

## Star Lecture with Professor Lou Kushnick

### GLOSSARY

The glossary is divided into the following categories: Laws and Acts, Events and Locations, Terminology and Events and Locations.

| <b><u>LAWS ANDS ACTS</u></b> |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 13 <sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT   | Adopted in 1864. Abolished slavery and involuntary servitude in all States.  |
| 14 <sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT   | Adopted in 1868. Allows Blacks to be determined to be United States Citizens. Overturned previous ruling in Dred Scott v. Sandford of 1857.  |
| 15 <sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT   | Adopted in 1970. Bans all levels of government in the United States from denying a citizen the right to vote based on that citizen's "race, colour, or previous condition of servitude"  |
| BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION  | A landmark Supreme Court decision in 1954 that declared segregated education as unconstitutional. This victory was a launchpad for other challenges to de jure segregation in other field of public life – including transportation. Like many challenges to segregation, Brown was a case presented by a collection of individuals in a class action lawsuit – one of whom was Oliver Brown, who was unhappy that his child had travel a number of block to attend a Black school when a White school was much nearer. By the time the case reached the Supreme Court it actually encompassed a number of cases brought by parents against School Boards. The funds for the legal challenges were provided by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). |
| CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964     | This wide-reaching Act prohibited racial and gender discrimination in public services and areas. It was originally created by President Kennedy, but was signed into existence after his assassination by President Johnson. This provided a stronger and more decisive power to force the desegregation of schools, parks, libraries and any workplace etc; and those who refused to do so becoming subject to Federal punishments.   |
| DE JURE SEGREGATION          | The practice of legal racial segregation. De jure segregation in the United States was instituted in individual States and regions by the introduction of the Jim Crow Laws in 1876 and remained in place until the signing of the Civil   |

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
|                            | <p>Rights Act in 1964. The laws claimed to uphold the concept of equality for Black and Whites in the United States – aka. the doctrine of ‘Separate But Equal’, but allowed for services, facilities and public accommodations to keep Black and White patrons separate. The ruling in the Plessy v. Ferguson of 1896 was one of a number of legal challenges to the de jure segregation that failed. This segregation provided Whites in Southern States the ability to maintain their sense of racial superiority in the face of Federal law which supposed to suggest otherwise.</p>                       |
| JIM CROW LAWS              | <p>The Jim Crow laws allowed individual States and regions to bypass the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> amendments and legally maintain racial segregation. They were introduced in 1876 and were only ended in 1964/65 following the introduction of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. See all Jim Crow Laws</p>  |
| NEW DEAL                   | <p>The New Deal was collection of programmes developed by the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration to stimulate the US economy after the Great Depression of the 1930s. The programmes – introduced between 1933 and 1936 – were focused on three issues, also known as the 3 R’s: RELIEF for the struggling poor; RECOVERY for the stunted economy; and REFORM to stop such an economic depression happening again.</p>   |
| VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965  | <p>This act was created after it become clear that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 wasn’t having the required impact on the ability of Blacks to vote in the US – particularly in the Southern States. The Act prohibits states from imposing any "voting qualification or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure ... to deny or abridge the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color." It outlawed practices that some States had adopted as a means to find ways of stopping Blacks from voting - such practices included setting literacy tests.</p> |
| BOYNTON V. VIRGINIA (1960) | <p>This ruling declared segregation in interstate bus and rail stations unconstitutional and was created by a case brought about by an African American student, Bruce Boynton, who had been arrested and fined in 1958 for trespass after trying to order food whilst sitting in the White section in a café at a bus station in Virginia whilst his coach - which was travelling from Washington DC to Montgomery - Alabama, was at a rest stop. The case for Boynton was pleaded before the Supreme Court in 1960 by Thurgood Marshall, who later became the first black Supreme Court Justice.</p>         |
| DRED SCOTT V. SANDFORD     | <p>The Dred Scott ruling of 1857 by the Supreme Court found African Americans brought into the US as slaves or</p>   |

