

Appendix A: Will Counts, AP Photo, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1957.



On September 2, 1957, three years after the Supreme Court declared racially segregated education to be unconstitutional, nine black teenagers including Elizabeth Eckford pictured here, tried to desegregate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. They were met by hecklers and the Arkansas National Guardsmen, who followed the instructions of Governor Orval Faubus rather than federal court orders to turn away Eckford and her classmates. On September 25th, President Eisenhower sent the 10th Airborne to Little Rock and federalized the Arkansas National Guard to protect the Little Rock Nine as they desegregated Central High. They continued to face harassment by fellow students throughout their time at Central High. Central High was not fully integrated until 1972.