

THE HISTORY OF VOTING IN AMERICA

UP UNTIL 1870, ONLY WHITE MALES WHO OWNED LAND COULD VOTE...

1870

through the passage of the 15th amendment, the right to vote was granted to Black men but would be stifled again during the era of reconstruction

1877-1965

Jim Crow Era - literacy tests, poll taxes, intimidation and other restrictive measures were enacted to keep Black voters from exercising their right - these measures were not removed or barred until 1965

1920

women were not allowed to vote until the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920

1924

Congress enacted the Indian Citizenship Act which granted citizenship to Native Americans...their right to vote was still not guaranteed though, as some states barred Native Americans from voting until 1957

1882-1943

Chinese immigrants were granted citizenship after the Chinese Exclusion Act was repealed in 1943...only then were they allowed to exercise their right to vote

1965

Voting Rights Act was passed which suspended literacy tests...they were not completely banned until 1975

1984

polling places were required to become more accessible to older adults and people with disabilities

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