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African American Civil Rights Movement (1954–1968)

Student Research Guide

Modern History | Year 11 and 12

Cover: [Civil rights march on Washington, D.C.](#), 1963, U.S. News & World Report Magazine Photograph Collection.

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Overview

As Queensland's leading research library, State Library is a great place to find information to complete your research-based assessments.

State Library's One Search catalogue is the gateway to an extensive suite of national and international journals, databases, eBooks, encyclopedias, newspaper archives, and collections of thousands of historical images, letters, artworks, diaries, and artefacts to interrogate as sources.

This guide is designed to help you discover items on the **African American Civil Rights Movement (1954–1968)** that you can access on site, from your school or home.

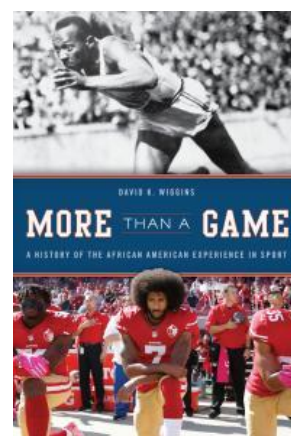
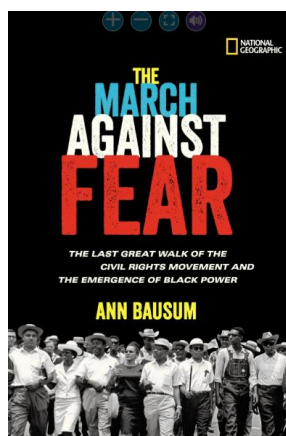
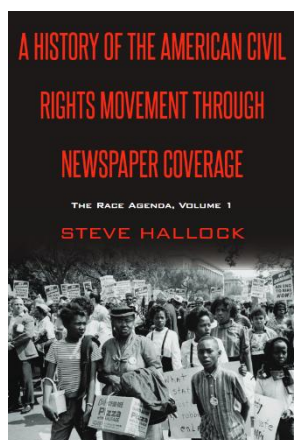
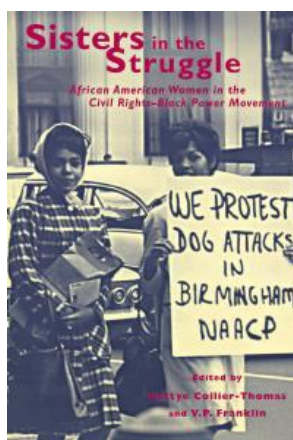
Before you get started

[Become a member](#) of State Library of Queensland (it's free!).

Once you have joined State Library, [log in](#) to your account in One Search so you can use the links in this research guide to access the featured collection items.

You can search our catalogue for [all items on the African American Civil Rights Movement](#) or begin exploring by clicking on some of the featured items contained in this research guide.

Featured eBooks



Featured Databases

[Oxford Reference](#) spans 25 different subject areas, bringing together 2 million digitised entries across Oxford University Press's dictionaries, companions, and encyclopedias.



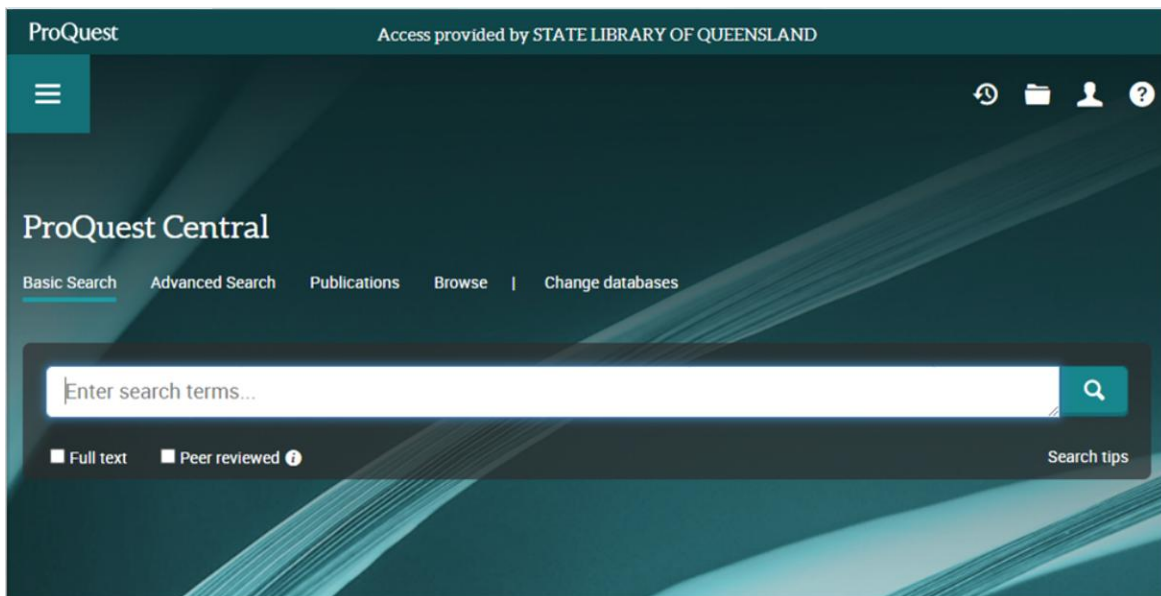
The screenshot shows the Oxford Reference website. At the top left is the "Oxford Reference" logo. To the right is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. Below the logo is a navigation bar with "Subject" and "Reference Type" dropdown menus, and "My Content (3)" and "My Searches (3)" links. Below the navigation bar are icons for home, print, and email. The main content area features a book cover for "Encyclopedia of African American History 1896 to the Present" edited by Paul Finkelman. The text describes the work as tracing the transition from the Reconstruction Era to the age of Jim Crow, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Movement, and the ascent of African Americans. It mentions that the encyclopedia contains approximately 1,200 fully cross-referenced entries signed by leading scholars. To the right of the book cover is a bio for Paul Finkelman, editor in chief, who is President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School, New York, and has authored more than 30 books and 150 journal articles.

