Comparing Competing Visions for the Civil Rights Movement
Trent Dlugosh

Focus/Summary
The purpose of this lesson is to compare and contrast the differing visions of various civil rights groups during the 1960's.

Vital Theme and Narrative
Values, beliefs, political ideas and institutions
Conflict and cooperation
Patterns of social and political interaction

Habits of Mind
• perceive past events and issues as they were experienced by people at the time, to develop historical empathy as opposed to present-mindedness
• understand how things happen and how things change, how human intentions matter, but also how their consequences are shaped by the means of carrying them out, in a tangle of purpose and process
• grasp the complexity of historical causation, respect particularity, and avoid excessive generalizations
• recognize the importance of individuals who have made a difference in history, and the significance of personal character for both good and ill

Objectives
Through this lesson students will become acquainted with the purpose and mission for various civil rights organizations in the 1960's. Students will attempt to make judgements about how different segments of American society would have viewed each organization and which organization they feel was most effective.

Procedures
Opening the Lesson
Students will read each of the following documents:
• NAACP mission statement
• SNCC founding statement
• Black Panther Party platform
• SCLC mission statement

Students will fill out a chart comparing and contrasting the missions of the various organizations.

Developing the Lesson
Students will try to make determinations about how southern whites, northern whites, upper and middle class African Americans and poor African Americans would view each of the groups in the mid to late 1960's. Students will record their thoughts on a chart provided for them.

Concluding the Lesson
Students will write 3-5 paragraphs on which civil rights organization they believe was most effective in bringing about social change in the mid to late 1960's. Students will be expected to refer back to the documents they analyzed in class.
## 1960's Civil Rights Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Common beliefs</th>
<th>Differences in beliefs</th>
<th>What I like and dislike about this organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Panther Party</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCLC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Briefly summarize how you think these various segments of American society viewed each of the civil rights organizations listed in the mid to late 1960's.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Northern Whites</th>
<th>Southern Whites</th>
<th>Middle &amp; Upper Class Blacks</th>
<th>Poor Blacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAACP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNCC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Panther Party</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCLC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>