

TIMELINE of Laws and Policies

1619	Maryland Segregation Policy	Recommended that African-Americans be socially excluded
1642	Virginia Fugitive Law	Authorized branding of an "R" in the face runaway slaves.
1660	Connecticut Military Law	Barred African-Americans from military service
1664	Maryland Marriage Law	Enactment of the first anti-interracial marriage statues
1667	British Plantation Act	Established codes of conduct for slaves and slave holders
1686	Carolina Trade Law	Barred African-Americans from all trades
1691	Virginia Marriage Law	Prescribed banishment for any white woman marrying an African-American man.
1705	Massachusetts Anti-Miscegenation Law	Criminalized interracial marriages
1705	New York Runaway Law	Prescribed execution for recaptured runaway slaves
1705	Virginia Public Office Law	Prohibited African-Americans from holding or assuming any public office
1710	Virginia enacted Meritorious Manumission	Rewarded slaves with freedom for informing on other slaves
1712	South Carolina Fugitive Slave Act	Criminalized runaway slaves to protect owners' investment
1715	North Carolina Anti-interracial	Forbade and criminalized African-Americans and white marriages
1721	Delaware Marriage Law	Forbade marriage between African-American men and white women
1722	Pennsylvania Morality Law	Condemned African-Americans for sexual acts with whites
1722	Pennsylvania Anti-Miscegenation Law	Criminalized interracial marriages
1723	Virginia Anti-Assembly Law	Impeded AFRICAN-Americans from meeting or having a sense of community
1723	Virginia Weapons Law	Forbade African-Americans from keeping weapons
1740	South Carolina Consolidated Slave Act	Forbade slaves from raising or owning farm animals
1775	Virginia Runaway Law	Allowed sale or execution of slaves attempting to flee
1775	North Carolina Manumission Law	Forbade freeing slaves except for meritorious service
1784	Connecticut Military Law	Forbade African-Americans from serving in the militia
1790	First Naturalization Law	Congress declares United States a white nation
1792	Federal Militia Law	Restricted enrollment in peace time to whites only
1793	Fugitive Slave Law	Discouraged slaves from running away; protected planters' invested capital
1783	Virginia Migration Law	Forbade free African-Americans from entering the state.
1800	Maryland Agricultural Law	Prohibited African-Americans from raising and selling agricultural products
1804	Ohio Anti-Mobility Law	Enacted "Black Laws" that restricted African-Americans' movements
1804	Ohio Registration Law	Required African-Americans to register and annually post a bond
1805	Maryland License Law	Forbade African-Americans from selling tobacco or corn without license
1806	Louisiana Migration Law	Forbade immigration for free African-Americans males over 15 years old

1807	Maryland Residence Law	Limited residence of entering free African-Americans to two weeks
1809	Congressional Mail Law	Excluded African-Americans from carrying U.S. mail
1810	Maryland Voting Law	Restricted voting rights to whites only
1811	Delaware Migration Law	Forbade migration of African-Americans; levied \$10 per week fine
1811	Kentucky Conspiracy Law	Made conspiracy among slaves a capital offense
1813	Virginia Poll Tax	Exacted a \$1.50 tax on African-Americans who were forbidden to vote.
1814	Louisiana Migration Law	Prohibited free African-Americans from entering state
1815	Virginia Poll Tax	Required free African-Americans to pay tax so whites could vote
1816	Louisiana Jury Law	Provided that no African-American could testify against a white person.
1818	Connecticut Voting Law	Disenfranchised African-American voters
1819	Missouri Literacy Law	Forbade assembling or teaching slaves to read or write
1820	South Carolina Migration Law	Prohibited free African-Americans from entering the State
1821	District of Columbia Registration Law	Required African-American to register annually and post bond
1826	North Carolina Migration Law	Forbade entry of free African-Americans; violators penalized \$500.00
1827	Maryland Occupation Acts	Prohibited African-Americans driving or owning hacks,carts,and drays
1827	Florida Voting Law	Restricted voting to whites
1829	Illinois Marriage Law	Forbade marriages between African-Americans and whites
1829	Georgia Literacy Law	Provided fine and imprisonment for teaching an African-American to read
1830	Louisiana Expulsion Law	Required all free African-Americans to leave the state within 60 days
1830	Mississippi Employment Law	Forbade African-Americans employment in printing and entertainment
1830	Kentucky Property Tax Law	Taxed African-Americans; forbade voting or attending school
1831	North Carolina License Law	Required all African-Americans traders and peddlers to be licensed
1831	South Carolina enacted Licensing Prohibition	Free African-Americans were denied any kind of a business license.
1831	Indiana Mobility Law	Required African-Americans to register in order to work and post bond
1831	Mississippi Preaching Law	Forbade free African-Americans to preach except with permission
1833	Alabama and Virginia Literacy Laws	Fined and flogged whites for teaching African-Americans to read or write
1833	Georgia Employment Law	Prohibited African-Americans from working in reading or writing jobs
1833	Georgia Literacy Law	Provided fines and whippings for teaching African-Americans
1833	Kentucky Licensing Prohibition	No free person of color could obtain a license

1835	Missouri Registration Law	Required the registration and bonding of all free African-American
1835	Georgia Employment Law	Prohibited employing African-Americans in drug stores
1836	District of Columbia Business License Law	Prohibited African-Americans from profit-making activities
1837	South Carolina Curfew Law	Required African-Americans to be off the streets by a certain hour
1838	Virginia School of Law	Forbade African-Americans who had gone North to school to return.
1838	North Carolina Marriage Law	Declared void all interracial marriages to 3rd generation
1841	South Carolina Observing Law	Forbade African-Americans and whites from looking out the same windows
1842	Maryland Information Law	Felonied African-Americans demanding or receiving abolition newspapers
1844	Maryland Color Tax	Placed a tax on all employed African-American artisans
1844	S Carolina Amuse Law	African-Americans from playing games with whites
1844	Maryland Occupation Act	Excluded African-Americans from the carpentry trade
1845	Georgia Contracting Law	Prohibited contracts with African-American mechanics
1846	Kentucky Incitement Law	Provided imprisonment for inciting African-Americans to rebel
1847	Missouri Literacy Law	Prohibited teaching African-Americans to read or write
1848	Virginia Incitement Law	Provided death penalty for advising African-Americans to rebel
1850	Fugitive Slave Law Enacted	Stronger enforcement provisions
1852	Georgia Tax Law	Imposed annual \$5.00 per capita tax on all free African-Americans
1853	Virginia Poll Tax Law	Levied tax on all free African-Americans
1856	Virginia Drug Law	Forbade selling poisonous drugs to African-Americans
1857	Dred Scott Decision	U.S. Supreme Court dehumanized and disenfranchised African-Americans
1858	Maryland Recreation Law	Forbade free African-Americans and slaves from boating on the Potomac
1868	Southern Black Codes	Deprived African-Americans of right to vote and hold public office
1883	Civil rights Law of 1875 Weakened	U.S. Supreme Court challenged the constitutionality of the law
1898	The Grandfather Clause	Deprived African-Americans of the right to vote in Louisiana