

### State and Local Segregations Laws

Segregations laws touched every aspect of everyday life. For example, in 1935, Oklahoma prohibited African Americans and whites from boating together. In 1905, Georgia established separate parks for blacks and whites. In 1930, Birmingham, Alabama, made it illegal for the two races to play checkers or dominoes together. The Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site Interpretive Staff compiled the following list:

- *Barbers.* No colored barber shall serve as a barber (to) white girls or women (Georgia).
- *Blind Wards.* The board of trustees shall ... maintain a separate building ... on separate ground for the admission, care, instruction, and support of all blind persons of the colored or black race (Louisiana).
- *Burial.* The officer in charge shall not bury, or allow to be buried, any colored persons upon ground set apart or used for the burial of white persons (Georgia).
- *Buses.* All passenger stations in this state operated by any motor transportation company shall have separate waiting rooms or space and separate ticket windows for the white and colored races (Alabama).
- *Child Custody.* It shall be unlawful for any parent, relative, or other white person in this State, having the control or custody of any white child, by right of guardianship, natural or acquired, or otherwise, to dispose of, give or surrender such white child permanently into the custody, control, maintenance, or support, of a Negro (South Carolina).
- *Education.* The schools for white children and the schools for Negro children shall be conducted separately (Florida).
- *Libraries.* The state librarian is directed to fit up and maintain a separate place for the use of the colored people who may come to the library for the purpose of reading books or periodicals (North Carolina).
- *Mental Hospitals.* The Board of Control shall see that proper and distinct apartments are arranged for said patients, so that in no case shall Negroes and white persons be together (Georgia).

CONTINUED

## PAGE 2 OF 3 PACKET B

- *Militia.* The white and colored militia shall be separately enrolled, and shall never be compelled to serve in the same organization. No organization of colored troops shall be permitted where white troops are available, and colored troops shall be under the command of white officers (North Carolina).
- *Nurses.* No person or corporation shall require any white female nurse to nurse in wards or rooms in hospitals, either public or private, in which Negro men are placed (Alabama).
- *Prisons.* The warden shall see that the white convicts shall have separate apartments for both eating and sleeping from the Negro convicts (Mississippi).
- *Reform Schools.* The children of white and colored races committed to the houses of reform shall be kept entirely separate from each other (Kentucky).
- *Teaching.* Any instructor who shall teach in any school, college, or institution where members of the white and colored race are received and enrolled as pupils for instruction shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined ... (Oklahoma).
- *Wine and Beer.* All persons licensed to conduct the business of selling beer or wine ... shall serve either white people exclusively or colored people exclusively and shall not sell to the two races within the same room at any time (Georgia).

### In addition:

- Racially separate washrooms required in factories and mines (6 states)
- White and black prisoners could not be chained together (6 states)
- Segregated parks, playgrounds, bathing and fishing and boating facilities, amusement parks, racetracks, pool halls, circuses, theaters, and public halls (8 states)
- Separate waiting rooms for bus and train travelers (10 states)
- African Americans required to sit in the backs of buses and streetcars (11 states)
- Segregated railroad passengers on trips within the state's borders (14 states)
- Segregated mental patients (14 states)
- Segregated public schools (14 states with 11.5 million students and 4 other states allowed segregation if local communities wanted it)\*

---

\* This list was derived from a larger list composed by the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site Interpretive Staff. Last Updated January 5, 1998. [http://www.nps.gov/malu/documents/jim\\_crowlaws.htm](http://www.nps.gov/malu/documents/jim_crowlaws.htm).

