

Jim Crow Laws: South Carolina

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Passed 22 segregation laws between 1865 and 1957. Six miscegenation laws, six school segregation laws and four railroad segregation statutes were passed, including a 1952 statute that made it a crime for a black to take custody of a white child. Three anti-segregation laws were passed during the Reconstruction era, but were overturned in 1879.

1865: Miscegenation [Statute]

Prohibited marriage between a white person and a person of color.

1866: Miscegenation [Statute]

Upheld 1865 law prohibiting intermarriage

1868: Barred school segregation [Constitution]

All public schools and universities to be free and open to all persons regardless of race or color.

1869: Barred public accommodation segregation [Constitution]

Gave all classes of citizens without regard to race or color equal access to public, legal and political privileges. Included the right to intermarry.

1869: Barred public carrier segregation [Statute]

Unlawful for public carriers or any business to discriminate on account of race or color. Penalty: Fine of \$1,000 and hard labor in the penitentiary for five years. Corporations that violated this act shall forfeit their business license.

1879: Miscegenation [Statute]

"Marriage between a white person and an Indian, Negro, mulatto, mestizo, or half-breed shall be null and void." Penalty: Misdemeanor, fined a minimum of \$500, or imprisoned for not less than twelve months, or both. Ministers who performed such marriages faced misdemeanor charges, subject to the same penalty.

1895: Miscegenation [Constitution]

Prohibited marriage between a white person with a Negro or mulatto, or a person who had one-eighth or more Negro blood.

1895: Education [Constitution]

No children of either race "shall ever be permitted to attend a school provided for children of the other race."

1896: Education [Statute]

Unlawful for pupils of one race to attend schools provided for persons of another race.

1898: Railroads [Statute]

All railroads to provide separate first-class coaches for the accommodation of white and colored passengers. Penalty: Railroad employees who violated the law were liable to a fine from \$300 to \$500. Section 6 of the law noted that it was legal for all persons paying second-class fare to ride in a second-class car.

1900: Railroads [Statute]

Amended the act of 1898, repealing section six. The new law stated that railroads were not required to have second-class coaches. Penalty: Employees violating the law faced misdemeanor charges punishable by a fine between \$25 and \$100. Passengers who refused to sit in their assigned car were guilty of a misdemeanor and could be fined from \$25 to \$100.

1903: Railroads [Statute]

Amended 1900 law stating that railroads were required to furnish separate apartments for white and colored passengers only on passenger trains, not on freight trains.

1905: Streetcars [Statute]

Authorized streetcars to separate the races in their cars. Penalty: Conductors who failed to enforce the law could be fined up to \$100, or imprisoned for up to 30 days for each offense.

1906: Railroads [Statute]

Firms providing meals to passengers at railroad stations were prohibited from serving meals to white and colored passengers in the same room, at the same counter, or at the same table. Penalty: Misdemeanor, could be fined from \$25 to \$100, or imprisoned up to 30 days.

1932: Public accommodations [Statute]

All circuses and tent show must provide separate entrances for white and black customers.

1932: Education [State Code]

Required racially segregated schools.

1932: Miscegenation [State Code]

Miscegenation declared a misdemeanor. Also forbid marriages between persons of the Caucasian and Asian races.

1935: Education [Statute]

Required school bus drivers to be of the same race as the children they transported.

1952: Voting rights protected [State Code]

Repealed poll tax statute.

1952: Employment [State Code]

Unlawful for cotton textile manufacturers to allow different races to work together in same room, use same exits, bathrooms, etc. Penalty \$100 and/or imprisonment at hard labor up to 30 days.

1952: Miscegenation [State Code]

Marriage of white with Negro, mulatto, Indian, or mestizo void. Penalty: Not less than \$500 and/or not less than 12 months imprisonment.

1952: Adoption [Statute]

Crime to give colored person custody of a white child.

1952: Public carriers [State Code]

Public carriers to be segregated.

1955: Education [State Code]

Regular school attendance statute repealed.

1956: Public accommodations [Statute]

State Commission of Forestry given authority to operate and supervise only racially separated parks and to admit to the facilities of the parks only persons who have the express permission of the state.

1957: Education [State Code]

No appropriations for schools from and to which students transfer because of court order.