Power Beyond Protest

Civil rights action in Indiana, 1967 to the 1970s

IS.1.27 "Examine the impact of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and 1970s in Indiana through the actions of leaders and groups that were active in the movement."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline an action by Hatcher, the convention delegates, and Indiana Black Expo, then circle an impact linked to each action.

Changing Who Had a Voice

1 In 1967, voters in Gary elected Richard G. Hatcher mayor. When he took office in 1968, he became one of the first Black mayors of a major U.S. city. His victory mattered in a city where Black residents had faced barriers to political power. As mayor, Hatcher worked to bring more Black residents into city government and pressed for fairer access to jobs and services. An election could not erase discrimination, but it changed who could make decisions at city hall. For many Hoosiers, civil rights now meant not only protesting unequal treatment but also holding public office.

2 Gary also became a meeting place for a national push for Black political power. In 1972, thousands of delegates and other participants gathered there for the National Black Political Convention. They represented many communities and disagreed about political strategy, but they worked to set common priorities. The convention produced a National Black Political Agenda that called for changes in areas such as jobs, housing, education, and political representation. Its goals were not laws, and delegates did not all support the same candidates. Still, the gathering showed that organized groups could use an Indiana city to put demands before a national audience.

3 Political office and national meetings were not the only paths to change. In the 1970s, Indiana Black Expo grew as an organization that brought people together around Black culture, education, and business. Its events gave Black-owned businesses a place to reach customers and offered space to share art and community resources. That work addressed another part of unequal opportunity: whose talents and enterprises received attention and support. An expo could not by itself end discrimination in hiring or housing. Yet it helped build networks and visibility, showing how the movement's impact in Indiana extended beyond elections and government policy.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Hatcher's election change political power in Gary? Name one action he took as mayor.

2. What did the convention delegates do in Gary, and how could their work have an impact even though its goals were not laws?

3. How did Indiana Black Expo's events address unequal opportunity?

4. Compare the kind of change Hatcher pursued with the kind Indiana Black Expo pursued. What did each approach make possible?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A museum visitor says, "The movement ended when Hatcher won." Write a 70 to 90 word exhibit label that challenges this claim. Use evidence from all three paragraphs to explain how different actions expanded political power and opportunity.

Power Beyond Protest

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline an action by Hatcher, the convention delegates, and Indiana Black Expo, then circle an impact linked to each action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Hatcher's election change political power in Gary? Name one action he took as mayor.	**His election gave a Black leader decision-making power at city hall. He worked to bring more Black residents into city government.**
2	What did the convention delegates do in Gary, and how could their work have an impact even though its goals were not laws?	**They produced a National Black Political Agenda. It put demands about jobs, housing, education, and political representation before a national audience.**
3	How did Indiana Black Expo's events address unequal opportunity?	**The events helped Black-owned businesses reach customers and gave Black art and community resources greater visibility.**
4	Compare the kind of change Hatcher pursued with the kind Indiana Black Expo pursued. What did each approach make possible?	**Hatcher pursued change through government, including greater Black participation in city decisions. Indiana Black Expo built community networks and opportunities for Black businesses and artists.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Hatcher's election in Gary was a major change, but it was not the end of the movement. As mayor, he worked to bring more Black residents into city government. In 1972, delegates meeting in Gary produced an agenda that put demands for jobs, housing, education, and representation before a national audience. During the 1970s, Indiana Black Expo helped Black-owned businesses reach customers and gave artists and community groups greater visibility. These actions expanded political voice and opportunity in different ways, even though none ended discrimination by itself.

Accept responses that connect a specific action to a supported impact. Do not attribute the 1972 convention or its agenda to Hatcher's leadership; the passage identifies the delegates' work separately.