

TIMELINE OF U.S. RACE AND IMMIGRATION POLICIES, LAWS AND KEY EVENTS

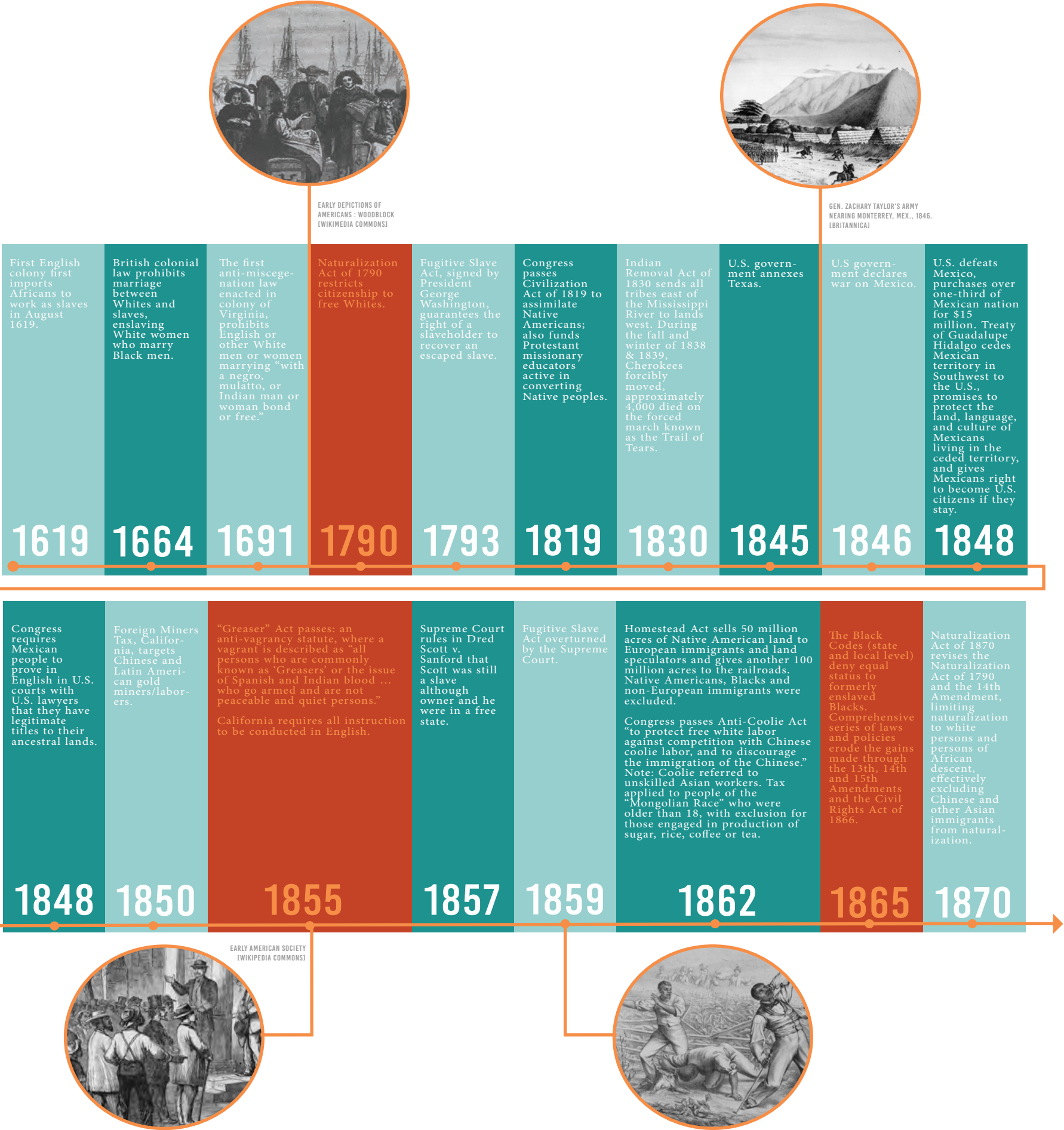
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MAJOR SOURCES:
RACIALEQUITYTOOLS.ORG
ALTO ARIZONA'S HISTORY OF RACIST US LAWS
WOMEN OF THE ELCA'S TIMELINE OF RACE RELATIONS

