Two of the more influential leaders of the American Civil Rights Movement were Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois. While Washington and DuBois wanted to accomplish the same goal, their philosophies differed greatly. Washington's stance on the advancement of African Americans was centered around self-help and self improvement. Washington was also a proponent of blacks accepting segregation and improving their worth to society through peaceful action alone. DuBois, on the other hand, was a major proponent of agitation and active protest. Eventually, the different stances of the these individuals led to a split within the African American community. Students will examine a number of sources from both sides of this division and draw his or her own conclusions about the leaders and their philosophies. Students will also conduct research and find his or her own credible sources about the leaders and their respective approaches.

Students will examine the sources provided and answer the corresponding questions in a Word document. After examining the sources and answering all questions, students will provide three credible sources that he or she finds during independent research. Lastly, students will comment on which leader's approach had more influence in the American Civil Rights Movement.

The student will read all of the articles found in the links provided. After the student reads the material, he or she will submit a reply to the questions in a Word document. W.E.B. DuBois http://www.naacp.org/pages/naacp-history-w.e.b.-dubois

1. DuBois was obviously a very accomplished academic. What do you think was DuBois' main objective while acquiring his education?
2. How did DuBois get his start in activism? What is the first event on DuBois' timeline as an activist?
3. What caused DuBois to break away from the NAACP for a short time?
4. What do you think was DuBois' most influential contribution to American society?


1. Why do some scholars view Booker T. Washington as the most famous black man in America between 1895 and 1915?
2. What role did Washington play in the founding of Tuskegee?
3. What was Washington's strategy to combat racism in America?
4. What prominent activist challenged Washington? What was the reason for this challenge?


1. What kind of philosophy did Washington preach? What class of people were more likely to support Washington? Why?
2. What kind of philosophy did DuBois preach? What class of people were more likely to support DuBois? Why?
3. What was the major disagreement between Washington and DuBois? Which was the more conservative? Which was more liberal?
4. Which of these two approaches was more prevalent in the Civil Rights movement?

After reading these articles, which strategy do you feel was more useful? Imagine yourself a civil rights activist, would you be more inclined to be on the conservative wing? Or would you associate yourself with the more liberal movement?

After reading these articles and answering the questions. Provide three articles/sources that contain information about Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois.

The student will be evaluated using four categories:

- Historical Accuracy
- Originality
- Completion
- Spelling and Grammar
In conclusion, this WebQuest was intended to educate students on two of the most influential leaders of the American Civil Rights Movement. Both of these men were major contributors to the movement, despite having two very different approaches. Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois believed in democracy and freedom for all people.

**Teacher Page**

**Standards**

**Credits**

**Other**