



# Reconstruction after the Civil War

### U3A in Kennet AMERICAN HISTORY GROUP

DATE OF MONTHLY MEETING (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 2pm)	TOPICS	U3A in Kennet <a href="https://u3ainkennet.org.uk/american-history/">https://u3ainkennet.org.uk/american-history/</a>	ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TBC
September 2019	Planning Session		
October 2019	Developments in America before European Contact / Early European settlements	Notes being prepared	
November 2019	Jamestown & Plymouth Settlements in more detail -16 <sup>th</sup> early 17 <sup>th</sup> centuries		
December 2019	America's Colonial History 17 <sup>th</sup> and 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries East Coast	Will be available	
January 2020	Special Session on the US Elections and especially the Electoral College (Prior to the full primary season)	Available	
February 2020	The Run Up to The American Revolution – Causes & Consequences	Available	
March 2020	Key Figures of the Revolution and Independence – Member's contributions		
April 2020	Special Discussion Session – Top Ten Key Dates in US History – Guest: Christopher Moule, Head of History Marlborough College		
May 2020	Key Figures of the Revolution and Independence – Member's contributions		

### U3A in Kennet AMERICAN HISTORY GROUP

DATE OF MONTHLY MEETING (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 2pm)	TOPICS	U3A in Kennet <a href="https://u3ainkennet.org.uk/american-history/">https://u3ainkennet.org.uk/american-history/</a>	ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TBC
June 2020	The American Revolution - Battles and developments	Available?	
July 2020	The Founding Documents –the Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, Amendments (including the first 10 - The Bill of Right)	Available on Articles of the Constitution	
August 2020	Louisiana Purchase, Lewis & Clark Expedition, War of 1812 & Manifest Destiny	Available	
September 2020 (2 meetings)	1.What Led to the Civil War 2.The American Agricultural Economy and Slavery Mid 1660's to the Civil War	Both Available	
October 2020	Special Session – The Presidential Election		
November 2020	The American Civil War 1861-1865 (Military Aspects)	Available	
December 2020 <i>No Meeting</i>			
January 2021	Westward Expansion – Part 1: Native Americans & Growth of Communications	Available	
February 2021 (16 <sup>th</sup> )	Westward Expansion –Part 2 – Gold Rush, Oregon Trail and Railroads		
March 2021	Reconstruction after the Civil War		

# Context – Setting the stage

- Reconstruction
- Major constitutional laws (Emancipation Proclamation and 3 new amendments (13, 14 & 15))
- The corresponding suppression of the rights of black people – by laws, subterfuge, and societal pressure
- The lives of black people after the war (and for decades to come)
- The ongoing shift / debate between States rights and having a strong Federal Government
- *'The Lost Cause'* – Reframing the war and the South

- Reconstruction – it's beginning and intention, and its ultimate failings and abandonment
- Major constitutional laws and congressional acts and their impact, e.g. EP, 13, 14, 15 amendments
- The corresponding suppression of the rights of blacks – by laws, subterfuge, and societal pressure (the lasting impact of Dred Scott, local and state actions to restrict black people in all areas of public and political life, Plessy decision, Jim Crow laws)
- What was the life of black people after the war and for the following decades – e.g. the widespread persecution, economic conditions, limits on property ownership, lack of equal education, misrepresentation in the media, etc.
- *'The Lost Cause'* – Reframing the war and the South – does it still persists? Was this changing of the 'story' of the South and the Civil War a focused deliberate effort, and has it had a long-term impact on people's views on the war, slavery and black people?
- The ongoing shift / debate between States rights and having a strong Federal Government

# Reconstruction

u3a American History Group

16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## The "United States of America" at the time of the Civil War



# The Emancipation Proclamation - Revisited

- President Lincoln issued on 22 September 1862 the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation that if the rebels did not end the fighting and rejoin the Union by January 1, 1863, all slaves in the rebellious states would be free.
- Issues the final version – 1 January 1863
  - Frees only slaves in the rebellious states - omits the  $\frac{3}{4}$  million slaves in the 4 border states
  - Real purpose to end the war- “...sincerely believe to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, upon military necessity ,...”
    - Eric Foner and Michael Burlington, 5 March 2021
  - In order to share the news with slaves, the government printed 50,000 miniature versions of the **Emancipation Proclamation**. These small booklets, measuring just over three inches high, were to be carried by Union soldiers and **distributed** throughout the south
  - Former slaves flee from their plantations; the Union Army liberates many more and eventually 180,000 black men join the Union Army



By the President of the United States of America  
*A Proclamation.*

Whereas, on the twelfth month day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to-wit:

That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever, free; and the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to oppress such persons, or any of them, in any effects they may make for their actual freedom.

That the Executive will do no act or acts to oppress such persons, or any of them, in any effects they may make for their actual freedom.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

**A Proclamation.**

.....

