

Apartheid in South Africa: What was life like?

WebQuest Description: This webquest is about apartheid in South Africa during the 20th century. Students will learn about the different laws that were established during apartheid and how they impacted people's lives.

Grade Level: 9-12

Curriculum: Social Studies

Keywords: Apartheid, South Africa, Segregation

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Introduction

After South Africa achieved self-rule in 1910, the white settlers began to limit the freedoms of the Black South Africans. After 1948, the South African government, which consisted of mostly White South Africans, created laws that allowed segregation between groups of people. This is known as "Apartheid", which means "apartness" in the Afrikaans language. Under apartheid, all South Africans were placed into 1 of 3 racial categories: White, Colored, and Asian. According to the white South Africans, apartheid allowed for each group to create and shape its own culture. Apartheid forced non-whites to live in horrible conditions and have limited access to jobs and other goods. Apartheid ended in 1989 and South Africa had its first free elections in 1994; Nelson Mandela, an important anti-apartheid leader, was elected as president.

Tasks

For this webquest, you will research several apartheid laws and how they changed the lives of non-white South Africans. You will also read the stories from the perspective of black and white South Africans. Then, you will write a letter to a U.S. pen-pal from the perspective of a 15 year-old Black South African girl. In this letter you will: 1. Describe 3 apartheid laws and how they affect your life. 2. Describe your family life; you should include details, such as how many family members you have (at least 3), their names and ages, and any other important details. 3. Give yourself a name; it adds a personal touch to the letter. 4. Write with emotion. Remember: your goal is to make your pen-pal understand and sympathize with the conditions in South Africa.

Process

In order to complete this webquest, follow these steps: Step 1: Research apartheid laws using the links provided. Be sure to type in the correct search terms as specified for some websites (see RESOURCES section below). Step 2: As you research the laws, fill out the research worksheet with the requested information. You will turn this in with your letter. Step 3: Read stories from the apartheid on the link provided (see RESOURCES section below). Take notes on the research worksheet about the types of information the author included in his/her story. This will help you to determine how to organize your letter. ***DO NOT copy these stories and make them your letter. THIS IS PLAGIARISM! You will receive a zero for the assignment if you do this. Step 4: Write your letter. Use the description in the "Task" section, as well as the rubric provided in the "Process" section of this webquest. RESOURCES: use these links to complete your research. Apartheid Laws Separate Amenities Act (1953) <http://home.snu.edu/~dwilliam/f97/projects/apartheid/Laws.htm> <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/zatoc.html> Click on above LOC link. Use these search terms: Separate Amenities Act On the search results list, click on the following items: 1) Separate and Unequal Education under Apartheid Natives Land Act <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/zatoc.html> Click on above LOC link. Use these search terms: Natives Land Act On the search results list, click on the following items: 1) Building the Legal Structure of Racial Discrimination 2) Historical Development of Group Areas Act (1950) <http://home.snu.edu/~dwilliam/f97/projects/apartheid/Laws.htm> <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/zatoc.html> Click on above LOC link. Use these search terms: Group Areas Act On the search results list, click on the following items: 2) The ANC and the PAC Turn to Violence Mixed Marriages Act (1949) <http://home.snu.edu/~dwilliam/f97/projects/apartheid/Laws.htm> <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/zatoc.html> Click on above LOC link. Use these search terms: Mixed Marriages Act On the search results list, click on the following items: 1) Legal Implementation of Apartheid Bantu Education (1953) <http://home.snu.edu/~dwilliam/f97/projects/apartheid/Laws.htm> <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/zatoc.html> Click on above LOC link. Use these search terms: Bantu Education On the search results list, click on the following items: 1) Education under Apartheid 2) Soweto, 1976 Pass Laws (1952) <http://home.snu.edu/~dwilliam/f97/projects/apartheid/Laws.htm> Apartheid First-hand Stories Use the below link to find the first-hand stories from the Apartheid <http://www3.northstar.k12.ak.us/schools/nph/twt/apart/frame.htm>

Evaluation

Category and Score	Needs Improvement= 1 point	Satisfactory= 2 points	Good= 3 points	Excellent= 4 points	Score
See rubric in "Process" section.	See rubric in "Process" section.	See rubric in "Process" section.	See rubric in "Process" section.	See rubric in "Process" section.	
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				Total Score	

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have successfully completed this webquest. You now know and understand the different laws that were passed during Apartheid in South Africa. You also know what life was like for the black South Africans and other people living in South Africa. As a result of your letter, your pen-pal now has a better understanding of life in South Africa.

Teacher Page

It is best to have students complete this webquest after they have learned about Apartheid. They need some background information before completing this type of project. It would also be useful if students have some knowledge of European imperialism in Africa, as well as African independence movements.

Standards

Credits

Other