The [Britannica Library](#) has articles, images and more, with a selection of resources especially for teenagers.

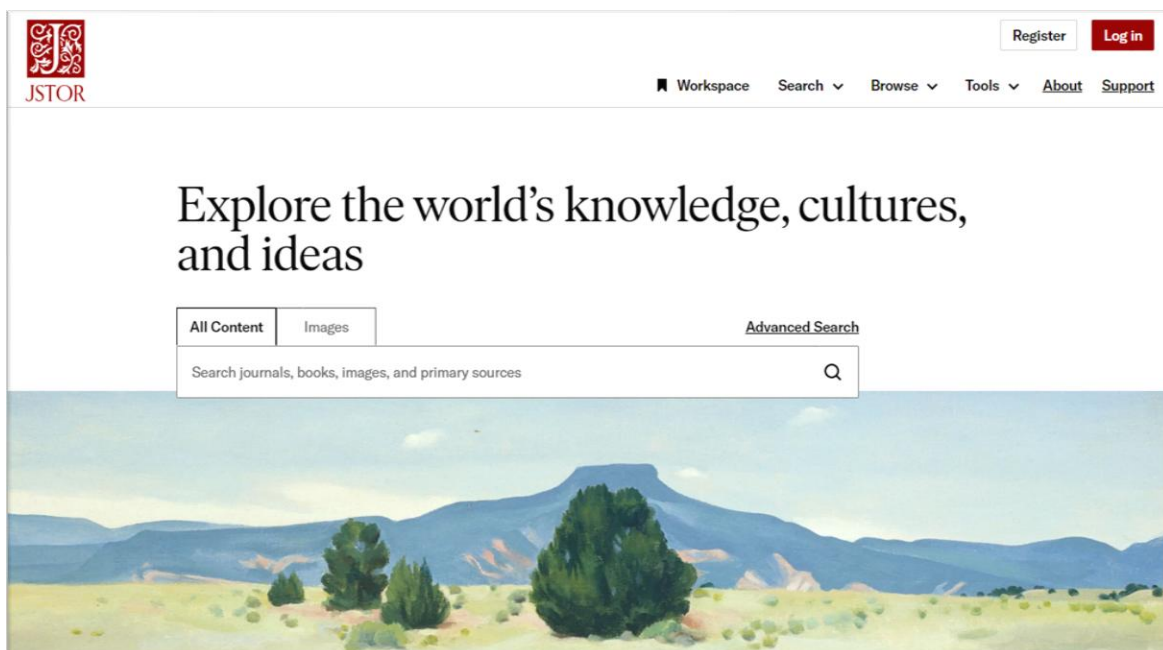


The screenshot shows the Britannica Library Teens page for the "civil rights movement". The page features a large black and white photograph of a civil rights march with people holding signs that say "FREEDOM", "WE DEMAND EQUAL RIGHTS NOW!", "WE MARCH FOR INTEGRATED SCHOOLS NOW!", "WE DEMAND DECENT HOUSING NOW!", and "WE DEMAND AN END TO BIAS NOW!". The page includes a search bar, a menu icon, and a "TABLE OF CONTENTS" link.

[ProQuest Central](#) brings together 47 databases across 175 subject areas, providing easy intuitive access to an incredibly broad and comprehensive range of content.



[JSTOR](#) provides access to more than 12 million scholarly journal articles and is an excellent resource for primary sources.



