

Family Timeline

You have been assigned Family A. Read the description below and answer the questionnaire by either writing a “yes” or “no” after each statement. Use your best guess.

Family A

You are descendant of an African-American family in the Deep South. You have been able to trace your roots proving that your ancestors started their life in America as plantation slaves. Most of your family remains in the Deep South to this day.

The Questionnaire

1. Once the US Constitution was ratified in **1789**, your male ancestor was considered a US citizen with the right to vote.
2. In the **early 1800’s**, your male ancestor could legally move from one state to another and own property.
3. By **the 1850’s**, your male ancestor was legally considered a free person and could marry and raise a family as he wished.
4. By **the 1870’s**, after The Civil War, your male ancestor could own property, travel and vote without restrictions and without fear violence.
5. By the **late 1890’s**, your male ancestor could legally attend any public school, eat in any restaurant, shop in any store, walk on any sidewalk, use any means of public transportation or any public restroom without restrictions.
6. By **the 1920’s**, your male ancestor could legally get a bank loan and buy a home in any neighborhood he chose to live in.
7. By **the 1940’s**, your male ancestor could go to his voting place and vote on Election Day just by registering to vote like every other citizen of eligible age.
8. By **the 1950’s**, your ancestor was welcome to attend any quality public school he or she wished to attend.
9. By the **late 1950’s** and **early 1960’s**, your ancestor was free to sit anywhere on public transportation, eat in any public restaurant and use any public facility without fear of arrest or beating.
10. By the **late 1960’s**, it was likely your ancestor felt like he had the same job and educational opportunities as all other American citizens

Discussion Questions

How hard or how easy it was for your family to “move up” from one generation to the next?

What were some of the main rights that allowed or stopped your family from being able to improve themselves from one generation to the next?

Family Timeline

You have been assigned Family A. Read the description below and answer the questionnaire by either writing a “yes” or “no” after each statement. Use your best guess.

Family B

You are a descendant of a Northern European family in New England. You have been able to trace your roots proving that your ancestors arrived as immigrants and started life as merchants. Most of your family remains in New England to this day.

The Questionnaire

1. Once the US Constitution was ratified in **1789**, your male ancestor was considered a US citizen with the right to vote.
2. In the **early 1800's**, your male ancestor could legally move from one state to another and own property.
3. By **the 1850's**, your male ancestor was legally considered a free person and could marry and raise a family as he wished.
4. By **the 1870's**, after The Civil War, your male ancestor could own property, travel and vote without restrictions and without fear violence.
5. By the **late 1890's**, your male ancestor could legally attend any public school, eat in any restaurant, shop in any store, walk on any sidewalk, use any means of public transportation or any public restroom without restrictions.
6. By **the 1920's**, your male ancestor could legally get a bank loan and buy a home in any neighborhood he chose to live in.
7. By **the 1940's**, your male ancestor could go to his voting place and vote on Election Day just by registering to vote like every other citizen of eligible age.
8. By **the 1950's**, your ancestor was welcome to attend any quality public school he or she wished to attend.
9. By the **late 1950's** and **early 1960's**, your ancestor was free to sit anywhere on public transportation, eat in any public restaurant and use any public facility without fear of arrest or beating.
10. By the **late 1960's**, it was likely your ancestor felt like he had the same job and educational opportunities as all other American citizens

Discussion Questions

How hard or how easy it was for your family to “move up” from one generation to the next?

What were some of the main rights that allowed or stopped your family from being able to improve themselves from one generation to the next?