

Oregon's History on Race Relations*

1850 The Oregon Donation Land Act was enacted by the U.S. Congress to promote homestead settlement in the Oregon Territory; swelling the ranks of emigrants on the Oregon Trail. It granted free land to “Whites and half-breed Indians” in the Oregon Territory. (The language of the act prevented non-Whites from claiming land in Oregon even if they had already settled here whether they had previous deeds to the land or not.)

Mid 1850's Mexican mule packers dominated the overland trade routes between northern California and Southern Oregon. They supplied the Second Regiment Oregon Mounted Volunteers during the Rogue River Indian Wars. They played a very valuable role in communication and transportation of supplies.

1851 Jacob Vanderpool, an owner of a saloon, restaurant and boarding house in Salem, was the only person known to have been kicked out of the Oregon Territory because of his skin color based on the Exclusion Laws. Other incidents may not have been officially recorded.

1854 Oregon's Exclusion Law was repealed, to be replaced three years later by amending the Oregon Constitution with similar exclusionary language to keep Blacks out of Oregon. (Much of this racist language was not removed from the official Constitution until 2000.)

1855 After the gold strikes in southern Oregon, pro-slavery forces advocated forming a new state in southern Oregon and northern California. It failed when Californians rejected the idea of reducing the size of their state.

1856 Rogue River Indian Wars ended with the surviving Native Americans sent to two newly created reservations: the Siletz and the Grand Ronde.

1857 Oregon residents voted against slavery but in favor of excluding “free Negroes” from the state. The state's African American population faced either leaving the state or suffering southern-style segregation well into the 20th century. Meanwhile, a new exclusion law was added by popular vote to Oregon Constitution's Bill of Rights.

1858 Just prior to statehood, Oregon elected its first state officials. Governor “Honest John” Whiteaker, as well as many lesser officials, were well known for their pro-slavery views.

1859 On February 14, 1859, Oregon became the only state admitted to the Union with an exclusion law written into a state's constitution.

1860's: Large numbers of Asians, primarily Chinese, began to arrive mostly to mine and construct railroads. 1860's Mexican miners joined the Oregon Gold Rush. One of the important technologies they brought with them was the arrastre, a large but inexpensive, stone device for crushing quartz to remove the gold.

1861 The Knights of the Golden Circle, an anti-Union and pro-slavery group, opened chapters in many Oregon communities. Their ultimate goal in the Northwest was to secede from the U.S. and create a Pacific Coast Republic.

1862 Oregon adopted a law requiring all Blacks, Chinese, Hawaiians (Kanakas), and Mulattos (an archaic term referring to people of mixed ethnic heritage) residing in Oregon to pay an annual tax of \$5. If they could not pay this tax, the law empowered the state to press them into service maintaining state roads for 50 cents a day. Also, interracial marriages were banned in Oregon. It was against the law for whites to marry anyone $\frac{1}{4}$ or more Black.

1866 Oregon's citizens did not pass the Fourteenth Amendment, granting citizenship to Blacks. Exclusion Laws were still in effect making it illegal for Blacks to live in Oregon. 1866 Oregon banned all interracial marriages The state's ban on interracial marriages was extended to prevent Whites from marrying anyone who was $\frac{1}{4}$ or more Chinese, or Hawaiian, and $\frac{1}{2}$ or more Native American. It was previously illegal for Whites and Blacks to marry.

1867 Even though the total black population in Oregon in the 1860's number 128, Portland assigned black and mulatto children to a segregated school.

1868 Corvallis College was designated as the Agricultural College of Oregon as part of the Morrill Land-Grant Act of 1862. It became the first state-supported institution of higher education and was charged with training teachers. 1869 Mexican vaqueros drove large herds of cattle from California to eastern Oregon helping to develop the ranching business in that part of the state and therefore settlement. 1869 Oregon's first public high school opened in Portland.

1872 First tax supported public elementary school program was put in place throughout Oregon. While most Oregonians eventually accepted the idea of tax supported elementary schools, the concept of public high schools was slow to win popular support. Influential people like Harvey Scott, editor of the Portland Oregonian from 1865 – 1910, were firm believers that high schools would serve only as "havens for drones, a luxury certain to undermine self-reliance and individualism." Many influential people believed that higher education in Oregon was needed by the elites only.

