

Document 4

Other Rights Movements

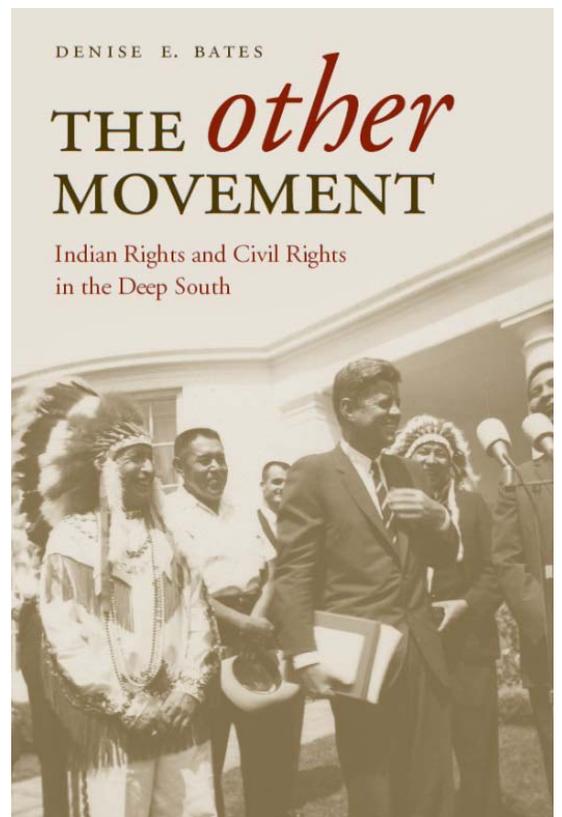
Directions: Read the following documents and record the information in your chart.

Native Americans. Indians also called for changes in their status. They began to call themselves Native Americans. Activists formed the American Indian Movement (AIM) in 1968. They also founded Indians of All Tribes in 1969. They called for the return of lands taken from them against the law over the years. They demanded the right to govern their own tribes. As with blacks and Latinos, they promoted pride in their cultures. Radicals took high-profile action to call attention to their cause. One group seized and stayed on Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay in 1969. Others took over a trading post at Wounded Knee in South Dakota in 1973. The Native-American movement was never well unified, though. It was made up of many different tribes. They tended to focus on their own distinct concerns and social groups.

Other Minorities. Other Americans took note of the calls by blacks, Latinos, and Indians for equal rights. Members of other minority groups become more aware of their social status. They saw themselves as part of a group. Asian Americans and other ethnic groups began to organize. They too stressed pride in their own cultures. They demanded to be treated in an equal way. Homosexuals pressed for equal rights. They also called for overall social acceptance.

Native American Civil Rights Movement

Native American Indians organized protests in attempts to regain lost lands and the ability to govern themselves as independent tribes. In the 1970's there were several elements of successful reclamation. In 1975 Congress passed the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act which gave tribes greater control over their own affairs and their children's education. In 1971 the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act gave more than 40 million acres to native peoples and paid out more than \$962 million in cash. Throughout the 1970's and 1980's, Native Americans won settlements that provided legal recognition of their tribal lands as well as financial compensation.



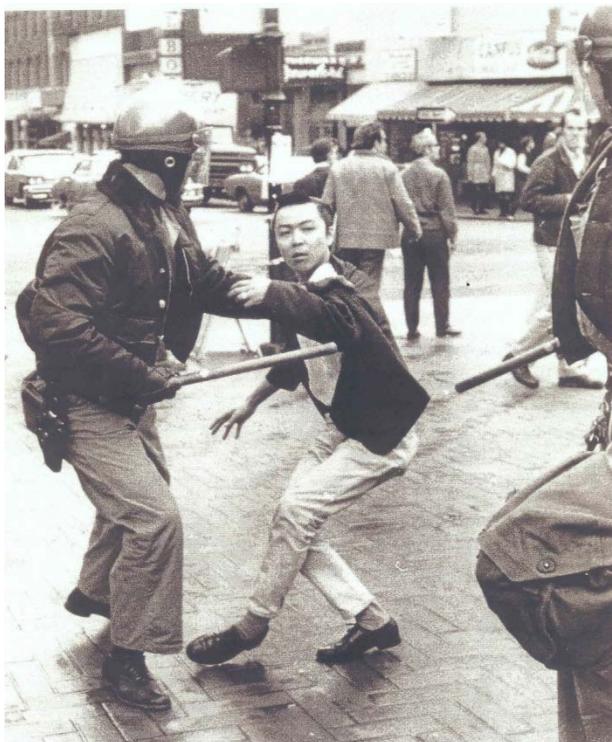
Asian-American Civil Rights Movement

Richard Aoki (1938 – 15 March 2009) was an American civil rights activist and was one of the first members of the Black Panther Party.

The Asian American movement began in the late 1960s and early 1970s during one of the most tumultuous eras in post-WW2 history. In the Bay Area, the Year 1968 marked a wave of Asian American activity. Three distinct Bay Area events earmarked the beginning of this local movement.

1. The 1968 formation of the Asian American Political Alliance in Berkeley.
2. The 1968 San Francisco State University and 1969 UC Berkeley Third World Liberation Strikes.
3. The International Hotel tenants' first eviction notice in December 1968.

As with other social movements of the 1960s, the Asian American Movement owes a debt of gratitude to the Civil Rights movement for exposing the gap between the country's image of itself and reality of how it treats its citizens: Instead of a land of equality where a person could achieve success through individual effort, the United States was criticized as a land of inequality where racial discrimination degraded African Americans and other people of color. In fact, the AAPA got its roots from the Black Power movement.



Asian Americans crossed the color line to embrace the ideals of the civil rights movement. Out of a sense of moral outrage, they participated in efforts to eliminate racial discrimination and segregation of blacks from the rest of society. But in working to attain legal rights for African Americans, they came to realize that the struggle for social justice in America was more than an African American and European American issue; it involved other people of color. Asian Americans too faced discrimination and prejudice; as a group, they too had been victims of institutionalized racism and had been excluded from mainstream society.

Gay Rights Movement

In the 1960s laws in most states prohibited homosexual acts. State and federal laws often made it illegal for gay men and lesbians to work for the government, and private employers routinely discriminated against them. The armed forces did not allow gay men or lesbians to serve. And most Americans felt it was acceptable to scorn, ridicule, and even physically harass homosexuals. As a result, gay Americans usually hid their sexual preference.

Small, semisecret gay rights organizations had begun to form in the post-World War II years. But a large gay rights movement began only in the late 1960s, when citizen activism had become more common due to the civil rights movement and other social change movements. The first major gay protest took place in 1969. At a New York City gay bar, the Stonewall Inn, gay men spontaneously protested when police attempted to arrest them and close down the bar. Encouraged by this impromptu resistance, other gay men and lesbians, many of whom were active in other sixties-era protest movements, intensified their efforts to organize a gay liberation movement.

By 1973 some 800 gay organizations existed; most were based in big cities and on university campuses. Many simply existed as safe and supportive environments for gay men and lesbians. But gay rights groups also lobbied local and state officials to pass nondiscrimination statutes similar to those that protected women, blacks, and other minority groups. However, most Americans in the 1970s and in later decades did not believe that homosexuality was an acceptable lifestyle, often because of religious beliefs. As a result, gay activists' successes in winning special legal protection similar to that won by blacks and women has been limited. Still, the gay movement did succeed in its first goal: Millions of Americans now live openly as homosexuals. Their visibility in the workplace and in communities around the United States has decreased discriminatory practices.

