Unit Plan:
The Role of Community Organizations in the Oregon Civil Rights Movement

Authors: Michael Gifford and Lance Erickson

A lesson designed for four 90-minute class periods

Unit Overview
This unit will introduce students to the role of Community Organizations in the Civil Rights Movement in Portland, Oregon. They will be presented with information on the various organizations and issues facing African Americans who lived in Portland during the civil rights movement. At the conclusion of the unit students will be able to discuss the community organizations played in relation to the success of civil rights protests in Portland. They will also have an understanding of how the African American civil rights movement served as a model for modern activism.

Teaching Guide:
This guide is the unit in entirety. Links to individual lessons are available below. See teaching guide for description of specific standards addressed by this unit.

Lesson 1: The Civil Rights Movement in Portland, Oregon.
In this lesson, students will discuss what they already know about the National Civil Rights Movement. Many will discover that while they do have general knowledge about the National Movement, many know little about the Civil Rights Movement here in Portland, Oregon. This lesson is designed for one 90-minute class period.

Handouts:
Civil Rights Timeline in Oregon (modified version included):

Lesson 2: DBQ Preparation - Analysis of Primary Sources Regarding Police Relations with the African American Community
This lesson allows students to prepare for the DBQ exercise by analyzing a variety of primary documents related to community organizing in Portland during the Civil Rights era. This lesson is designed for one 90-minute class period.

Handouts:
- NAACP Recruiting Poster
- SOAPS Template:
- What To Do When Stopped by the Police
Lesson 3: DBQ Essay - Analyzing Documents about Community Organizations in Civil Rights Protests
This lesson addressed the question: Was it the activities of local or national organizations that most closely addressed the needs of African Americans in Portland. Students will analyze primary documents and answer these questions in their DBQ essay. Lesson designed for one 90-minute class. Students may need additional time to complete the DBQ essay.

Handouts:
- DBQ Packet
- DBQ Rubric

Lesson 4: Community Organizations in Civil Rights Protests
In the concluding lesson to this unit, students will use the NAACP Publicity Handbook as a Template for to design their own publicity campaign for a protest rally for a current local or global issue of their choice. This lesson is designed for one 90-minute class period.