

LESSON: History Unfolded: Black Press Coverage of the Holocaust

HANDOUT: Guide to Terminology

In studying the Black press, teachers and students may have questions about what terms to use, or the meaning of words that are no longer in use today. Here are some definitions you can share with your students if they have questions.

The **Black press** refers to print journalism (newspapers, magazines, journals, newsletters, etc.) established by Black journalists. **Black newspapers** make up an important part of the Black press. These newspapers are written largely by Black Americans with a majority-Black readership in mind.

As they learn more about the Black community in the United States prior to the Civil Rights movement, students will likely encounter words like **Colored**, or **Negro**, which were used to describe this community in the past, but are generally considered offensive today.

In referring to various communities today, teachers and students should be mindful of the meaning of specific terms. **People of Color** is the most numerically inclusive term, and refers to non-white Americans in general, including Black and brown Americans, Asian Americans, Latin Americans, and Native Americans.

When referring specifically to the Black community, teachers and students can use the term **Black Americans**, which refers to all people who identify as Black, whether or not their ancestors were from Africa. **African Americans** refers specifically to Americans with ancestors who came from Africa, either as immigrants or because they were enslaved.