

CONVERSATIONS ON SC HISTORY

with Dr. Walter Edgar

Lesson 20: Desegregation in South Carolina

Focus Points:

- Social Change in South Carolina
 - World War II – Catalyst for Change
 - 185,000 South Carolinians served
 - Military Heroes
 - Strom Thurmond – flew in to Normandy
 - James F. Byrnes
 - Elected to US Supreme Court – resigned
 - Assistant President
 - Organized civilian war effort for FDR
 - Stimulated education – G. I. Bill
 - Economic development – building trade G.I. Loan
 - Transformation of Political Scene
 - Strom Thurmond - Governor 1946
 - Defeated “Barnwell Ring”
 - Progressive to almost liberal
 - Reformed schools
 - Reformed Pardon and Parole Board
 - Economic Development and Recruitment
 - Harry Briggs – Clarendon County
 - Briggs v. Elliott
 - Basis of Brown v. Board of Education
 - James F. Byrnes – War Hero – Governor 1951
 - “Pennies for Education” - \$.03 sales tax for education
 - Proponent of equal education
 - School district consolidation
 - 1960’s
 - Voting Rights Act
 - Civil Rights Act
 - Governor Donald Russell
 - Inauguration – first socially integrated function
 - Desegregation
 - Calm change due to progressive businessmen and leaders

Discussion:

How did military veterans transform South Carolina? What leaders were influential in being catalysts for change? Governor Jimmy Byrnes \$.03 sales tax was utilized for what important improvement in SC? Desegregation calmly moved through South Carolina due largely in part to what important groups?

Readings:

Edgar, South Carolina, A History. pp. 518-529, 535-552.

Paul Horne & Patricia Klien, South Carolina, The History of an American State. pp. 466-485.

South Carolina Social Studies Standards:

Standard 8-7: The student will demonstrate an understanding of South Carolina's economic revitalization during World War II and the latter twentieth century.

Indicator 8-7.1: Summarize the significant aspects of the economic growth experienced by South Carolina during and following World War II, including the contributions of Governor Strom Thurmond in promoting economic growth; the creation of the State Development Board and the technical education system; the benefits of good road systems, a sea port, and the Savannah River site; and the scarcity of labor unions. (H, E, G, P)

Indicator 8-7.4: Explain the factors that influenced the economic opportunities of African American South Carolinians during the latter twentieth century, including racial discrimination, the Briggs v. Elliott case, the integration of public facilities and the civil rights movement, agricultural decline, and statewide educational improvement. (H, P, E)

Standard USHC-8: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the impact of World War II on United States' foreign and domestic policies.

Indicator USHC-8.3: Summarize the impact of World War II and war mobilization on the home front, including war bond drives, rationing, the role of women and minorities in the workforce, and racial and ethnic tensions such as those caused by the internment of Japanese Americans. (H, E)

Literary Elements:

- I. Use texts, photographs, and documents to observe and interpret social studies trends and relationships
- O. Consider multiple perspectives of documents and stories