

Elmore vs. Rice

Grade Level: 3-5

Subject: Language Arts/ Social Studies

Introductory Statement: George Elmore filed the successful lawsuit that established the legal precedent that gave African Americans the right to vote in the Democratic primary election in South Carolina.

Social Studies

Standard 3-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the major developments in South Carolina in the late nineteenth and the twentieth century.

- **Indicator 3-5.5** Summarize the development of economic, political, and social opportunities of African Americans in South Carolina, including the end of Jim Crow laws; the desegregation of (Briggs v. Elliott) and other public facilities; and **efforts of African Americans to achieve the right to vote.**

Standard 5-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the social, economic and political events that influenced the United States during the Cold War era.

- **Indicator 5-5.3** Explain the advancement of the modern Civil Rights Movement; including the desegregation of the armed forces, Brown v. Board of Education, the roles of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, the Civil Rights acts, and the Voting Rights Act.

English/Language Arts

RI.4.3-Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

RI.4.6-Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided.

W.4.1-Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information

W.4.7-Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic

Goal/ Objective: The students will be able to understand Mr. George Elmore's role in the decision allowing African Americans to vote in the Democratic primary in South Carolina.

Materials:

- copies of the 2007 and 2014 African American calendars
- Interview with Harold R. Boulware, lead attorney in *Elmore v. Rice*, 1947, as recorded by "Quest for Human/Civil Rights" Documentary Series-video
- Newspaper Article- "One Man Sacrifice Ends White Voting Club"
- picture of grave marker for George Elmore

Activity 1:

- Teacher guided - Lead a discussion based on the following questions stems:
How would feel if you were denied a right to do something that others could do? How would you go about changing this situation? Discuss why it is important to vote?
- Share the 2007 and 2014 African American calendars to introduce George Elmore to the students,
- Have students research the 15th amendment and all the actions and laws that followed that granted women and African Americans the right to vote. Students will create a timeline based on this information. (The 3rd grade will only focus on South Carolina)

Activity 2

- Students will watch an interview with Harold Boulware the lead attorney for Elmore v. Rice (1947). Students should take notes about important points using a graphic organizer or other method of note-taking.
- Read article from The State Newspaper. “ One Man’s Sacrifice Ends White Voting Club”
- Additional Reading- Civil Rights In South Carolina- From Peaceful Protest to Ground Breaking Rulings by James Felder (p.39)
- Share image of grave marker for George Elmore.
- After watching the interview and reading the newspaper article, students will state an opinion based on the information learned. George Elmore sacrificed much to ensure that African Americans had the right to vote in the Democratic primary in South Carolina? Do you think the sacrifice was worth it? Why or Why not?

Activity 3: (this activity can be done in k-2)

Mock Election- Have students decide on a topic or issue they would like to see changed in their school or community. Have a mock election so that students have an opportunity to participate in the voting process.

Activity 4: Design a monument to honor George Elmore and the case Elmore v. Rice 1947.

Activity 5: Interview with Mr. George Elmore

You are a newspaper reporter assigned to cover the case Elmore v. Rice 1947. Create at least 5 questions you would ask Mr. Elmore. Next, create a response that you think Mr. Elmore would have given to each of the questions. Use the resources listed to help you complete this activity.

Resources:

2007 Calendar George Elmore Honoree-

<http://scafricanamerican.com/public/pdf/honorees/22007.pdf>

Interview with Harold Boulware-

<http://www.teachingushistory.org/ttrove/Intervhttp://www.thestate.com/2003/03/03/2376170/one-mans-sacrifice-ends->

[white.html](http://www.teachingushistory.org/ttrove/Intervhttp://www.thestate.com/2003/03/03/2376170/one-mans-sacrifice-ends-white.html)[viewwithHaroldR.BoulwareleadattorneyinElmorev.Rice1947.html](http://www.thestate.com/2003/03/03/2376170/one-mans-sacrifice-ends-white.html)

Image of George Elmore Grave Marker -

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/richland/S10817740105/pages/S1081774010505.htm>

Newspaper Article - "One Man's Sacrifice to End White Voting Club"

<http://www.thestate.com/2003/03/03/2376170/one-mans-sacrifice-ends-white.html>

Other Images- <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=58181>