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Nikki Milano

The National Association of the Advancement of Colored People

The National Association of the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was an African- American civil rights organization formed after the closure of the Niagara Movement in 1909. The Niagara Movement failed because of a lack of funds, and a lack of organization within the movement. Therefore, it failed to attract more people because they weren’t able to advertise.[[1]](#footnote-1) The NAACP and the Niagara movement overlapped and shared many of the same members, although the NAACP still exists today. The NAACP emerged because of concerns regarding race riots and the future for African-Americans in America. One race riot specifically, the Springfield Race Riot of 1908, started because a black prisoner was charged with rape, when in fact, he never raped anyone. This riot inspired white liberals to join with blacks to work for the banning of segregation.[[2]](#footnote-2) Within the NAACP’s history, the members had great involvement in the political aspect of their organization. When they first began, Walter White, NAACP secretary, and James Johnson pushed Congress to introduce the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in 1918, which passed the House in 1922, but failed and never became a law. Even though this was after the Progressive Era, it was a major part of NAACP’s political history. The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill started the NAACP’s success as an organization, which started politically and became a prosperous new beginning of the civil rights movement. On the other hand, there was not much support within the Senate, so the NAACP focused more on civil rights after the early twentieth century rather then the political involvement of the colored Americans.[[3]](#footnote-3) Their main goal was to end Jim Crow all together, but that would take many more years.

1. . *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*, s.v. “Niagara Movement, ” accessed September 18, 2012, http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/413740/Niagara-Movement [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. . NAACP, “NAACP: 100 Years of History,” National Association of the Advancement of Colored People, Last modified in 2012, <http://www.naacp.org/pages/naacp-history> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. . Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)," accessed September 18, 2012, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/404433/National-Association-for-the-Advancement-of-Colored-People>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)