



Black Codes: Scenarios

Cut apart the scenarios below. Place them face down like a deck of cards. Choose the top one and discuss with your group, using evidence from the *Examples of Black Codes* handouts to determine your answer. Discuss as many scenarios as time allows.

A Black woman in Louisiana works on a farm. In her spare time, she wishes to take a second job sewing clothes. The second job will last for five days. Can she do it? What does the law say?

A Black man in Mississippi spends his days looking for a new job, but isn't having any luck. He meets up with some friends in a local park to see if they have any leads. A police officer approaches them. What happens?

A Black preacher in Louisiana wishes to form his own church, where he can deliver sermons every Sunday. Can he do it? What does the law say?

A Black man in Mississippi is fined for owning a hunting rifle, even though white community members are allowed to own guns. He doesn't have the money to pay the fine. What happens to him?

In Mississippi, a Black woman signs a one-year contract for a job cleaning houses, but she quits after three months because her boss doesn't allow her to take any breaks. Her boss refuses to pay her for the work she has done, so she goes to court. What happens?

A Black woman in Florida, exhausted from work, falls asleep on her train ride home. She doesn't realize that she has taken a seat in a "whites only" car. When the train stops, the porter summons a police officer. What happens to the woman?