COLOR KEY:

AQUA AND TEAL BLUE
(IMPORTANT HISTORICAL POINTS)

BURNT RED
(SPECIAL ATTENTION HISTORICAL POINTS)





RUINS OF A KIVA AT AZTEC
RUINS NATIONAL MONUMENT, N.M.
(BRITANNICA)



CHINESE LABORERS
WORKING ON A TRESTLE
BRIDGE ON THE WESTERN SLOPE
OF THE SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS. (TEACHINGFORCHANGE)

Congress passes Indian Appropriations Act, dissolving the status of Indian tribes as nations.

1871

Indian Residential Schools (Government Boarding Schools) introduced to extinguish Native American cultures.

1875

Page Law bars entry of Chinese, Japanese, and "Mongolian" prostitutes, felons, and contract laborers.

1876+

U.S. Supreme Court rules Chinese people are ineligible for naturalized citizenship.

1878

Chinese Exclusion Act bans immigration of Chinese laborers to the U.S. and prohibits Chinese from becoming naturalized citizens.

1882

Supreme Court strikes down 1875 Civil Rights Act and reinforces claim that the federal government cannot regulate private individuals in matters of race relations.

Convict Leasing System introduced to deal with increased Black prison population (due to vagrancy, loitering, disturbing the peace, Jim/Jane Crow Laws laws aimed at free Blacks in the south). States lease prisoners to private railroad, mining, farming, and logging companies for unpaid labor during the day and return them to their cells at night. Abolished in 1910.

1883

Secretary of Interior calls for elimination of "heathen" practices in 1883 and in 1884 "pagan" ceremonies were outlawed. (1870-1934 called the Dark Ages for American Indian religions, suppression of spiritual practices reaches peak.

1884

Dawes (General Allotment) Act of 1887 breaks up reservation land held in common by the tribe, forming small allotments for individuals. Results in abolition of tribal governments and decimation of traditional lands and ways of food production.

Supreme Court decides in favor of Maxwell Co., a division of Santa Fe Ring, allocating millions of acres of Mexican and Indian land in New Mexico to the corporation.

1887

Bennett Law declares education only conducted in English, which impacts German (some Norwegian) populations. Repealed in 1891.

1890

Compulsory Attendance Law enables U.S. government to forcibly take Native American children from their homes and communities.

1891

States use literacy tests to limit Black vote.

1890+

Through Plessy v. Ferguson, U.S. Supreme Court institutionalizes Jim Crow laws by approving separate but equal treatment of Blacks and Whites under the law. Laws now spread into Northern states.

1896

Supreme Court rules in Dred Scott v. Sanford that Scott was still a slave although owner and he were in a free state.

1896

Federal court narrowly upholds the right of Mexicans to be naturalized under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, by declaring Mexican to be White for purpose of naturalization.

U.S. forces invade Puerto Rico, a Spanish territory with a sugar market.

1898

Congress passes the Foraker Act, officially dismantling Puerto Rico's democratically elected government and establishing colonial governor and executive council appointed by U.S. Rule in place until 1952, when Puerto Rico becomes autonomous U.S. commonwealth.

1900

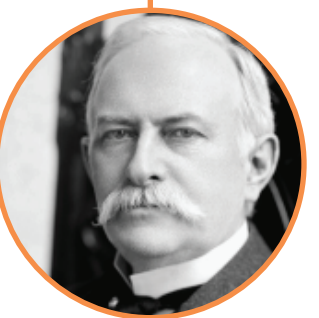
Doctrine of incorporation of territories forms regarding Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Hawaii and other island possessions. Supreme Court defines the place of overseas territories in the American constitutional system, arguing that "Puerto Rico and other territories ceded by the Spanish were full of 'alien races' who couldn't understand 'Anglo-Saxon principles.'"

