

# THE SIXTIES

1960 – 1968

## FOCUS QUESTIONS

- *What were the major events in the civil rights movement of the early 1960s?*
- *What were the major crises and policy initiatives of the Kennedy presidency?*
- *What were the purposes and strategies of Johnson's Great Society programs?*
- *How did the civil rights movement change in the mid-1960s?*
- *How did the Vietnam War transform American politics and culture?*
- *What were the sources and significance of the rights revolution of the late 1960s?*
- *In what ways was 1968 a climactic year for the Sixties?*

On the afternoon of February 1, 1960, four students from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, a black college in Greensboro, North Carolina, entered the local Woolworth's department store. After making a few purchases, they sat down at the lunch counter, an area reserved for whites. Told that they could not be served, they remained in their seats until the store closed. They returned the next morning and the next. As the protest continued, other students, including a few local whites, joined in. Demonstrations spread across the country. After resisting for five