING STRATEGIES

High School

Critical Thinking Activity

Fold a sheet of paper to create two columns. Write “Before 1968” at the top of the first column and “Today” at the top of the second column. Next, find passages from “The Life and Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.” that describe African American life before 1968. For example, you might include “These laws forced African Americans to wait at the back of the store, sit at the back of the bus, go to separate schools, and live in separate neighborhoods.”

Copy the passages in the first column. Then visit some of the Web sites listed below, looking for passages that describe life for African Americans today. Copy these passages in the second column.

Write a brief paragraph comparing the two periods based on the passages.

LINKS

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
<http://www.naacp.org/>

Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA)
http://www.africanaonline.com/orga_montgomery_improvement_association.htm

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
<http://sclcnational.org/history.asp?itemid-3022&siteid-2607>

Student Nonviolent Coordination Committee (SNCC)
<http://www.ibiblio.org/sncc>

African American World—PBS
<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aaworld/>

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
<http://www.nypl.org/research/sc/>

Ebony Magazine
<http://www.ebony.com/>

Monroe Free Press
<http://newspapers.mywebpal.com/index.cfm?pnpid=352>

African American News & Issues
<http://www.blacknewsonline.com/>