1901

DRED SCOTT
CA., 1857
(WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)



JOSEPH FORAKER OF OHIO, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON PACIFIC ISLANDS AND PUERTO RICO.
(LIBRARY OF CONGRESS)





TAKAO OZAWA
1922 (WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)



PRESIDENT COOLIDGE &
MEMBERS OF THE OSAGE TRIBE
1924 (WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)

Chinese immigration made permanently illegal.	The Gentlemen's Agreement with Empire of Japan stops further emigration to U.S. without official restriction on Japanese immigration or students. Follows the establishment of the Japanese and Korean Exclusion League in 1905.	Immigration Act of 1917 (aka, Asian Barred Zone) restricts immigration from southern and eastern Asia and the Pacific Islands, excluding Japan and American territories of Guam and the Philippines. Jones Act extends citizenship to Puerto Rico, making them eligible to serve in the military but not to vote in national elections.	Cable Act retroactively strips citizenship of any U.S. citizen who married "an alien ineligible for citizenship," meaning primarily Asian Americans.	Takao Ozawa petitions the Supreme Court for naturalization, arguing his skin is white. Court rules Ozawa is not White but "Mongolian."	Takao Ozawa petitions the Supreme Court for naturalization, arguing his skin is white. Court rules Ozawa is not White but "Mongolian." In case of U.S. v. Bhagat Singh Thind, Supreme Court recognizes that people from India are "scientifically" classified Caucasian but concludes they are not White in the popular understanding. Lawyers for U.S. attacked Thind's "meltability" and declared Hinduism an alien and barbaric system not fit for membership in the "civilization of white men."	Indian Citizenship Act extends citizenship to Indigenous people previously excluded by the "subject to the jurisdiction thereof" clause of the 14th Amendment. Act not retroactive to those born before the law's enactment. Full rights, including voting rights, not fully accorded until 1948 under state and local laws. Arizona and New Mexico are last to withdraw prohibitions.
1902	1907	1917	1922	1922	1923	1924

The Merriam Report on "The Problem of Indian Administration" discourages many Indian Residential School practices. Assimilationist schools continue to operate and reach peak enrollment of 60,000 in the 1970s.	Mexican Repatriation forces or pressures as many as two million people of Mexican descent to leave the U.S. Approximately 60 percent of the exiled are U.S. citizens.	In Alvarez v. Lemon Grove, Mexican parents in California win first successful desegregation case in the U.S. Court declares separate facilities for Mexican American students not conducive to their "Americanization."	Wheeler Howard (Indian Reorganization) Act restores over two million acres of land to tribal ownership, and restores Indian management of their assets. Followed in 1954 by termination and relocation phases of the Act, which leads to termination of 61 tribal nations and loss of 1.3 million acres of protected land. 13,263 Native Americans lose tribal affiliation; thousands forced to urban areas.	California law declares Mexican-Americans are foreign-born Indians. Filipino Repatriation Act allows free transport to return home and restricts future immigration to the U.S. Wagner Act excludes farm workers and domestic workers (primarily Chicano/a, Asian, and African-American) from National Labor Relations Act legalizing right to organize and create unions.	Fair Employment Practices Committee prohibits discrimination in war industries and government.	Japanese American Internment Executive Order forces relocation and internment of about 110,000 Japanese Americans and Japanese residing along Pacific coast to "War Relocation Camps."	Congress lifts ban on Chinese immigration, and allows naturalized citizenship.
1928	1929+	1931	1934	1935	1941	1942	1943

JOHN COLLIER
CONCEIVED THE INDIAN
REORGANIZATION ACT.
(BRITANNICA)





PUERTO RICAN & USA FLAG
[WIKIMEDIA COMMONS]



THE SIGNING OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
1964
[GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY]

G.I. Bill establishes hospitals, offers low-interest mortgages, and funds college or trade school tuition and fees for veterans. People of color are excluded from most provisions.

Mendez v. Westminster Court ends de jure segregation in California, finding Mexican-American children were segregated based on their "Latinized" appearance and district boundaries manipulated to maintain segregation.

Spanish is restored as language of instruction in Puerto Rico. Jones Act extends citizenship to Puerto Rico, making them eligible to serve in the military but not to vote in national elections.

Puerto Rico becomes a commonwealth of the United States.

Immigration and Nationality Act/McCarran-Walter Act relaxes some immigration restrictions, abolishing the Asiatic Barred Zone and imposing minimum quota for each nation of 100 per year.