1877 The Nez Perce Tribe clashed with the U.S. Army in their Wallowa homeland in northeast Oregon. Chief Joseph and his people refused to go to a reservation. Instead, Chief Joseph tried to lead 800 of his people to Canada and freedom. Fighting the U.S. Army all along their 1100 mile journey, they were trapped just 40 miles from Canada. After a five-day fight, with only 431 remaining Nez Perce, Chief Joseph made his speech of surrender stating: "From here to where the sun sets, I will fight no more forever."

1879 Chemawa Indian Boarding School opened in Salem, Oregon as the third such boarding school in the nation. These schools were designed to assimilate Indian children into white culture and teach them vocational skills. Students were prohibited from speaking their tribal languages or practicing any of their traditional customs or culture. (This Indian School still operates in Salem, but without the extreme notions of assimilation of its original intent.)

1880 By this date, the U.S. government had forced most Indians of the Northwest onto reservations. Boxes contain national events. Compiled by Elaine Rector as part of CFEE (Coaching for Educational Equity) contact elrector@comcast.net (Revised May 16, 2010) 9
1880's Chinese immigrants were driven by mobs out of Oregon City, Mount Tabor and Albina.

1881 Attempts to establish public funded colleges met with opposition from those who felt that the Willamette Valley's several denominational academies and colleges provided adequate facilities for higher education. The critics seemed justified. Only seven students graduated from the University of Oregon in 1881 and only four in 1885.

1883 An attempt to amend the Oregon Constitution to remove its ban on black suffrage did not pass. The effort failed despite the fact that the clause in question was rendered moot following the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1870. (Further attempts to remove this language prohibiting Blacks from voting were unsuccessful in 1895, 1916 and 1927. Many racist and discriminatory sections in the Oregon Constitution were not changed until 2000)

1884 The Oregon statewide railroad system was completed connecting all regions of the state. Oregon remained relatively isolated until this completion of the railroad network. The Central Pacific's Chinese immigrant workers received \$26-\$35 a month for a 12-hour day, 6-day work week and had to provide their own food and tents. White workers received about \$35 a month and were furnished with food and shelter. Chinese immigrant workers saved as much as \$20 a month which many eventually used to buy land. They earned a reputation as tireless and extraordinarily reliable workers. 12,000 of the Central Pacific railroad's 13,500 employees were Chinese immigrants.

1888 In a trial in Enterprise, Oregon, three men were acquitted of murder for the massacre of at least 34 Chinese gold miners. The ring-leaders fled the area and were never tried. Unknown is how much gold the gang might have plundered. Rumors put the figure from \$3,000 to more than \$50,000. The trial attracted little attention from the press, and Wallowa County folks swept the sordid saga under the carpet for more than a century. In 1995, a county clerk opened an old safe in the Wallowa County Courthouse and found a long-secreted cache of documents relating to the massacre.

1890's Reduction in Chinese immigration contributed to a dramatic increase in Japanese immigrants to Oregon: typically young males arriving without families. They came to work on railroads, in lumber and canning industries and as farm workers. Many restaurants and businesses posted signs reassuring customers that they employed no Asian help.

1898 Oregon Historical Society formed from an association of early settlers. It was a "cult" of pioneer ancestors. This organization became no less elitist and biased than the Daughters of the American Revolution with an emphasis on proving & preserving pioneer genealogy rather than focusing on research/documentation of a diverse history of Oregon.

1901 Oregon Legislature created the initial statewide system of high school education.

1903 The Advocate started as a weekly newspaper for the "intelligent discussion and authentic diffusion of matters appertaining to the colored people, especially of Portland and the State of Oregon." It featured birth and death announcements, society news, and general good news about African Americans. Articles and editorials about segregation, lynching, employment opportunities and other issues helped keep the realities of "Jim Crow" laws and the pressing

need for civil rights on the local, state, and national agenda. The newspaper challenged attempts to deprive black people of their rights, to deny Blacks their humanness, and to degrade their African cultural heritage.

