The Mann Act and Vietnam | Grades 6 to 12

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date _____ Class _____

NJSLS and CCLS Standards

NJSLS RI.CR.6.1 · 6.3.8.CivicsPI.1 · 6.RP.A.3 · MS-PS2-2 investigation connection. High school historical inquiry connection 6.1.12.HistoryCC.13.c through evaluation of federal civil rights actions.

CCLS RH.6–8.1, RH.6–8.2, RH.6–8.7 · WHST.6–8.1, WHST.6–8.9 · 6.RP.A.3. Grades 9 to 12 extensions RH.9–10.1, RH.11–12.1, WHST.9–10.1, WHST.11–12.1.

Research Simulation Task

Essential Question How did race, federal power, and individual choices shape the legal struggles of Jack Johnson and Muhammad Ali?

Five days connect Social Studies, ELA, Mathematics, and Science. Complete each Do Now before reading, use paragraph citations, and complete the Quick Write immediately after the text. Answer 15 assessment questions, five per page. Complete the final two page RACE response last.

Vocabulary Prosecution is the government’s presentation of a criminal case. Interstate means between states. Induction means formal entry into military service. Conscientious Objector identifies a person claiming opposition to war based on conscience under applicable legal standards. Pardon means executive clemency. Reversal means a court sets aside a lower judgment.

Digital use Open in a form compatible PDF application, type, save, and submit the saved copy. Classroom preview may not allow typing. Each field allows 1000 characters. Objective and written responses in these PDFs require teacher scoring.

Do Now

Can success challenge a social hierarchy?

1. On December 26, 1908, Jack Johnson defeated Tommy Burns in Sydney, Australia, becoming the first Black world heavyweight champion. Boxing drew large public audiences, so his victory challenged more than another athlete. It contradicted racist claims that white people were naturally superior. Athletic skill could be measured in a contest, while racial prejudice shaped how people interpreted the result. [S1]

2. Johnson lived during an era of segregation and racial violence. His success and refusal to accept a subordinate public role made him a target of hostility. His relationships with white women also challenged racial expectations. When studying his prosecution, historians must consider both the wording of the law and the unequal social setting in which officials enforced it. [S1, S2]

3. A historian should distinguish a documented action from an explanation of motive. A verdict can establish that a jury found someone guilty. It cannot, by itself, show that every part of the prosecution was fair. To evaluate fairness, compare the charge, the evidence, the law, and the historical context. This is an inquiry method rather than a claim that every legal outcome has the same cause.

Quick Write

Explain how Johnson’s championship challenged racial hierarchy. Cite paragraphs 1 and 2.