

CHS Advisory / 15 February 2023

BLACK RESISTANCE IN AMERICA





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CHECKING IN



The theme for this year's African American History and Heritage Month is **Black Resistance**.

- What does the word resistance call to mind for you?
- What role do you see for groups coming together to resist?
- How might the video you just watched fit into the idea of resistance?



BLACK RESISTANCE



African Americans have always resisted the stereotypes, prejudiced ideas, racism, and discrimination faced. Individuals have nurtured and protected Black life and fought for their rights. People have created community and art that demonstrated a thriving, inventive spirit, even in a world determined to destroy or lessen.

Let's focus today on the some of the key methods of Black Resistance: Come Together, Apply Pressure, Educate, Create and Celebrate, Legislate and Litigate.



CATEGORIES OF RESISTANCE: COME TOGETHER



- Cultural centers and organizations
 - George Cleveland Hall Library in Chicago
 - Social clubs like Jack and Jill
 - Association for the Study of African American Life
 - Business groups to keep dollars in the community
- Black Churches
 - Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta
 - African Methodist Episcopal Church
 - First African Baptist Church, Savannah
- Labor Unions



CATEGORIES OF RESISTANCE: APPLY PRESSURE



- Speak up to power
- Non-violent protest
- Strikes and boycotts
- Armed insurrections



CATEGORIES OF RESISTANCE: EDUCATE & CREATE



- The fight for Ethnic Studies and inclusive, accurate curriculum
- [Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#)
- Music that illustrates social ills and celebrates black life
- Literature and art that supports resistance movements, provides space to express love and joy, counters stereotypes, and imagines the future



Zora Neale Hurston



H.E.R.



HBCU Band

CATEGORIES OF RESISTANCE: LEGISLATE AND LITIGATE



- Voter registration programs
- Civil Rights Act, Voting Rights Act, Fair Housing Act
- Fights against gerrymandering
- Run for office
- Key Supreme Court battles
- The Congressional Black Caucus



Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, NY,
Minority Leader of the House
of Representatives

INDEPENDENT PROCESS EXPECTATIONS



- Choose a strand or bounce around among them
- Spend some time exploring the resources (video, text, audio)
- Take some notes so that you can share your learning with others
- Share your thinking when the group comes back together

“Get into some good trouble,” Rep. John Lewis

BLACK RESISTANCE THROUGH THE YEARS

COME TOGETHER

Explore some of the ways that Black Americans came together then and now to create better lives.

- [The Black Church](#)
- [The Black Church and Civil Rights \(video\)](#)
- [24 Black-Led Nonprofits](#)
- [The Divine Nine \(video\)](#)
- [Organizations that support Black Entrepreneurs](#)

APPLY PRESSURE

Explore some of the ways that individuals and groups have applied pressure to companies, governments and the public to achieve rights.

- [Black Athletes Speak Out](#)
- [Slave revolt outside of NOLA, 1811.](#)
- [Protests and the Civil Rights Movement \(video\)](#)
- [Youth-Led Nonviolent Protest \(video\)](#)
- [The Student Nonviolence Movement \(video\)](#)
- [SJSU Track Athletes 1968 Olympics Black Power Salute](#)

CREATE, EDUCATE, CELEBRATE

Explore art, literature, or music of Black Resistance; take a field trip through Historically Black Colleges and Universities

- [3 Artists and Black Joy](#)
- [Black Music Moved Movement](#)
- [100 years of Black Music against state violence](#)
 - [HBCU Legends- Achievers in every field](#)
- [Harlem Renaissance writers](#)
- [Toni Morrison refuses to privilege white people in her work](#)

LEGISLATE/LITIGATE

Explore some key legislation and court cases important in the fight for civil, political, and human rights.

- [School Segregation and Brown v Board: Crash Course Black American History #33 \(video\)](#)
- [The Civil Rights Act Of 1964 Explained | This Day Forward | msnbc \(video\)](#)
- [Sound Smart: The Voting Rights Act of 1965 | History \(video\)](#)
- [Fifty-Seven Years After its Enactment, the Voting Rights Act is in Peril | News & Commentary | American Civil Liberties Union](#)

REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

1. How does this speak to you?
What insights or new perspectives did you gain about Black Resistance today?
2. What do you still want to know? How could you find out?
3. What responsibilities do you have going forward?



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