1904 Oregon law established a minimum school term at 4 months.

1910, Oregon ranked seventh among states outside the Southwest with Mexican born migrant workers. Between 1910 – 1925, Mexican workers were contracted to work on sugar beet farms and on railroads. Farm workers marked the first Mexican families to settle permanently in the state. Oregon's agriculture relied on the large numbers of Mexican resident and migrant workers until wide spread mechanization in the 1950's.

1914 The Portland chapter of the NAACP, the oldest continually chartered chapter west of the Mississippi River, was founded.

1919 Oregon teacher certification required high school graduation plus 12 weeks of professional training. 1919 Portland Board of Realty approved a "Code of Ethics" prohibiting realtors and bankers from selling property in white neighborhoods to people of color or providing mortgages for such purchases.

1920's KKK flourished in Oregon. By the mid 1920's its membership was estimated between 14,000 – 20,000 with numerous sympathizers who were not official members. Oregon's Governor from 1922 – 26, Walter M. Pierce, though not a member, was overtly supported by the Klan and he promoted the Klan's agenda.

1922 Together with Freemasons, Klansmen spearheaded a drive to outlaw private and parochial schools which they viewed as primary obstacles in their drive for "Americanism." The Klan used an initiative that would require all children Boxes contain national events. Compiled by Elaine Rector as part of CFEE (Coaching for Educational Equity) contact elrector@comcast.net (Revised May 16, 2010) 13 between the ages of eight and eighteen to attend public schools. The rallying cry of its sponsors was "One Flag! One School! One Language!" Oregonians, by a margin of 11,000, voted to make their state the first in the U.S. to mandate a strict uniform school system. In 1924 the federal court in Portland declared this law unconstitutional. In 1925 in *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, the U.S. Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional as well.

1923 The Oregon state legislature, dominated by members of the Klan, passed a number of restrictive laws. The Alien Land Law prevented first generation Japanese Americans from owning or leasing land. The Oregon Business Restriction Law allowed cities to refuse business licenses to first generation Japanese Americans. 1923 An Oregon WWI veteran was denied U.S. citizenship. The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that Bhagat Singh Thind could not be a naturalized citizen. Anthropologists defined people of India as belonging to the Caucasian race. A previous ruling had affirmed that immigration law referring to "white" meant "Caucasian" as it applied to denying citizenship to light skinned Japanese immigrants. In this case, Justice Sutherland argued that the "common man's" definition of "white" did not correspond to all "Caucasians". Even though Indians were considered "Caucasian" they were not "white".

Therefore they could not be naturalized. Thus the color of skin became the legal qualification for citizenship.

1925 Oregon teacher certification was raised to high school graduation plus 36 weeks of professional training.

1926 Oregon repealed its Exclusion Law, which barred Blacks from the state, by amending the state constitution to remove it from the Bill of Rights.

1927 the Oregon State Constitution was finally amended to remove a clause denying Blacks the right to vote and eliminating restrictions that discriminated against Blacks and Chinese voters.

1928 Japanese American Citizens League founded. There are two chapters in Oregon.

1935 Oregon law officially segregated Mexican students on the basis of being of Indian descent. It made clear to exempt "White Mexicans" those fair-skinned descendents of the Spaniards who do not have "Indian blood".

1938 Forerunner of community colleges came into being with the formation of the Eugene Technical Vocational School.

1937-1945 Oregon passed a number of laws restricting Indians, mostly concerning the possession of alcohol.

1941 Residents of southern Oregon and northern California proposed creation of a new state, Jefferson. A group of young men gained national media attention when, brandishing hunting rifles for dramatic effect, they handed out copies of a Proclamation of Independence. It stated that the state of Jefferson was in "patriotic rebellion against the States of California and Oregon" and would continue to "secede every Thursday until further notice."

During WWII Oregon's African-American population grew substantially – in Portland increasing from 2,565 in 1940 to 25,000 in 1944. Over 7,000 "non-white" workers were employed in the Portland shipyards. Although Kaiser had promised good jobs in the shipyards, local unions resisted integration. Many help-wanted notices specified "white only." After pressure from NAACP, the Kaiser Brothers, a federal inspection team and a reprimand from President Roosevelt, the unions compromised. More skilled jobs were opened to Blacks, but only for the duration of the war. Blacks were allowed to work in union controlled shops and paid union dues, but were denied union benefits. To accommodate the influx of workers, a new town was built in the lowland area adjacent to the Columbia River just north of Portland. First called Kaiserville and then Vanport, it was the world's largest housing project with 35,000 residents making it the second largest community in Oregon. With this rise in diversity in populations came signs throughout Portland: "We Cater to White Trade Only."

