MoreThe Effect of Racism in America Against African Americans Today Unless you were born a minority, chances are you probably don't fully understand the weight of racism. The largest group that has faced discrimination in the U.S. are African Americans. Since the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s equality has improved, but how much? In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional and illegal to have racially segregated schools (Wilmore: Civil Right: How far have we come?). Today 86% of whites claim to have a friend who is black, compared to 18% the year the Civil Rights Act was passed (Thernstrom, 1998). However, the injustice that follows blacks economically, socially, and educationally affects their outcome of life. Although there have been major strides in racial equality in America since the time of MLK, the inequality discrimination that African Americans face today is still evident.