



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2009

History

HIS2P

Unit 2P The Campaign for African-American Civil Rights in the USA, 1950–1968

Friday 16 January 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2P.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A This source has been removed for copyright reasons.

The source discussed how, in 1960, the majority of African-Americans voted for Kennedy as he promised to work for civil rights. It continues to state how Kennedy made an important contribution by putting the weight of Presidential authority behind the civil rights movement even though he was unable to turn his proposals into law.

Source B Kennedy failed to provide decisive leadership in the field of civil rights. He never made civil rights a top priority. He believed he needed the votes of southern whites to win re-election in 1964 and he tried to hold them in the Democratic coalition by delaying the civil rights reforms he had promised during the 1960
5 campaign. He doubted such measures would pass, saying, ‘There is no sense in raising hell and then in not being successful’.

Adapted from J HENRETTA (ed.), *America’s History since 1865*, 1987

Source C A number of prominent female activists said that women often took the lead when protests against the Jim Crow laws were planned, because southern white men were less likely to commit violent acts towards black women. Black men were much more vulnerable to attack by southern white men. Fannie Lou Hamer (a
5 folk singer) explained that three female candidates were put forward for local elections in 1965 because it would have been ‘too dangerous to put men up as candidates’. Women in general were less likely than men to experience violence as a result of their civil rights activities. However, women were still in danger of violence. Fannie Lou Hamer was badly beaten in a Winona jail and dismissed
10 from her plantation job. She was just one of many southern black women who suffered personal violence because she took an active part in the civil rights movement.

Adapted from R COOK, *Sweet Land of Liberty*, 1998

(a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the role of President Kennedy in the development of African-American civil rights.

(12 marks)

(b) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important was Southern opposition in obstructing African-American civil rights in the years 1950 to 1963?

(24 marks)

EITHER

- 2 (a) Explain why schools were not immediately desegregated after the verdict in the Brown versus Topeka Board of Education case of 1954. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'The Montgomery Bus Boycott was the major turning point in Civil Rights in the years 1955 to 1960.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR

- 3 (a) Explain why there were riots in New York City in 1964. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'In the years 1965 to 1968, black activism was the most important method of raising awareness amongst whites about the poor social conditions of African-Americans.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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