1942 A Japanese submarine shelled Fort Stevens near Astoria. Despite having caused no significant damage, the attack raised awareness of possible future threats. It is the only hostile shelling of a military base on the U.S. mainland during World War II and the first since the War of 1812. Also, a Japanese submarine launched seaplanes that dropped bombs on the southern

Oregon coast. Incendiary (fire) bombs were to cause fires in the thick Siskiyou National Forest. If the trees had been as dry as normal, the Japanese plan might have worked, leaving forest fires to divert hundreds of fire fighters and large amounts of money from the war effort while also triggering panic in Oregon's population. Boxes contain national events. Compiled by Elaine Rector as part of CFEE (Coaching for Educational Equity) contact elrector@comcast.net (Revised May 16, 2010) 15

1942 After the attack on Pearl Harbor, all persons of Japanese heritage living in the western portion of Oregon (and all western states) were forced to move to camps by the Wartime Civil Control Administration. More than 4,500 Japanese Americans from western Oregon were sent to internment camps: 2/3 were American citizens.

1943-1947 Large numbers of Mexican laborers under the Mexican Farm Labor Program (MFLP) or Bracero program (referring to brazos, arms of helping hands) came to Oregon. Migrant workers were used throughout the state.

1944 Balloons launched from Japan and carrying explosive and incendiary bombs drifted on the jet stream to the United States. The goal was to start forest fires and wreak devastation. Oregon alone counted 45 balloon incidents. Balloon bombs caused the only deaths due to enemy action on the U.S. mainland during World War II. On May 5, 1945 a pastor and his wife took five children for a picnic east of Bly. One of the children tried to remove a balloon from a tree and triggered the bomb. The mangled bodies of Elsy and the children were strewn around a crater that was three feet wide and one foot deep. Elsy lived briefly but most of the children died instantly.

1945 The Oregon House of Representatives passed Joint Memorial No. 9 on February 28, 1945. The statement called on President Roosevelt to prevent the return of Japanese Americans "for the duration of the present war with Japan." The legislators based their request on what they described as "considerable antagonism to such return" to Oregon. It also claimed that the internees would be "safer and cause less civilian disturbance in the relocation centers."

1945 The former internees who did trickle back to their old homes were often met with open hostility by white neighbors. Some found their homes looted and their orchards vandalized while others endured boycotts of their fruits and vegetables or heard racial slurs or threats. A few were assaulted physically. Along with the many instances of blatant racism, intimidation, and hatred, some Oregonians welcomed and supported the returning Japanese Americans.

1945 Hood River received national attention when the local American Legion Post removed the names of 16 "Nisei", Japanese American members of the U.S. military from a plaque honoring local members of the armed forces.

1947 Oregon's Basic School Support Fund was established and a rural school/equalization measure passed which encouraged consolidation and raised standards for Oregon's public schools. 1947 PL – 45, the new Bracero program, called for employers to pay for screening, selection and roundtrip transportation for workers from Mexico to the Northwest – previously paid for by the U.S. government. Northwest growers were shocked at the terms of the

agreement. There was growing anti-Mexican sentiment and anxiety about the protests mounted by Braceros. Therefore, they decided to no longer contract Braceros; ending the program in Oregon.

1947 The Urban League of Portland took the Housing Authority to task for not enforcing the official federal policy of nondiscrimination in housing. The Housing Authority's local policy was to separate tenants according to race, making it impossible to serve either whites or people of color on a first come, first served basis. Some vacant housing in Vanport and Guilds Lake were unavailable to white people because they were in an area designated for Blacks only. The Urban League's urging had little effect on the Housing Authority actions. The Portland Housing Authority did not integrate its operations until 1950 and even by 1957 was not offering housing to most Blacks.

