Civil Rights and Civil Unrest, the Road to Equality in the Streets of America

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This curriculum unit will give students the opportunity to study the civil rights movement in a context beyond political and bureaucratic undertakings. It will delve deep into the social conscience of a time in America when discourse, because of inequality, rest with the only alternative certain groups believed they could result to, and that was riots and civil unrest in the streets of America. During the civil rights movement, change was made through non-violence and violence. This unit will look at case law, statutory provisions and collective strategies used by minority leaders in the fight for civil rights. This unit can be taught in a 90 minute block for 10-12 days. The students will conduct collaborative team research on a historical civil unrest incident, along with having a better understanding of the voices of the civil rights movement. By the end of this unit, the student will have a better understanding of the social and civil rights issues of inequality experienced by minorities in America. They will also gain insight into the sparks that can create a community to erupt into violence as their only means of recourse.