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to-wit:

That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever, free; and the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to oppress such persons, or any of them, in any effects they may make for their actual freedom.



**THE EMANCIPATION  
 PROCLAMATION  
 JANUARY 1, 1863**

NEWS OF  
 EMANCIPATION  
 REACHED SLAVES ON  
 JUNE 19, 1863

**JUNETEENTH**

Grand Audiobooks



# Civil War Ends...Reconstruction Begins

- Lee surrenders (Army of Northern Virginia) to Grant (Union Army of the Potomac) at Appomattox Court House 9<sup>th</sup> April 1865
  - Lee surrendered to stop further bloodshed and desolation of the South due to the Union's overwhelming forces (not because of any acceptance of slavery);
  - Fights continued west of the Mississippi
  - Eventually the following states Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida, and Virginia, agree to terms. The one exception was Texas, where information was slow to arrive;
  - The last battle of the Civil War, the [Battle of Palmito Ranch](#), fought in Texas on May 12, 1865
  - **Lee's Wife Asserts that the General Did Not Surrender the Confederacy**
  - Not until 16 months after Appomattox, on August 20, 1866, did President JOHNSON formally declare an end to the war.
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas\\_in\\_the\\_American\\_Civil\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas_in_the_American_Civil_War)
- <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2015/spring/cw-surrenders.html>



### **Terms of Surrender:**

- Each Confederate soldier would be given a printed pass, signed by his officers, to prove he was a paroled prisoner;
- All cavalrymen and artillerymen would be allowed to retain their horses; and
- Confederates who had to pass through Federal-occupied territory to get home were allowed free transportation on U.S. government railroads and vessels.
- *Note; Grant shows leniency rather than seeking vengeance; Lee submits to Northern force – surrender on different terms?*

# Reconstruction begins.... Major initiatives & Political environment

1. Restoration of the Union
2. Enactment of progressive legislation favouring the rights of freed slaves
3. Transformation of Southern society, and confronting the issue of Federal rights versus States rights.

Political environment changes after the assassination of Lincoln:

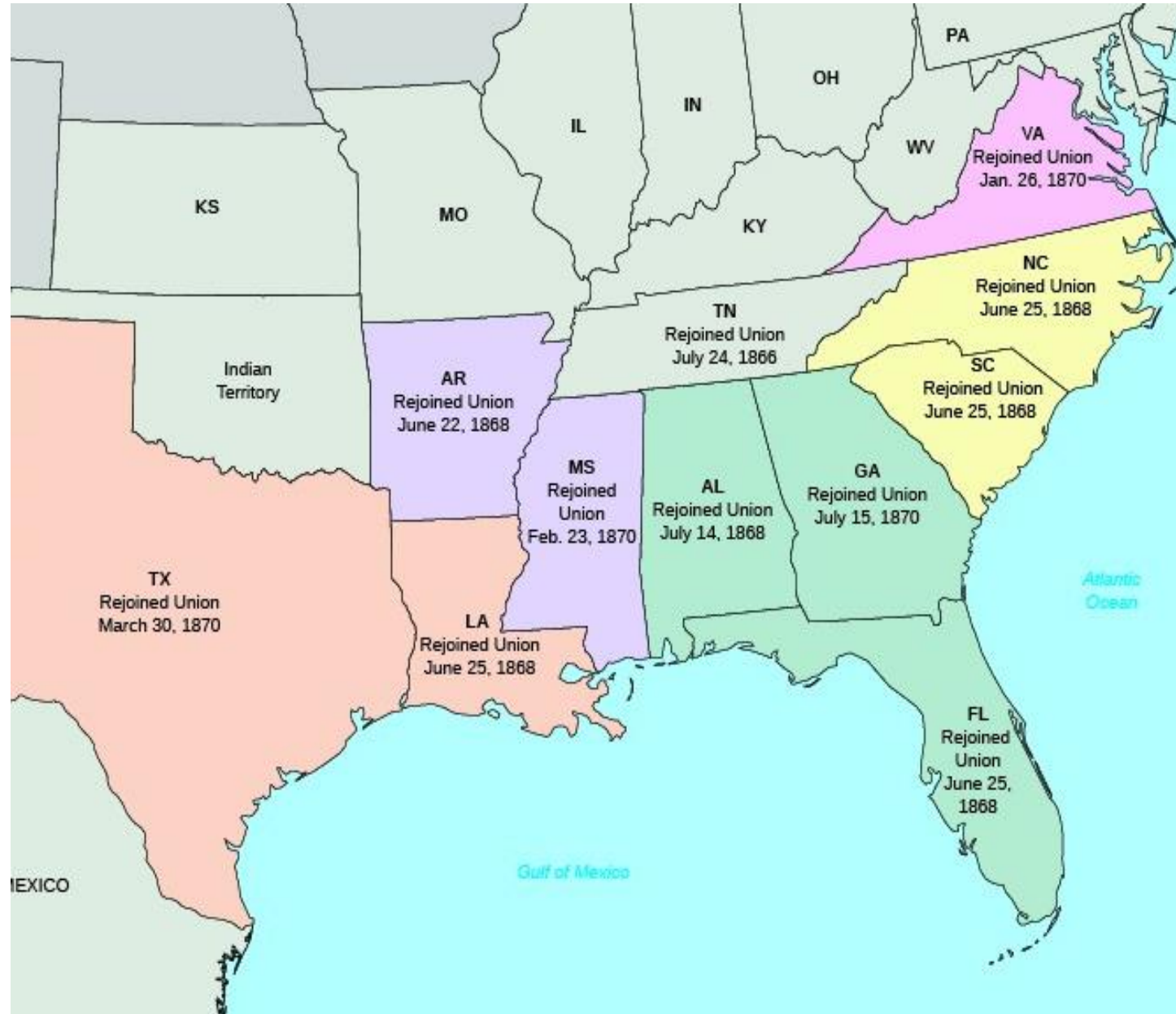
- Johnson in conflict with Radical Republicans as he prefers a lenient approach to readmitting the Southern States – plantation owners of more than 20,000 acres must ask for a pardon from Johnson in person
- Johnson takes action while Congress is out of session – Frederick Douglas comments “Johnson is no friend of the blacks”

