

Process Paper

How did we choose our topic?

As we were researching possible project ideas, we came across the Loving v. Virginia case. It intrigued us because we know many people would not have existed if this case hadn't been won by the Lovings. The case resulted in anti-miscegenation laws being outlawed in the U.S. We ended up choosing the Loving v. Virginia case as the topic of our project because it crossed a very relevant frontier in history and was an incredible example of how people can create change when they choose to fight for their rights.

How did we conduct our research?

When conducting research on the Loving v. Virginia case, we came up with research questions to guide ourselves and analyzed events that led up to the case itself. We investigated outcomes both then and now that the case had on society in the U.S. This led us to build a deeper understanding of both past and present regarding the case.

What is our historical argument?

The Loving v. Virginia case happened because the Lovings wanted to return to Virginia together. However, they first needed Judge Leon Bazile to vacate their conviction. After the ACLU assigned Bernard Cohen and Philip Hirschkop to help the Lovings, their case went from Judge Bazile to the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and finally, to the United States Supreme Court.

How did we select our presentation category?

We chose to do a website because this was the first time either of us decided to participate in NHD. After we looked over our possible presentation options, we decided to do

a website because it seemed like something we could do by ourselves, and it would allow both of us to work on it even if we couldn't meet in person to do so.

How did we create our project?

After registering for NHD Web Central, we began to make our website. We utilized helpful NHD videos and troubleshooting plus experimenting to see what the website builder's tools could do for us. Though we had to deal with designing issues when it came to making the website, we were able to use the website builder's tools to create our website and make it neat and understandable.

In what ways is our topic significant in history?

Our topic can be considered significant in history because it was a major victory for human rights. It was also a great blow to segregation in the U.S. The result of the Loving v. Virginia case was a step forward in the right direction to a more open and accepting U.S. society.

How does our project relate to the NHD theme?

Our project relates to the annual theme, which was Frontiers in History for this year, because it showed how the Lovings challenged conventional thinking and largely changed the way many Americans viewed miscegenation. The victory attained by the Lovings from the Loving v. Virginia case pushed through a cultural frontier that had long been a part of the U.S.