

Jim Crow Laws: Maryland

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Like other border states, Maryland fully supported segregation, passing 15 such laws between 1870 and 1957. Persons found guilty of violating the 1884 miscegenation law were subject to imprisonment in the penitentiary between 18 months to ten years. The state also paid close attention to segregating its steamboat trade. The miscegenation statute was not repealed until 1967.

1870: Education [Statute]

Taxes paid by colored people shall be set aside for maintaining schools for colored children.

1872: Education [Statute]

Schools to be established for colored children. No colored school shall be established in a district unless the colored population warrants.

1884: Miscegenation [Statute]

Prohibited all marriages between white persons and Negroes and persons of Negro descent to third generation inclusive.

Penalty: Person guilty of infamous crime and subject to a sentence of imprisonment in the penitentiary between 18 months to ten years. Ministers who performed such ceremonies were to be fined \$100.

1904: Railroads [Statute]

All railroad companies required to provide separate cars or coaches for white and colored passengers. Signage in plain letters to be displayed in a conspicuous place. Penalty: Companies that failed to comply could be fined between \$300 and \$1,000. Passengers who refused to take their assigned seat could be charged with a misdemeanor and fined between \$5 and \$50, or imprisoned in jail for 30 days, or both. Conductors who failed to carry out the law could be charged with a misdemeanor and fined between \$25 and \$50.

1904: Steamboats [Statute]

White and colored passengers to be assigned to separate areas of a steamboat. Penalty: Company officers who failed to enforce the law could be charged with a misdemeanor, and fined between \$25 and \$50. Passengers who refused to sit where assigned were liable for misdemeanor and could be fined between \$5 and \$50.

1908: Steamboats [Statute]

Steamboats operating on the Chesapeake Bay required to provide separate toilet or retiring rooms, and separate sleeping cabins for white and black passengers. Penalty: \$50 for each day's violation.

1908: Streetcars [Statute]

Streetcars required to designate separate seats for white and colored passengers. Penalty: Passengers who refused to comply with law guilty of a misdemeanor, and could be fined up to \$50, or imprisoned in jail for 30 days, or both. Conductors who refused to enforce the act were guilty of a misdemeanor, and could be fined up to \$20.

1924: Miscegenation [State Code]

Miscegenation declared a felony.

1924: Education [State Code]

Required racially segregated schools.

1935: Miscegenation [Statute]

Miscegenation between persons of the Caucasian and Malay races prohibited.

1951: Education [State Code]

Duty of County Board of Education to establish free public schools for all colored children between the ages of six and twenty years.

1951: Barred public accommodation segregation [Statute]

Repealed public accommodation segregation laws.

1955: Miscegenation [Statute]

Any white woman who delivered a child conceived with a Negro or mulatto would be sentenced to the penitentiary for 18 months to five years.

1957: Miscegenation [State Code]

Crime for white woman to bear a black man's child. Law held unconstitutional later that year in *State v. Howard*.

1957: Miscegenation [State Code]

Prohibited marriage between whites and Negroes or Asians. Penalty: 18 months to 10 years imprisonment.

1957: Adoption [State Code]

Required race to be disclosed on petition for adoption.

1967: Barred anti-miscegenation [Statute]

Repealed anti-miscegenation law.