1948 On Memorial Day, a Columbia River flood left 39 people dead and obliterated all of Vanport. It had become a declining settlement as war-time workers were replaced and non-whites were encouraged to leave the area. They were not needed for the war effort. There was no direct action taken by Portland's Housing Authority to resettle flood victims as patterns of segregation were reinforced. Most displaced Blacks were forced to congregate in the Albina section of town or left they Portland area. There were no places to live and no more well paying jobs now that WWII was over.

1948 Oregon's Constitution was amended to give every voter the right to vote in school elections.

1948 Oregon realtors followed the "National Realtors Code" (based on an earlier state law) that proclaimed that "a realtor shall never introduce into a neighborhood members of any race or nationality whose presence will be detrimental to property values".

1949 Fair Employment Act empowered the State Labor Bureau to prevent discrimination in employment. Oregon's Fair Employment Practices Commission created.

1951 Oregon repealed its law prohibiting interracial marriages.

1951 Discrimination in vocational schools was banned.

1952 Hundreds of Oregon Issei, those born in Japan, applied for citizenship after Congress lifted the ban.

1954 Congress terminated federal aid granted by treaties with 109 tribes, dissolving the Klamath, Grand Ronde and Siletz reservations and sanctioning the selling of their tribal lands.

1955 Oregon teacher certification raised to four-year college degree. 1957 The mighty and picturesque Celio Falls on the Columbia River east of The Dalles was destroyed with the construction of The Dalles Dam. The falls and a way of life for Indian tribes who had fished there for millennia disappeared. After 11,000 years, the oldest continuously inhabited community in North America ceased to exist.

1957 Lawmakers passed the Oregon Fair Housing Act, barring practices that had discriminated against African Americans in buying and renting places to live. This law made it illegal for property owners or their agents receiving any public funding to discriminate “solely because of race, color, religion, or national origin.”

1959 Oregon finally ratified the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which provided that no government may prevent a citizen from voting based on that citizen’s “race, color, or previous condition of servitude” (slavery).

1962 NAACP charged Portland with having racially segregated schools.

1964 First Fiesta Mexicana held by the Mexican committee Pro Fiesta Mexicanas in Woodburn.

1965 Busing of African American students began in Portland as the major means to desegregate schools.

1967-69 Racial tensions escalated into riots in Portland’s African American communities.

1970’s saw school populations decline throughout the state leaving far more school facilities than could be fully utilized. Due to the rise of suburbs, these underused facilities were mainly in urban or older areas usually populated by people of color and of lower socio-economic status. Boxes contain national events. Compiled by Elaine Rector as part of CFEE (Coaching for Educational Equity) contact elrector@comcast.net (Revised May 16, 2010) 19

1970’s Though no current concrete evidence that “Sundown Laws” existed on the statute books has been found in Oregon, there is a rich oral history. It describes signs and attitudes throughout Oregon well into the 1970’s that warned Blacks and other People of Color to be out of town by sundown. James Loewen’s book, *Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism*, documents this practice throughout the United States.

1971 The Commission for Chicano Affairs established. In 1983 the group was renamed the Governor’s Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

1973 Colegio Cesar Chavez, the first Latino four-year college in the U.S., was created on the former campus of Mt. Angel College in Silverton. It closed in 1983.

Mid 1970’s Oregon Indian Education Association was formed. OIEA works to update and help implement the Oregon American Indian/Alaska Native Education State Plan. OIEA continues to help to formulate state policy to eliminate stereotypical Native American mascots in Oregon public schools and keep native languages and cultures alive.

1977 Willamette Valley Immigration Project opened in Portland. It then moved to Woodburn to protect and represent undocumented workers. It was founded in response to an increase in Immigration and Nationalization (INS) raids in Oregon. WVIP provides legal advice and representation to undocumented immigrants.

1979 Federal District Court affirmed Klamath Indians' hunting and fishing rights within their former reservation.

Until 1980, Portland used what amounted to mandatory busing to "improve" racial balance of public schools. Ron Herndon, & members of the Black United Front, worked to stop busing. The Portland School Board eventually responded with a plan to desegregate schools "voluntarily": by ending forced busing; infusing the city's black schools with extra money and teachers, creating additional "magnet" schools in black neighborhoods and letting black and white students transfer out of their neighborhoods to different schools. For the first time, all students, regardless of race, could attend their neighborhood school or go elsewhere. The idea was to boost the quality of the black schools (to attract white students) and to give black students the choice to move to white schools. It had very limited impact, and Portland schools remained very segregated.

