

The Tuskegee Airmen
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Website
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Our group chose our topic based on combining our passion for black history and aviation. The Tuskegee airmen are probably one of the first things we would think of when given the prompt “rights and responsibilities”- looking at the civil rights aspect and the responsibility of a soldier. These men, who were not given many rights, took the responsibility of a soldier and opened up the idea of a desegregated military in the United States of America.

We conducted our research utilizing archives such as Archive.org and other various places. Internet Archive showcases many useful materials such as films, images, and books. Unfortunately, the Internet Archive’s book collection has been unavailable for the duration of our project, however it is definitely worth using for its wide variety of sources. Another noteworthy source is Wikimedia Commons, which provides many non-copyrighted images for use on our project.

For this project, we created a website. With some vague prior knowledge of website creation, this seemed like an obvious route. With limited resources, we were able to come up with a plan to compile our efforts in a way that was the best of our interests. We worked together, coming up with the contents of our website by coming up with a few main ideas to direct our website’s flow. We wrote the contents of our website together, revising each other’s work to fit into the word count. Our group was able to work together well due to a good friendship, understanding our strong suits, and holding each other accountable.

Our historical argument is that in the 1940’s, before the civil rights movement of the 1960’s, the Tuskegee Airmen took up the responsibility of a soldier. At the time, this was frowned upon as many believed that African Americans would not be capable of fighting for their country. In 1941, under president Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Administration, an all-black military squadron was authorized. These valiant men took that responsibility, paving the way for the desegregation of the United States military.

This is significant in history because at a time where people of color were highly discriminated against, these men braved it and fought for our country. This courageous act led to the desegregation of the United States military. This was very important at the time, coming even before the civil rights movement of the 1960’s. These men had taken a huge responsibility in fighting, and showed the world that they were capable of fighting like everybody else. In a world with limited rights, these men took a risk and changed the United State’s view of African Americans in the military.