

# Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois: Two Paths to Ending Jim Crow



# Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution

With the passage of these amendments to the Constitution, blacks expected all of the rights of citizenship. Black males specifically expected the right to vote because the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment stated, "The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

# Evolution of the Jim Crow South

## Disenfranchisement of African Americans

- g Grandfather Clause

- g Poll Tax

- g Literacy Test

- g Intimidation and Fear

# Jim Crow Laws

## Systematic State-Level Legal Codes of Segregation

- g Transportation
- g Schools
- g Libraries
- g Drinking Fountains
- g Morgues and Funeral Parlors

# Plessy vs. Ferguson



**The Case:** Homer Plessy, 1/8th black, was arrested for sitting in the “white car” of a Louisiana train in violation of that state’s “Separate Car Act.” The case was appealed to Supreme Court.



# Supreme Court Ruling 1896

## Plessy v. Ferguson

**The Ruling:** SEPARATE facilities were lawful as long as they were EQUAL.

Justice John Harlan, the lone dissenter wrote, "Our Constitution is color-blind."

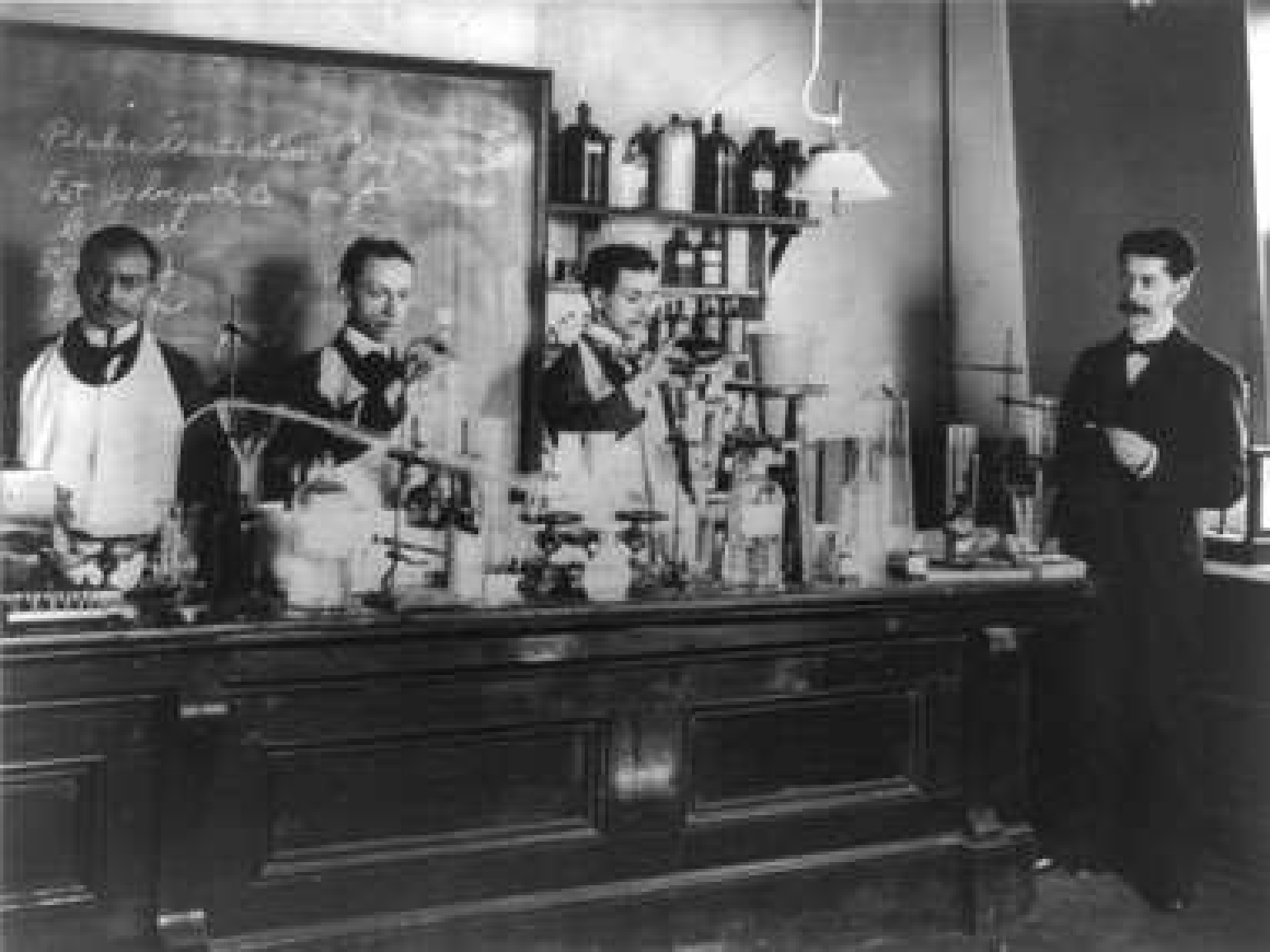


Supreme Court in 1896

# Plessy v. Ferguson

**The Result:** Legalized Jim Crow Segregation until 1954 (Brown v. Board of Education)











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# Two Diverse Backgrounds



Booker T. Washington



W.E.B. DuBois

# Booker T. Washington

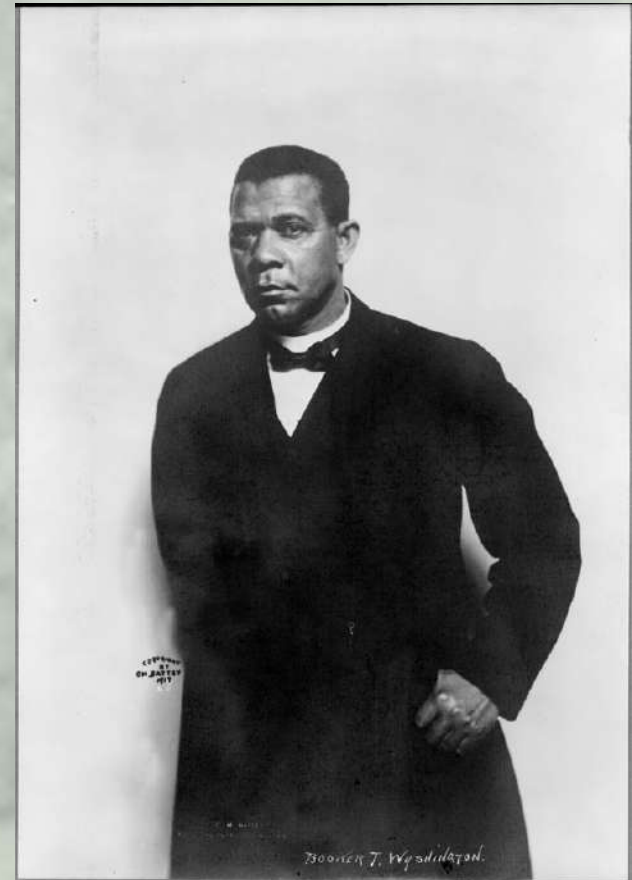
- Outlined his views on race relations in a speech at the Cotton States and International Exposition in Atlanta – “Atlanta Compromise”
- Felt that black people should work to gain economic security before equal rights