1981 Two police officers dumped dead opossums at an African American-owned restaurant in Portland. The incident evoked ugly KKK imagery and touched off one of the most contentious disputes between police, city government and the public. As a result a citizen's committee to review police actions in Portland was created.

1981 El Hispanic News began publication

1982-84 Congress restored the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Indian Community and Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians to federally recognized status.

1988 A 28 yearold Ethiopian student and father, Mulugeta Seraw, was fatally beaten in Portland by three racist skinheads.

1990 Mulugeta Seraw's father and son, represented at no cost by the Southern Poverty Law Center and the AntiDefamation League, successfully filed a civil law suit against the killers and an affiliated organization. They won a civil case against White Aryan Resistance's operator Tom Metzger and his son John Metzger for a total of \$12.5 million. The Metzgers declared bankruptcy, WAR went out of business and Metzger lost his home and went on welfare.

1990 Oregon voters passed Measure 5, property tax limitations, that capped spending for public schools. The shift was designed to help equalize support of public education throughout the state. However, this change from local school funding caused Oregon's schools to suffer budget reductions despite economic prosperity in the state. No new revenue sources were identified or created to fund schools.

1990's Poverty rate increased. Oregon's child poverty rate shot up 25% between 1993 and 1998, so that one in five children in the state was living in poverty.

1990 In Employment Div., Dept. of Human Resources of Oregon v. Smith, several members of the Native American Church lost their jobs and subsequently were denied unemployment benefits by Oregon because they tested positive at drug screenings after participating in religious use of peyote. The Supreme Court refused them First Amendment protection. Justice

O'Connor in the dissenting opinion explained that "the First Amendment was enacted precisely to protect the rights of those whose religious practices are not shared by the majority and may be viewed with hostility."

1991 Oregon Legislature passed the Minority Teacher Bill setting the goal that by the year 2001 the number of minority teachers and administrators shall be approximately proportionate to the number of minority children enrolled in public schools. This goal was not reached by 2001, nor is it currently the reality for Oregon schools.

1995 The Chicano/Latino Studies Program was established at Portland State University. 1995 CAUSA, Oregon Immigrant Rights Coalition was formed.

1996 Oregon's Executive Order 96-30 acknowledged the need for better relationships between state government and federally recognized Indian tribal governments in the state. The Governor created a forum to maximize intergovernmental relations. The forum included an Education Committee.

1997 Nez Perce Tribe bought 10,000 acres and returned to Wallowa County.

1999 The Oregon state legislature held a Day of Acknowledgement to recognize the past discrimination earlier legislatures had sanctioned.

1999 Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 103 relating to multicultural education policy for public schools. It called for the development and implementation of guidelines to be developed by the Oregon Department of Education by 2003.

2000 Oregonians finally voted to remove all racist language from its constitution which still had a clause that read: "No free Negro, or mulatto, not residing in this state at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall come, reside, or be within this State, or hold any real estate." Though this and other discriminatory language was rendered unenforceable by federal laws and amendments to the U.S. Constitution, it was not until this election that removal of several examples of institutional racism and oppression was taken out of the Oregon Constitution.

2000, The Oregonian reported that Ron Herndon arranged a mock casket demonstration in front of the Portland School Board and orchestrated demonstrators shouting: "We're all fired up! Can't take no more! No more promises! No more lies!" The mock coffin symbolized the "death sentence" Portland Public Schools handed to low-income and minority students because of the achievement gap between them and white students in reading, math and writing.

2004 The Oregon Mexico Education Partnership (OMEP) agreement brought Spanish language content materials to Oregon students to use while they continued to learn English.

2005 Native Language Preservation and Instruction Partnership was formed through a collaborative effort between Oregon's nine federally-recognized tribes and the Oregon Department of Education to support implementation of endangered American Indian language and culture instruction programs in Oregon schools.

2005 New standards for Oregon administrative licensure were developed to include required demonstration of knowledge, skills and dispositions related to equity and cultural competence.

