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Jim Crow laws were laws designed to restrict black people from receiving equal rights and equal treatment. They kept people from receiving a good education, the opportunity to get a good job, and even to vote. These laws were in place for about 100 years and began after the slaves were set free following the civil war.

One goal of these laws was to keep the races separate. Black citizens were forced by law to eat in separate restaurants, stay in separate hotels, swim in separate pools, and drink from separate water fountains. The idea was to make things separate but equal for all races, however, nothing was equal because the facilities for black people were worse than those for white people.

This was also a time of violence against black people as well. People would be beaten for exercising their basic rights like voting. Some were even killed as punishment for crimes they didn't even commit. This violence was not only to punish the person believed to be doing something wrong, but also to scare anyone else from trying to do the same thing. This intimidation worked just as well as the laws to keep people from using their civil rights.

At the beginning of the Jim Crow era, African Americans had a hard time finding better lives. But most importantly, they needed better education. Most African Americans went to schools such as McKinley High School, and later Cohn High School was built. Cohn High School was a high school for just African Americans, and it was up and running from 1949-1969. I think this information would help future generations because it was an era in history that people should be able to learn about if they want to know more about the past of where they are living.