

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After studying Chapter 5, you should be able to:

- 1. Understand the historical and constitutional basis of the struggle for equal rights.**
- 2. Discuss the struggle for equality for African Americans in terms of three historical eras, the Constitution, and public policy.**
- 3. Explain how women have gained civil rights and what equality issues remain important for women today.**
- 4. Describe the new groups in the civil rights movement.**
- 5. Explain the controversy over the issue of affirmative action.**
- 6. Understand the impact of civil rights on democracy and the scope of government.**

The following exercises will help you meet these objectives:

Objective 1: Understand the historical and constitutional basis of the struggle for equal rights.

1. What are the three key types of inequality in America?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
2. Explain the two major conceptions of equality.
 - 1.
 - 2.
3. What is the only mention of the idea of equality in the Constitution?

4. Explain the Supreme Court's three standards for classifications under the equal protection clause and give an example of each.

Objective 2: Discuss the struggle for equality for African Americans in terms of three historical eras, the Constitution, and public policy.

1. Complete the following table listing the three eras of the struggle for African American equality, the major policy focus during each era, major court cases and their importance in each era, and any acts of Congress or constitutional amendments passed during each era.

Historical Era	Policy Focus	Court Cases	Acts/Amendments

2. Compare and contrast the significance of the Supreme Court cases of *Dred Scott v. Sandford* (1857), *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), and *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954).

3. What is the difference between *de jure* segregation and *de facto* segregation?

4. List the six major provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

5. List and explain four ways in which the southern states denied African Americans the right to vote.

1.

2.

3.

4.

6. What was the impact of the Voting Rights Act of 1965?

7. List three other minority groups that have faced discrimination similar to that experienced by African Americans.

1.

2.

3.

Objective 3: Explain how women have gained civil rights and what equality issues remain important for women today.

1. Explain the policy of "protectionism."

2. What was the Equal Rights Amendment?

3. List and explain the significance of four Supreme Court cases dealing with sex-based discrimination.

1.

2.

3.

4.

4. How has Congress attempted to end sex discrimination in the area of employment?

5. What is meant by "comparable worth"?

6. In what two ways are women legally treated differently in the military?

1.

2.

7. How has the Supreme Court dealt with the issue of sexual harassment?

Objective 4: Describe the new groups in the civil rights movement.

1. In what ways are the elderly discriminated against in American society?

2. What are the main provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990?

3. Why might gays and lesbians face the toughest battle for equality?

Objective 5: Explain the controversy over the issue of affirmative action.

1. Define the term "affirmative action."

2. List four cases in which the Supreme Court seems to support affirmative action and four cases in which it seems to oppose affirmative action.

Support	Opposite

Objective 6: Understand the impact of civil rights on democracy and the scope of government.

1. How does equality threaten liberty?

2. How do civil rights laws increase the scope and power of government?