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
|                                  | <p>freemen could never hold citizenship. The case emanated from slave Dred Scott's attempts to buy his freedom. After his attempts failed he took this case all the way to the Supreme Court. Scott argued that, given his owner had moved him with her to the free state of Illinois he was now a free man and should be released from his servitude. The final decision was driven by a belief that Scott, as Black man, was not a citizen was not even entitled to sue his owner to gain freedom in the first place.</p>   |
| <p>PLESSY VS FERGUSON (1896)</p> | <p>This case represents one of many failed challenges to segregation in the South. Homer Plessy, a man of mixed White and African-American heritage was arrested in 1896 for sitting in White carriage on a train in the state of Louisiana. Plessy challenged this arrest on the basis that it violated his rights under the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> amendments, and his challenge went all the way to the Supreme Court. At this point the case became known as Plessy Vs Ferguson – Ferguson being the name of the Judge who ruled against Plessy in Louisiana. Plessy lost his case and this decision set in place the precedent that "separate" facilities for blacks and whites were constitutional as long as they were "equal". This acceptance of de jure segregation in the realm of public services wasn't overruled until the Brown Vs Board of Education Ruling in 1954, which found that such segregation was inherently unequal.</p> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b><u>EVENTS AND LOCATIONS</u></b></p>       |  |
| <p>16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH IN BIRMINGHAM</p> | <p>This church was bombed by four White racists and Ku Klux Klan members on the morning of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1963. It was a noted site for meetings between Civil Rights advocates and centre for coordinating activities. Four African American children were killed in the bombing - Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Denise McNair – and their murders attracted a lot of press attention. An eyewitness identified Robert Chambliss as responsible for the murders and he was charged only to be acquitted at trial due to poor evidence. A later retrial of Chambliss in 1977 used evidence that appeared to be deliberately excluded from his original trial. He was found guilty and imprisoned aged 73. Two other men identified by the FBI as involved have been convicted. Bobby Cheery was convicted and imprisoned aged 71 in May 2002. Thomas Blanton was convicted and imprisoned in 2001 aged 63. The other man wanted for involvement in the murders, Herman Cash, died before the FBI chose to charge Cherry and Blanton.</p> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1963 MARCH ON WASHINGTON                     | This march took place on August 28 <sup>th</sup> , 1963. It was comprised of between 200,000 and 250,000 people. At that time it was the largest mass demonstration ever seen in the US, and it was organised by a coalition of Civil Rights groups. It is best known as the time when Dr. Martin Luther King Jnr delivering his rousing and emotional 'I have a dream' speech.  |
| FIRST RECONSTRUCTION                         | The First Reconstruction represents the twelve years after the Civil War. During this period the 13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> Amendments abolishing slavery, creating citizenship for Blacks, and providing the right to vote to all, respectively, were passed. The reconstruction was an attempt to bring the States of the former Confederacy into the Union.   |
| FREEDOM RIDES                                | The first Freedom Ride took place in 1961. The very first one was on May 4 <sup>th</sup> and was comprised 7 Black and 6 White anti-segregation activists. They travelled from the un-segregated Washington DC through the segregated states of the South to test the ruling Supreme Court's ruling in Boynton v. Virginia (1960) and later the which had concluded that segregated services on public transport systems and the facilities – such as cafes and bathrooms - were unconstitutional in all states. The rides were initially coordinated by CORE and participants faced much physical and verbal abuse, were often arrested and buses were frequently burned by segregationists across the South. Later groups such as the SNCC would also get involved in running their own Freedom Rides. |
| Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR) | The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights was founded in 1950 by A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, and Arnold Aronson. It is a coalition of a number of Civil Rights Groups.  |
| MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM SUMMER                   | The Freedom Summer Campaign of 1963 was coordinated by three Civil Rights groups: CORE, SNCC, and the NAACP. Volunteers from different racial and economic backgrounds from the South and North sought to help African-American utilise their right to vote in Mississippi. A number of sub projects were generated, such as Freedom Schools teaching African American History, whilst groups like the Medical Committee for Human Rights and ACLU provided African Americans with access to medical and legal help. Those involved were victims of great violence – with the most memorable instance being the murder of African American, James Cheney, and his White colleagues Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman.   |
| MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT                       | Following the arrest of Rosa Parks, Dr. King and Ralph Abernathy led the regions Blacks in 381 day boycott of the local public bus system. The African American boycotts did not return to using the public transport system until   |

