

Desegregation of Girard College WebQuest

A. Go to <http://northerncity.library.temple.edu/content/reverend-dr-martin-luther-king-6> There will be parts where the sound doesn't work and some blank tape. Just be patient.

1. According to King, what is a parallel between Philadelphia and the South?
Segregated housing (which "messes up our schools")
2. What does King mean when he says "You can't hold a man down in the valley without staying down there with him to keep him there".
Oppression holds back the oppressor as well as the oppressed. (Answers will vary.)

B. Go to: <http://northerncity.library.temple.edu/content/collections/desegregation-girard-college/when-timeline>

1. During the early 1950s, what were reasons given for and against desegregating Girard College?

FOR	AGAINST
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brown v. Board decision• Changing social and political circumstance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upholding Girard's will

2. What was the ruling of the Orphans' Court in 1955 with regard to Girard College?

Segregation upheld to comply with Girard's will

3. What did the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania decide in 1956?

Upholds the lower court decision to maintain segregation

4. What did the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) decide in 1957? How did Girard College avoid following the SCOTUS ruling?

Overtaken Supreme Court of PA. decision; said that PA.'s support of Girard College's racial ban violates the 14th Amendment. Girard College became a private school when the Board of City Trusts was no longer a trustee.

5. What strategy was used by the local NAACP under the leadership of Cecil B. Moore in its renewed effort to desegregate Girard College?

Picketing

6. In 1965, which groups and/or individuals were advocating for the desegregation of Girard College?

The City Solicitor, Governor Scranton, Mayor Tate, Cecil B. Moore (president of local NAACP), Martin Luther King, Jr. , special counsels William T. Coleman Jr. & Charles Biddle, mothers of African American boys, etc.

7. Why, after 10 months without picketing, did it resume in October of 1966?

Girard College trustees voted to appeal U.S. District Court Judge Lord's decision that the school was violating state law.

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8. On what constitutional principle does Judge Lord rule that the seven African American students should be admitted to Girard College? What do the federal Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the SCOTUS decide about Judge Lord's ruling?

14th Amendment (equal protection); Third Circuit Court upholds it, SCOTUS refuses to hear appeal

C. Go to: <http://northerncity.library.temple.edu/search-all-collections/6,915?page=1>

Choose one photo from one of the following albums. Describe in detail what you see and write at least one question the photo raises for you. Notice that there are numerous pages of photographs.

1. "Civil rights demonstrators at Girard College"

Answers will vary.

2. "Civil rights leaders at Girard College"

Answers will vary.

3. "Police activity at Girard College"

Answers will vary.

D. Go to: <http://northerncity.library.temple.edu/search-all-collections/6,925>

Choose a newspaper article (notice that there are numerous pages of them). Summarize its content and indicate what it tells you about the desegregation of Girard College.

Answers will vary.

E. Go to: <http://northerncity.library.temple.edu/search-all-collections/6,934>

After listening to an oral history of your choice, summarize the person's experience during the Girard College protests.

Answers will vary.