<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/95519951/>

The photograph taken in 1947 depicts members of the NAACP protesting outside of the Republic Theater in New York the night of the rescreening of *Birth of a Nation.* By the 1940s *Birth of a Nation* had been recognized as one of the all-time greatest films due to its pioneering of advanced filming technics such as the first tracking shot, juxtaposing images for emotion, and use of dissolves. [[1]](#footnote-1) Despite its recognition the African American community continued the protest the film and its release because box offices refused to censor the blatant racist scenes in the film, possible because the entire film would have to be censored. Riots broke out and lawsuits were filed on all re-release dates (1924, 1931, 1938). Chicago, Ohio, Denver, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Minneapolis refused to host the re-release because of fear of race riots.[[2]](#footnote-2)

1. Tim, Dirks. AMC: Film Movie Review, "Birth of a Nation (1915)." Last modified 2012. Accessed October 15, 2012. http://www.filmsite.org/birt.html. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-2)