Music of the Civil Rights Movement

[Music Online](#) combines audio and video that spans all time periods, hundreds of thousands of seminal artists, composers, choreographers, and ensembles

The screenshot shows the Music Online interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu, the Alexander Street logo, and a search bar. The search results for 'civil rights' are displayed, showing 20 results. Two results are visible:

- Sing For Freedom: The Story of the Civil Rights Movement Through Its Songs** (1990), produced by Guy Carawan. Description: Hymns, speeches, spirituals, gospel songs, and prayers...a moving *civil rights* collection drawn from 1960s field recordings in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee.
- Voices of the Civil Rights Movement: Black American Freedom Songs 1960-1966** (1997), produced by Bernice Johnson Reagon. Description: This double-CD reissue documents a central aspect of the cultural environment of the *Civil Rights* Movement, acknowledging songs as the language that focused people's energy.

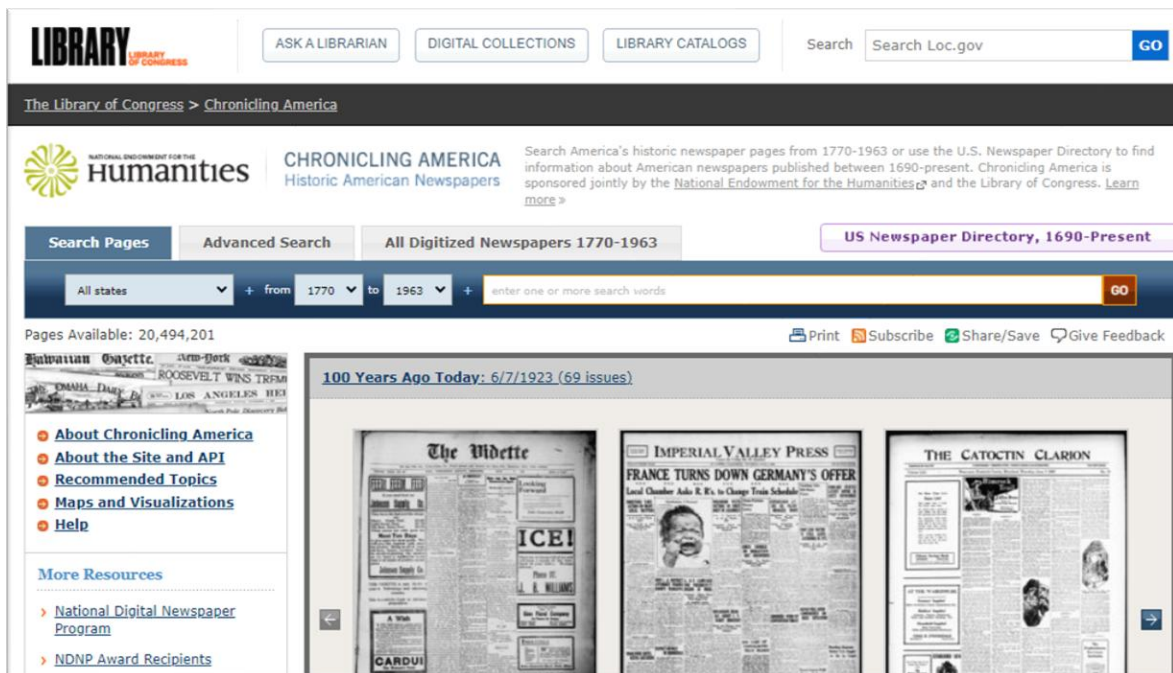
On the left, there are filters for 'Historical Event: U.S. Civil Rights Movement, 1954-' and 'FORMAT' (Audio, Text). On the right, there are 'Quick filters' and 'Sort' options.

Newspapers

The [SMH archives](#) contains 820,000 pages in almost 13,000 issues of The Sydney Morning Herald and The Sun-Herald, spanning 1955 to 1995.

The screenshot shows the SMH Archives website. At the top, it says 'The Sydney Morning Herald ARCHIVES 1955 - 1995' with buttons for 'Access Archive', 'SUBSCRIBE', and 'LOGIN'. Below this is a banner: 'GAIN ACCESS TO 40 YEARS OF TRUE-TO-PRINT DIGITAL NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES'. A search bar contains the text 'civil rights movement'. Below the search bar, a row of six newspaper front pages is displayed, showing various news items and headlines related to the civil rights movement.

[Chronicle America](#), by the US Library of Congress, is a searchable, digital archive of American newspapers from 1770 through to 1963.



More research

Search the catalogue

Continue searching for more using these subject searches:

[Civil rights movements -- United States -- History -- 20th century](#)

[African Americans -- Civil rights -- History -- 20th century](#)

[National Association for the Advancement of Colored People -- History -- 20th century](#)

[African American civil rights workers -- Biography](#)

[King, Martin Luther, Jr., 1929-1968](#)

[United States -- History -- 1953-1961](#)

[United States -- History -- 1961-1969](#)

[United States -- Race relations](#)

[African American women](#)

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