

Information Essay Mrs. Eller's Example

2nd Reason Paragraph

Separate Public Places

Another example of unreasonable Jim Crow laws was that many of them were made to keep white people and Black people away from each other in public places. Many cities had laws that did not allow Black people to eat at the same restaurants as white people. White people would actually walk out of a restaurant in disgust if Black people were eating there. White people and Black people also couldn't use the same bathroom in public places like at the park or the train stations. White people thought Black people were dirty and refused to even drink water from the same water fountains! Bathrooms, water fountains, restaurants and more had signs posted that said "Colored" or "white only." Even waiting rooms like at bus or train stations were separate. In fact, the waiting rooms for Black people were often outside with no roofs and not even any benches to sit on. City pools either did not allow Black people to use the them or had specific rules. Often Black people were allowed to swim one afternoon a week and then, after they left, the pools would be sanitized to get ready for the white people to use. It took a long time, but eventually all of this was declared illegal by the Civil Rights Act of 1964.