Refugee Relief Act admits 2,000 Palestinian refugees to U.S. Muslim Arabs begin arriving in larger numbers than Arab Christians.

In Brown v. Board of Education, Supreme Court unanimously agrees that segregation in education is inherently unequal.

Operation "Wetback" charges U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to remove one million undocumented immigrants from the southwestern U.S. Effort profiles "Mexican-looking" people and targets many Native Americans, native Latinos, citizens, legal residents, and people who legally entered to work.

In McLaughlin v. Florida, U.S. Supreme Court unanimously rules that laws banning interracial sex violate the 14th Amendment.

Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlaws discrimination in employment and public accommodations based on race, color, religion, or national origin.

1944

1946

1951

1952

1953

1954

1964

Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlaws discrimination in employment and public accommodations based on race, color, religion, or national origin.

Immigration and Nationality Act removes traces of anti-Asian immigration laws.

Immigration and Naturalization Act repeals national origins quotas, impacting peoples of Asia, Latin America, and Africa.

Congress passes the Voting Rights Act, outlawing poll taxes, literacy tests, and other measures used to prevent black people from voting.

Loving v. Virginia overturns Pace v. Alabama (1883) ruling that state bans on interracial marriage violate the 14th Amendment.

Civil Rights Act outlaws discrimination in financing, sale, and rental of housing.

In Lau v. Nichols, Supreme Court rules exclusive English school programs deny equal access, makes districts responsible to help students overcome language disadvantage.

Indian Self-Determination and Education Resistance Act of 1975.

Indochina Migration and Refugee Act allows special entry of Vietnamese, Cambodians, Hmong, and Laotians.

American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) passed.

Indian Child Welfare Act guarantees Native American parents the legal right to deny their child's placement in Indian Residential Schools.

Bakke v. University of California Supreme Court outlaws quotas but upholds affirmative action in university admissions.

1965

1967+1968

1972

1975

1978

MILDRED JETER & RICHARD LOVING
LOVING V. VIRGINIA
[BRITANNICA]



VIETNAMESE REFUGEES
1975
[IMMIGRATIONHISTORY]





PRESIDENT REAGAN
1987
[ABH MUSEUM]

Refugee Act of 1980, President Carter, creates Federal Refugee Settlement Program.

President Reagan launches War on Drugs.

The Immigration Reform and Control Act criminalizes the employment of undocumented workers, provides one year of amnesty for undocumented workers living in the U.S. since 1982; mandates intensification of the Border Patrol.

With Civil Rights Restoration Act, Congress overrides President Reagan's veto and expands anti-discrimination laws to private institutions that receive federal funds.

Congress passes comprehensive new immigration law sanctioning employers for knowingly hiring workers without "papers," thus discouraging hire of Latino and Asian-American workers.

Civil Rights Act of 1991 strengthens civil rights laws and provides damages in cases of intentional employment discrimination.

President Bill Clinton elevates Office of National Drug Control Policy, broadens enforcement tactics like seizure of property and use of surplus military equipment by municipal and state police department SWAT units.

Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act increases provisions for law enforcement, places restrictions on federal aid to illegal immigrants, increased penalties for violations.

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, a cornerstone of the Republican Contract with America, is passed. President Clinton signs it into law, fulfilling a campaign promise to "end welfare as we have come to know it."

Alabama is the last state to officially legalize interracial marriage, when a state referendum passes with 58% support (41% vote against interracial marriage).

1980

1982

1986

1988

1990

1991

1993

1996

2000

The U.S.A. PATRIOT Act allows detention of suspected "terrorists" for unlimited time without access to legal representation, resulting in detention of approximately 1,000 Arab, Muslim, and South Asian men in secret locations.

Supreme Court upholds race as one of many factors considered for college and university admission.

Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors, or DREAM Act, which would provide a path to citizenship for young undocumented Americans, passes the House of Representatives but dies in Senate.

U.S. Supreme Court limits the Voting Rights Act, ending the requirement that states with a history of voter discrimination receive federal pre-clearance of voting law changes.

2001

2002

2012

2013

DREAMERS
2012
[NEW YORK TIMES]