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
|                 | after the Browder V Gayle ruling by the Supreme Court – which found the segregation of public transport to be unconstitutional.  |
| RIOTS           | The US experienced an unprecedented level of rioting in between 1964 and 1969. There were riots in Harlem (July 64), Watts, LA (Summer, 65), Cleveland, Milwaukee, Chicago, Newark, Detroit (summers of 66 and 67). Other riots followed the assassination of Martin Luther King Jnr. An investigation into the riots was undertaken in 1967 by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, AKA The Kerner Commission found that White racism was responsible and challenged the Federal and State governments to invest solving the social and economic inequality being fostered in the African-American ghettos. |
| SIT-IN MOVEMENT | The first sit-protest was undertaken in a branch of Woolworths by 4 black students in Greensboro, North Carolina after the staff in the café there refused to serve them. They refused to leave. The act of sit-ins would prove a popular non-violent method of activism and were commenced in cities and towns across the American South, all the way to Florida. They also prompted the creation of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).  |

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b><u>TERMINOLOGY</u></b>     |   |
| LYNCHING IN THE UNITED STATES | Lynching was a brutal mob based form of punishment popular with White Racists in the US. It would be used to punish Black people for a range of transgressions linked to identifying Blacks as having a subordinate, sub-human existence in the US. The threat of lynching proved extremely effective at keeping Black people afraid to challenge racism, and engage in accessing education, voting or attempting to fraternise with Whites. The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) was heavily involved in lynching, and the police were known to hand over accused Black people for lynching. At the very least, 2500 African-Americans were lynched in the US between 1865 and 1965. |
| REDLINING                     | The practice of designating certain geographical areas as non-investable. Banks, retail, education and health services would refuse to develop or invest in these areas thereby stopping residents from gaining access to things such as quality healthcare, mortgages or possession based insurance. Although never explicitly stated, the practice was an ideal way to suppress non-white communities and maintain geographical and social segregation. By refusing to lend to employed, financially comfortable African Americans and/or other non-White ethnic groups   |

