

LESSON 2: PROMISES DENIED

DOCUMENT SET 2: HARPER'S WEEKLY CARTOON, MARCH 25, 1882



Artist: Thomas Nast Library of Congress LC-USZ61-2195 - b&w film copy neg.
Cartoon concerning Irish and Chinese immigration to the United States, showing "Fritz" and "Pat" seated at table talking.

Caption reads: Which color is to be tabooed next? Fritz (to Pat) "If the Yankee Congress can keep the yellow man out, what is to hinder them from calling us green and keeping us out too?"

Questions to think about:

1. Why did Congress pass a law preventing Chinese immigrants from coming into the United States?
2. How do you think Congress justified this action?
3. Do you think cartoonist Thomas Nast supported this action? Why or why not?

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DOCUMENT SET 3: JIM CROW LAWS

Ohio

Section 6987: A person of pure white blood, who intermarries, or has illicit carnal intercourse, with any negro, or person having a distinct and visible admixture of African blood, And any negro, or person having a distinct and visible admixture of African blood, who intermarries, or has illicit carnal intercourse, with any person of pure white blood, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars, or imprisoned not more than three months, or both.

Section 6988: A probate judge who knowingly issues a license for the solemnization of any marriage made penal by the last section, and every person who knowingly solemnizes any such marriage, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars, or imprisoned not more than three months, or both.

January 31, 1861

Section 4008: When, in the judgment of the board, it will be for the advantage of the district to do so, it may organize separate schools for colored children, and boards of two or more adjoining districts may unite in a separate school for colored children, each board to bear its proportionate share of the expense of such school, according to the number of colored children from each district in the school, which shall be under the control of the board of education of the district in which the school house is situated.

May 11, 1878

The text of these laws is part of the American Memory project, found online at [http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/murray:@field\(DOCID+@lit\(lcrbmrpt0d06div32](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/murray:@field(DOCID+@lit(lcrbmrpt0d06div32)

Arkansas Act 104 (Streetcar Segregation Act, 1903)

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas:

Section 1. That all persons, companies, or corporations operating any street car line in any city of the first class, in the State of Arkansas, be and they are hereby required to operate separate cars or to separate the white and colored passengers in the cars operated for both...

Section 2. That no said persons, companies, or corporations so operating street cars shall make any difference or discrimination in the quality or convenience of the accommodations provided for the two races under the provisions of this Act....

Section 4. That all passengers on any street car line shall be required to take the seat assigned to them, and any person refusing to do so shall leave the car, or remaining upon the car, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not to exceed \$25...

Section 6. That nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the running of extra or special cars for the exclusive accommodation of either white or colored passengers, if the regular cars are operated as required by this Act.