CORE and SNCC; before 1964—had been a mentoring type of organisation for the SNCC before black power and militancy.

- **Leader:** MLK (57-68); Ralph Abernathy (68-77); Joseph Lowery (77-97); MLK 3 (97-2004)

**Meredith March**

**Who:** James Meredith, the 1st black University student; MLK and the SCLC; NAACP; CORE; Stokely Carmichael;

**Where:** Memphis to Jackson (original march)

**When:** 1966

**Why:** James Meredith planned a 220 mile walk from Memphis to Jackson to encourage black voting but was shot on his second day, so temporarily immobilised.

**What happened:** Black organisations continued the walk; MLK and 20 others began walk; 400 marchers by 3rd day including new SNCC leader Carmichael; however, there were divisions within the march: NAACP/National Urban League wanted march to focus national attention on new Civil Rights Bill but withdrew after criticism of the bill from Carmichael.

King and SCLC encouraged white participants. The SNCC rejected them.

SNCC and CORE became increasingly militant, following lack of Federal protection for voter registration projects in ‘Freedom Summer’- Carmichael was arrested; then released, he ordered the burning of Mississippi Courthouses.

King/SCLC tried to encourage non-militant chants; opposed black power as it would alienate white sympathisers and encourage a white backlash. King reluctantly agreed to black parliamentary group “Deacons for Defence” providing security; tired of violence, King urged blacks to avoid retaliating against tear gas and begged Johnson to send Federal Troops, but this request was refused; Meredith felt excluded- it had been his march and so he began another on his own; some SCLC leaders joined him in disguise split; 15000 main marchers ended at Jackson with rival chants of “black power” and “freedom now”.

**Outcome:** MLK was in despair- he didn’t know what the government has got to give me some victories if I’m going to make people non-violent.” He no longer felt able to cooperate with the SNCC “because Stokely Carmichael chose the march as an arena for debate over black power”- admitted to blacks very close to public split; After Meredith, King depressed and unsure, thinking Carmichael and other extremists had marginalised him as ‘far left’; called for separation of “black” from “white” and use “any means necessary.”

**Minorities**

**W.A.S.Ps**

- White Anglo Saxon Protestants; Most dominant US group at the time; Thought America should be purely for W.A.S.Ps; little interest in immigrant civil rights, which they saw as uncivilised and undesirable; Nativism- a right wing reaction, wanted to keep America “pure” and created the “Order of the Star-Spangled Banner” organisation.

- Quotas on immigration- how many of each person from a country could immigrate; immigration and Naturalisation Act- Kennedy lifted quotas but it was not fully implemented until 1968.

- Acts/Groups/Events helping/hindering all minorities: Civil Rights Act 1964 applied to all minorities; Fair Housing Act; Cold War helped by showing lack of unity; JFK helped by speaking out against all racism; KKK hated all groups; WW2 helped unity but hindered the Japanese; MLK inspired groups; Garvey helped- Pan Africanism etc but hindered when he met with KKK; Great Depression helped with the ‘new deal’; Johnson Great Society Program helped; Voting Rights Act helped- applied to all groups.

How unique were the experiences of blacks at the time?

**Native Americans**