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
|               | because they lived in these redlined areas, Corporation and Federal America was able to control the movement of these communities into new geographical and economic territory considered to be the rightful and exclusive domains of its White citizens.   |
| SHARECROPPING | Sharecropping became popular after the collapse of the plantation system and disestablishment of slavery. In sharecropping, landowners would allow poor farmers to harvest their land for them in return for a share of the crop harvested. In Southern States, over 80% of Black farmers would be sharecroppers. This system became redundant after the industrialisation of farming over the 1930s and 1940s. |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b><u>PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS</u></b> |  |
| CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY (CORE)     | Formed in 1941 in Chicago. Played a pivotal in the whole Civil Rights Movement, in particular the Freedom Rides of 1957 onwards. CORE were committed to non-violent protest. Their northern chapters strove to get better housing and employment conditions for African-Americans.   |
| DR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR              | Martin Luther King was a pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama who went on to become a leading public figure in the Civil Rights Movement. King was involved in a number of organisations including the NAACP and the SCLC. He played a pivotal role in the development and enactment of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. He is often remembered most for delivering the rousing 'I have a dream' speech to over 200,000 demonstrators at the march on Washington in 1963. King was arrested a number of times by authorities trying to undermine him. He was an advocate of non-violent protest and also worked towards improving the experience for America's poor communities across racial boundaries. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. King was assassinated on April 4 <sup>th</sup> in 1968 in Memphis. His murderer, James Earl Ray, was arrested on the run in Britain in 1968 and was convicted in 1969. He is still in prison today. King's death generated much sorrow across the world; and riots ensued in some cities in the US. In 1986, January 20 <sup>th</sup> became Martin Luther King Day in the US. |
| EMMETT TILL                            | Emmett Till was a 14 year old African American boy from Chicago who was murdered when visiting family in Mississippi. Till wasn't used to Southern social rules of racial segregation, and was accused of flirting with a White  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>woman after talking to her in a shop. Her husband, and her brother sought out Till at a family residence, kidnapped him, beat him, gauged out one of his eyes, before shooting him and dumping his body in the Tallahatchie River. His body was recovered 3 days later. Till's mother took his body back to Chicago and insisted upon having an open casket and a public funeral service so that the world could see what had happened to her son.</p>   |
| FHA   | <p>Federal Housing Administration. Created in 1934 to regulate the rate of interest and the terms of mortgages that it insured, increasing the number of people who could afford a down payment on a house and a mortgage. This allowed more single family house purchases and more economically challenged members of the American population to attain the status of home owners in its burgeoning suburbs.</p>   |
| JAMES CHENEY, MICHAEL SCHWERNER, ANDREW GOODMAN | <p>African American, James Cheney, and his White colleagues Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman were murdered in Mississippi in the summer of 1963 whilst campaigning for voting rights. The three men had gone to investigate an alleged church bombing and were arrested by police at the site. The men were subsequently registered as missing, but it soon transpired that they had been handed over to the Ku Klux Klan by the police who had arrested them. Although 18 men were arrested in connection with their murder in 1964 – any charges brought did not include murder. There were a number of mistrials including one for Edgar Ray Killen – long thought to have been the main protagonist in the murders. Numerous flawed or half-hearted attempts to acquire justice occurred until, finally, in 1995, a Klansman convicted of ordering the murder of Schwerner admitted that Killen was guilty. Killen was tried again in 2005 and sent to prison for all three murder. The court declined to request the arrest of any living members of the original 18 men arrested.</p> |
| JAMES MEREDITH                                  | <p>James Meredith was the first African American to be admitted to the University of Mississippi. Meredith was at first barred from attending the campus but finally stepped on to campus in October 1962. Riots broke out across campus between segregationists and anti-segregationists. The riots got so out of control that Robert and John F. Kennedy both got involved, sending Marshals and troops to manage the situation. Two people died during the clashes.</p>  |
| MEDGAR EVERS                                    | <p>Medgar Evers was a former WW2 service man who subsequently became a Civil Rights Activist. Evers was key member of the NAACP and part of the boycott campaign against White merchants that played a part in the</p>  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>University of Mississippi allowing James Meredith to be accepted on to its courses. He also played a notable role in the campaign to get publicity and justice for the family of murdered Emmett Till. Medgar was killed in 1963 after being shot outside his home. The man charged with his murder, Klansman Byron De La Beckwith was eventually convicted of the crime in 1994 - after 2 failed trials. The two trials held in 1964 resulted in deadlocked juries – they were comprised solely of White men.</p>   |
| REVEREND JAMES REEB                               | <p>James Reeb was a White pastor and civil rights activist in Washington, DC who was beaten to death by segregationists whilst attending a anti-segregation march in Selma, Alabama. Reeb was one of a number of White activists who were beaten and/or killed during the Civil Rights Movement.</p>  |
| ROSA PARKS  | <p>Rosa Parks was an African American woman from Montgomery, Alabama, who made the headlines in 1955 when she was arrested after refusing to give up her seat and move to the coloured seats of the bus so a White man could sit down. Although Rosa wasn't the first person - or woman - to be arrested for such acts, her conviction attracted a lot of attention when brought as a test case by the NAACP. Her experience also served as the catalyst for the Montgomery Bus Boycott after which Rosa Parks' name became synonymous with the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. It's important to note that Parks was an active participant in the movement years before her arrest in 1955. She and her husband were members of the NAACP and she contributed to the development of the movement in Montgomery in the preceding decades.</p> |
| SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)   | <p>Created by Martin Luther King Jnr and Ralph Abernathy after the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The organisation was run by a number of Black Southern Ministers and had a strong commitment to non-violent activism. It was heavily involved in voting rights protests in Selma, Alabama in 1965, and open-housing demonstrations in Chicago in 1968.</p>   |
| STUDENT NON-VIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE (SNCC) | <p>Created after the development of the sit-in movement, the SNCC was full of Black and White student activists who campaigned on behalf of equal voting rights. It was a driving force in the Mississippi Freedom Summer movements. In later years, under the stewardship of Stokely Carmichael, the SNCC would get rid of its White members and become more concerned with the burgeoning Black Power movement.</p>   |