Affirmative Action Web Activity/Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
**Learning Essential Questions:**

* Was affirmative action a result of the civil rights movement?
* How did this impact minority groups?
* What are executive orders and how did the executive branch use these to address civil rights concerns?
* How has the Supreme Court addressed Affirmative Action cases?
* What should be the future of Affirmative Action in the United States?

**Understanding:** Affirmative action is a policy designed to address past discrimination practices against women and minority groups through measures to improve their access to educational and career opportunities and to improve their educational and economic status.   
Vocabulary/Glossary <http://www.uri.edu/affirmative_action/definitions.html>

**Task**: Web Activity and Research

Go to website: [www.oeod.uci.edu](http://www.oeod.uci.edu) and <http://affirmativeaction.ucr.edu/history.html>

Explore the website to find the answers to the following questions.

1. What executive order first included a provision of Affirmative Action? Which President signed this Executive Order?
2. Summarize Executive Order 11246. Which President of the United States signed this into order? How did he amend his the original order?
3. Explain the main point of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
4. Consider President Lyndon B. Johnson’s speech to the graduating class at Howard University on June 4, 1965.

*"You do not wipe away the scars of centuries by saying: 'now, you are free to go where you want, do as you desire, and choose the leaders you please.' You do not take a man who for years has been hobbled by chains, liberate him, bring him to the starting line of a race, saying, 'you are free to compete with all the others,' and still justly believe you have been completely fair . . . This is the next and more profound stage of the battle for civil rights. We seek not just freedom but opportunity—not just legal equity but human ability—not just equality as a right and a theory, but equality as a fact and as a result." (Retrieved from* [*http://www.infoplease.com/spot/affirmativetimeline1.htmlhttp://www.infoplease.com/spot/affirmativetimeline1.html*](http://www.infoplease.com/spot/affirmativetimeline1.htmlhttp://www.infoplease.com/spot/affirmativetimeline1.html) *)*

Explain this quotation in your own words. Does this quotation continue to have any significance today? Explain.

Go to website: <http://www.affirmativeaction.org/about>

1. What are the goals of the AAAA?
2. Why did the AAAA endorse President Clinton?

Research the following Supreme Court cases. Provide a brief summary of the case and the resulting decision.

1. Regents of the University of California v Bakke (1978)

Website: <http://www.oyez.org/cases/1970-1979/1977/1977_76_811>

1. Grutter v Bollinger (2003)

Website: <http://www.oyez.org/cases/2000-2009/2002/2002_02_241>

Go to website: <http://www.oyez.org/cases/2010-2019/2012/2012_11_345>

And <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/10/09/us/supreme-court-to-hear-case-on-affirmative-action.html?pagewanted=all>

1. Explain the issues in this court case. What is the status of the case?
2. Does the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment permit the consideration of race in undergraduate admissions decisions?

Go to website: <http://now.org>

1. What does NOW stand for?
2. According to this website, what are the current issues for NOW?
3. How does NOW define Affirmative Action?

Extended Thinking Questions   
After completing this research, consider the following.

1. Will affirmative action result in “reverse discrimination?”
2. Are employers expected to hire the “less qualified” over the “more qualified” to meet affirmative action goals?
3. How does the Supreme Court view the use of quotas?