PLESSY V. FERGUSON REFLECTION QUICK WRITE

Lesson Response Directions:

Reflecting on all aspects of learning during this lesson, compose and communicate your thoughts to ONE of the questions below. Circle the prompt of your choice then formulate your answers on lined paper and attach.

Defend your response by using notes from all documents used in this lesson.

Questions:

1. What are the responsibilities of an individual regarding issues of social justice?

2. Plessy intentionally sat in the wrong section of the train car, refusing to sit in the Jim Crow car. He wanted to challenge the Jim Crow laws through legal proceedings under constitutional rights granted by the 14th Amendment. The outcome decided upon was that separate was allowable in public facilities as long as the facilities were equal. In your opinion, was this Homer Plessy’s individual response to oppression?

3. Can we legislate true equality? What do the results of Plessy v. Ferguson and its aftermath teach us about our own U.S. history?

4. Was continued civil disobedience by African Americans the only recourse after the Plessy decision? Can you think of other issues where civil disobedience might be the only recourse?

5. What would happen to a modern society if Plessy v. Ferguson had not been overturned by later civil rights rulings, such as Brown v. Board of Education? Where would we be now?

6. Are the states that are requiring members of the LGBTQ community to use the bathroom that is assigned to their biology a variation of the "Plessy" issue? Why or why not?