**Factors which contributed to black Americans securing Civil Rights in the USA**

Change demanded from below: Grass-roots activism, ordinary blacks campaigning for their rights, community action. The “Revolution from below” theory.

Change imposed from above within the Black community: Inspirational leadership in the Black Community (the Martin Luther King Jr. effect). The “Great Men” of history theory.

Change imposed from above and outside the Black community: the role of the Federal government, Presidents and Supreme Court. The “revolution from above to save from revolution from below theory.”

BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS

Radical demands for change: Black Nationalism, demands for separatism, endorsement of the use of violence. The Malcolm X effect/black power. The “revolutions devour their own children” theory.

Change imposed by external events:, the impact of America’s involvement in WWI, WWII, the Cold War and Vietnam. War as the “locomotive of history” theory.