

*Make Up: for credit copy onto your own paper*

## Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

Jim Crow Laws: racial segregation laws to separate blacks and whites in public and private facilities

Example: Louisiana law required separate railroad cars for blacks and whites

Plessy – black man who sat on whites only railroad car, he’s arrested and appeals his case all the way to the Supreme Court

Ferguson – district court judge that originally ruled against Plessy

14<sup>th</sup> Amendment: made all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. a citizen

+ “Equal Protection Clause”: guarantees equal protection under the law

+”Due Process”: Gov can take life, liberty, or property without due process

Case Question: does the Louisiana law violate equal protection under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment?

**Q** Supreme Court Ruling: “Separate but equal” laws DO NOT violate the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

**Q** Result: The *Plessy* decision legalized segregation for the next 60 years

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