

Caution: An author is telling you **different** things when using these words:

- civil rights
- discrimination
- segregation

The author means something even more if the author includes in the sentence such words as *legal* or *by law* or *supreme law of the land* (a reference to our Constitution).

Notice the Caution with segregation below.

Terms Used in the Column Headings of the Table or in the Textbook Pages

Always use the dictionary for any terms that you don't know and that are in sections of the textbook that you use. These definitions are from *Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary*, available at <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>

The words defined on this page are:

caste
civil rights
discrimination
segregation
ghetto
incarceration
internment
Quarantine

caste

Main Entry: **caste** Pronunciation: \ˈkɑst *also* ˈkæst\ Function: *noun*

Etymology: Portuguese *casta*, literally, race, lineage, ... Date: 1613

1 : one of the hereditary social classes in Hinduism that restrict the occupation of their members and their association with the members of other **castes**

2 a : a division of society based on differences of wealth, inherited rank or privilege, profession, occupation, or race **b** : the position conferred by caste standing : **PRESTIGE**

3 : a system of rigid social stratification characterized by hereditary status, endogamy, and social barriers sanctioned by custom, law, or religion

civil rights

Main Entry: **civil rights** Function: *noun plural* Date: 1658

: the nonpolitical rights of a citizen; *especially* : the rights of personal liberty guaranteed to United States citizens by the 13th and 14th amendments to the Constitution and by acts of Congress

discrimination

Main Entry: **dis·crim·i·na·tion** Pronunciation: \dis-,kri-mə-'nā-shən\ Function: *noun* Date: 1648

1 a : the act of **discriminating** **b** : the process by which two stimuli differing in some aspect are responded to differently

2 : the quality or power of finely distinguishing

3 a : the act, practice, or an instance of **discriminating** categorically rather than individually **b** : prejudiced or prejudicial outlook, action, or treatment <racial *discrimination*>

Caution in reading the next definition: Words mean something. “Separation or isolation” are different from other forms of discrimination. Further, an author is telling you something with he or she adds these words to the words *separation* or *isolation*:

- Enforced
- Voluntary

Look at the examples of voluntary and enforced separation in chronological order:

- **Before the Civil War**, whites had forced black slaves to worship in *white* churches. Whites did **not** allow blacks to be separate. (For why, remember Nat Turner.)
- **After the Civil War and the end of slavery in 1865**, the new freedmen want their own churches. The blacks separated from the whites by their choice—thus a **voluntary** separation.
- **After the late 1880s in some areas**, whites only let freedmen live in one section of the town. The whites separated the blacks from them—thus an **enforced** separation.

segregation

Main Entry: seg-re-ga-tion Pronunciation: \,se-gri-'gā-shən\ Function: noun Date: 1555

1 : the act or process of **segregating** : the state of being **segregated**

2 a : the separation or isolation of a race, class, or ethnic group by enforced or voluntary residence in a restricted area, by barriers to social intercourse, by separate educational facilities, or by other discriminatory means **b** : the separation for special treatment or observation of individuals or items from a larger group <*segregation* of gifted children into accelerated classes

Related Words – with 4 of them defined below

loneliness, lonesomeness; vacuum; confinement, incarceration, internment, quarantine; retirement, withdrawal; ghettoization

ghetto

noun \ 'ge-(,)tō\

: a part of a city in which members of a particular group or race live usually in poor conditions

incarceration

1 : to put in prison

2 : to subject to confinement

internment

: to confine or impound especially during a war <*intern* enemy aliens>

Quarantine

a : a restraint upon the activities or communication of persons or the transport of goods designed to prevent the spread of disease or pests