- Believed black people will “earn” equality





# Booker T. Washington

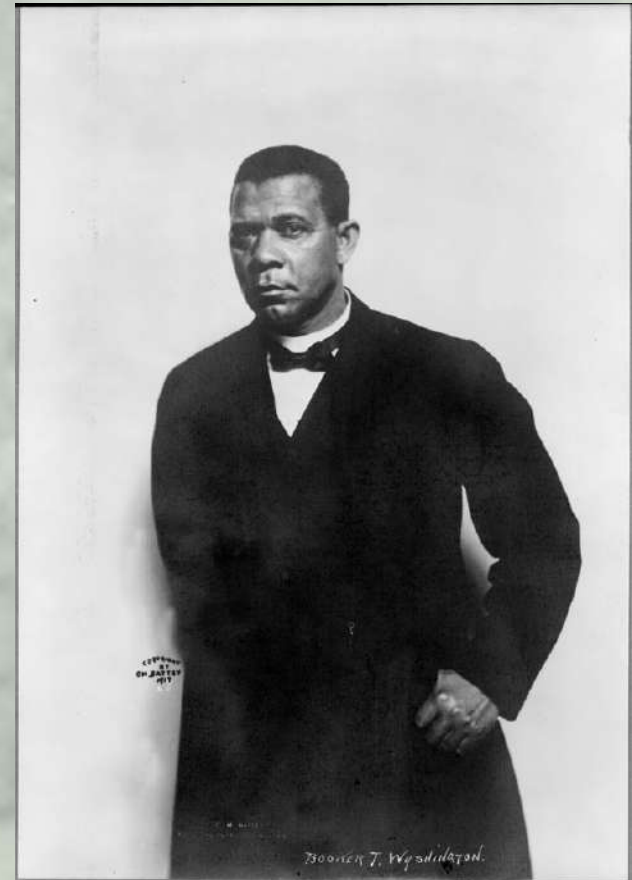
- Developed programs for job training and vocational skills at Tuskegee Institute
- Asked whites to give job opportunities to black people
- Was popular with white leaders in the North and South





# Booker T. Washington

- Was unpopular with many black leaders
- Associated with leaders of the Urban League which emphasized jobs and training for blacks



# Booker T. Washington

- g Born a slave in southwestern Virginia
- g Believed in vocational education for blacks
- g Founded Tuskegee Institute in Alabama
- g Believed in gradual equality
- g Accused of being an “Uncle Tom”
- g Received much white support
- g Wrote *Up From Slavery* (1901)

# W.E.B. DuBois



- Views given in *The Souls of Black Folks* and *The Crisis*
- Strongly opposed Booker T. Washington's tolerance of segregation
- Demanded immediate equality for blacks

# W.E.B. DuBois



- Felt talented black students should get a classical education
- Felt it was wrong to expect citizens to “earn their rights”
- Founded the NAACP along with other black and white leaders

# W.E.B. DuBois

- g Born in 1868 in Great Barrington, Massachusetts
- g Well educated-First African American to receive Ph.D. from Harvard
- g Wanted immediate equality between blacks and whites
- g Wanted classical higher education for blacks
- g Wrote *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
- g The Niagara Movement – led to NAACP

## ■ **Washington**

- Atlanta  
Compromise
- “cast down your bucket where you are”
- Races can be as the “fingers on a hand”
- Vocational skills
- Economic status first

## ■ **DuBois**

- “talented tenth”
- Liberal arts education
- Immediate equality