The Civil Rights Movement

Section 3

MAIN IDEAS
1. Hispanic Americans organized for civil rights and economic opportunities.
2. The women’s movement worked for equal rights.
3. Other Americans also fought for change.

Key Terms and People

Cesar Chavez  Hispanic activist who founded the United Farm Workers
United Farm Workers union that fought for migrant farm workers’ rights
Betty Friedan women’s rights activist and founder of NOW
National Organization for Women organization to fight for opportunities for women
Shirley Chisholm first African American woman elected to U.S. Congress
Equal Rights Amendment constitutional amendment to outlaw all discrimination based on gender
Phyllis Schlafly leader of opposition to Equal Rights Amendment
American Indian Movement group formed to fight for Native American rights
Disabled in Action activist organization for rights of disabled people

Academic Vocabulary
consequence the effect of an event or events

Section Summary
HISPANIC AMERICANS ORGANIZE FOR CHANGE
The success of African Americans encouraged others to fight for their rights. Cesar Chavez founded a union that was later known as the United Farm Workers. The union worked to get better pay and working conditions for migrant farm workers.

Chavez inspired the Chicano movement. This struggle for political power for Hispanics had far-reaching consequences. Schools were required to provide teachers who could speak Spanish and other languages while students learned English. The Voting Rights Act of 1975 made it possible for people to vote in languages other than English.

What was one consequence of the Chicano movement?

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____________________
____________________
THE WOMEN’S MOVEMENT
Before the 1960s women had fewer job opportunities than men. The Equal Pay Act required employers to pay men and women the same money for the same jobs. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 banned discrimination based on gender and race.

Activists also questioned women’s roles in society. Betty Friedan helped found the National Organization for Women (NOW) in 1966. In 1968 Shirley Chisholm became the first African American woman elected to Congress.

In the early 1970s, women’s activists supported the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The goal of the ERA was to outlaw all discrimination based on gender. Phyllis Schafly led a conservative group opposed to the ERA. Congress approved the bill in 1972, but it fell three states short of ratification. Even so, women began to find new openings in education and jobs.

OTHER VOICES FOR CHANGE
Other groups began to call for an end to intolerance. The American Indian Movement (AIM) fought for Native Americans’ rights and control over their own lands. The group held protests, one of which ended in a gun battle. These protests called attention to Native American issues.

Disabled in Action (DIA) worked to change laws and make people aware of problems that disabled people faced. In 1975, the Education of Handicapped Children Act passed. In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act passed. It outlawed all types of discrimination against disabled people.

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY
Critical Thinking: Hypothesizing List three consequences of the changes that occurred during the civil rights era. What differences might you see today without these changes?

What types of discrimination did the Civil Rights Act of 1964 address?

Underline the phrase that indicates why the Equal Rights Amendment did not become part of the Constitution.

How did the Americans with Disabilities Act help people who are disabled?
DIRECTIONS  On the line provided before each statement, write T if a statement is true and F if a statement is false. If the statement is false, write the correct term on the line after each sentence that makes the sentence a true statement.

_____  1. Betty Friedan was the first African American woman elected to Congress.

_____  2. Conservative opponents to the Equal Rights Amendment such as Phyllis Schlafly helped defeat the amendment.

_____  3. The Equal Rights Amendment attempted to improve working conditions and pay for migrant workers.


_____  5. Phyllis Schlafly wrote *The Feminine Mystique*, which described the dissatisfaction of some women in traditional roles.

_____  6. Cesar Chavez worked to improve economic opportunities for Hispanic Americans.

_____  7. Efforts of the group Disabled in Action led to new laws such as the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.