2006 Thousands of Latinos and supporters rallied in Portland, Salem and Hood River to protest a federal proposal that would make illegal immigration a felony. 2007 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel "raided the offices" of Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. in Portland. More than 165 detained workers were sent to a processing facility for possible deportation. Staffing at the plant is the responsibility of American Staffing Resources Inc, whose offices were also raided.

2007 An independent investigation commissioned by the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) confirmed that racial slurs and inappropriate actions occurred during and after games at the state basketball tournament between Portland's Roosevelt High and two Eugene schools, Churchill and North Eugene. Students from the three schools met and worked together on reconciliation and understanding in order to create a positive outcome from ugliness.

2007 In the October 22nd edition of the Daily Barometer , the student-run newspaper of Oregon State University, a front page article showed a photograph of a white student in "blackface". The article encouraged OSU students to "blackout" the football stadium. On November 8th a noose was hanging from a tree outside OSU's Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. The fraternity claimed it originally had a witch hanging from it as part of their Halloween decorations, yet all other Halloween decorations had been removed leaving only the noose hanging from a tree.

2008 Eugene Oregon's 4J school district announced retooling of its decades-old open-enrollment policy because schools there were becoming socioeconomically segregated.

2008 A family in Medford, Oregon had a cross and the letters KKK burned into their lawn. The man, an immigrant from Jamaica, has lived in Medford with his family since 2000. Medford police consider this incident to be the 5th local "hate crime" this year.

2008 Effective July 1, 2008, all applicants for new, renewal, or replacement Oregon driver licenses, instruction permits, or identification cards must provide acceptable proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful presence in the country. They are required to share full legal name, identity, date of birth and Social Security number (SSN) at the time of application.

2008 Oregonians defeated Measure 58 that would have effectively banned all programs that support bilingualism for English language learners. It would have mandated students enroll in (undefined) "English immersion classes" for one to two years. After this time, the student would be prohibited by law from receiving instruction in any other language, regardless of the student's, parent's or teacher's choice. The initiative exempted classes which "teach English speaking students a foreign language," creating the possibility of an alarming inequality in state education policy.

2008 Four students at George Fox University in Newberg confessed to hanging an effigy of Barack Obama from a tree with a sign saying "Act Six Reject". Act Six is a scholarship and

leadership program for Portland students, many of whom are minorities. The culprits were suspended for up to a year, must complete community service and multicultural education before returning to school. The FBI concluded its investigation. No federal charges were filed.

2008 OSAA lists 16 Oregon high schools with mascots that many Indians feel ridicule their heritage.: Aloha High School: Warriors, Amity High School: Warriors, Banks High School: Braves, Chemawa Indian School: Braves, Lebanon High School: Warriors, Mohawk High School: Indians, Molalla High School: Indians, North Douglas HS: Warriors, Philomath High School: Warriors, Reedsport High School: Braves, Rogue River HS: Chieftains, Roseburg High School: Indians, Scapoose High School: Indians, Siletz Valley School: Warriors, The Dalles Wahtonka HS: Eagle Indians, Warrenton High School: Warriors. OSAA has no regulatory authority. Only the Oregon Department of Education can address this issue.

2009 To celebrate Oregon's 150th birthday, the Oregon Library Association selected the book, *Stubborn Twig*, about a Japanese American family in Hood River, for the statewide Oregon Reads program. The Oregon Library Association wanted to bring focus on and stimulate dialogue and study of Oregon's racial and immigration history.

2009 The film, *Papers*, debuted in Portland Oregon. It is the story of undocumented youth and the challenges they face as they turn 18 without legal status. Currently there are more than 1.8 million undocumented children who were born outside the U.S. and raised in this country. 65,000 undocumented students graduate every year from high school without "papers." In most cases, it is against the law for them to go to college, work or drive, yet they have no path to citizenship.

2010 The Oregon League of Minority Voters implement a new civil rights tactic. They are offering scholarships to white students to take classes in race relations to encourage white college students in Oregon to pursue studies in race relations. "We lack white participation in the racial conversation in this state, so we are trying to do something about it," says Promise King, executive director of the Oregon group.

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