# 1. Restoration of the Union

- Northern Military Occupation of the South
- Requirements for rejoining the Union
- Enforcement of legislation regarding the practice of slavery and treatment of African Americans

## The 1867 Military Reconstruction Act

- Divides the ten southern states that had yet to ratify the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment into five military districts.
- Martial law was imposed, and a Union general commanded each district.
- These generals and twenty thousand federal troops stationed in the districts were charged with protecting freed people.
- When a supplementary act extended the right to vote to all freed men of voting age (21 years old), the military in each district oversaw the elections and the registration of voters.
- Only after new state constitutions had been written and states had ratified the Fourteenth Amendment could these states rejoin the Union



# Johnson's Plan

- Assassination in April 1865 left Andrew Johnson to deal with Reconstruction
- May 1865- while Congress was in recess, Johnson announced his own plan- Presidential Reconstruction
- Declared that AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TX could be admitted under several conditions
  - Withdraw its secession, swearing allegiance to the Union
  - Annul Confederate war debts
  - Ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment-which abolished slavery
- To dismay of Radicals, Johnson's plan differed little from Lincoln however Johnson wished to prevent most high-ranking Confederates and wealthy S. landowners from taking the oath
- Failed to address the needs of former slaves in 3 areas: land, voting rights, & protection under the law
- Plan relieved most white Southerners, Johnson's support of states' rights instead of a strong central gov't reassured the s. states
- Johnson was not in favor of African-American suffrage, pardoned more than 13,000 Confederates believing: "white men alone must manage the South"

# Confederate Reaction

- Remaining states quickly agreed to Johnson's terms
- Within a few months, these states except TX held conventions to draw up new state constitutions or new state governments and elect reps. to Congress
- MI did not ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment
- December 1865 new S. legislators arrived in Washington to take their seats
- 58 previously sat in the Confederate Congress, 6 in a Confederate cabinet, 4 fought against the US as generals
- Johnson pardoned them all infuriating Radicals, and betraying African-Americans

## A PERSONAL VOICE PHILIP A. BELL

"The war does not appear to us to be ended, nor rebellion suppressed. They have commenced reconstruction on disloyal principles. If rebel soldiers are allowed to mumble through oaths of allegiance, and vote Lee's officers into important offices, and if Legislatures, elected by such voters, are allowed to define the provisions of the Amnesty Proclamation, then were our conquests vain. . . . Already we see the fruits of this failure on the part of Government to mete out full justice to the loyal blacks, and retribution to the disloyal whites."

—quoted in *Witness for Freedom: African American Voices on Race, Slavery, and Emancipation*



## 2. Progressive Legislation on the rights of freed slaves

- Amendments to the Constitution
- Congressional Acts
- Impact on Southern Slaves



# The 13th Amendment – Ratified 6<sup>th</sup> December 1865

- Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. — Secretary of State William H. Seward, in a proclamation
- **The Civil Rights Act of 1866** –vetoed by Pres. Johnson – but Congress overrode his veto and made it the law by April (first time Congress overrode a presidential veto on a major bill. Provided Federal authority to enforce the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment.
- Congress requires Southern States to ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments as a condition of regaining representation in Congress. Compliance ensured by ongoing presence of the Union Army.

# The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment - Ratified by Congress 9 July 1868

- **Section 1.** *“All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”*
- **Section 2.** Repeals the 3/5<sup>th</sup> clause – clarified that all residents, regardless of race, should be counted as one whole person and guaranteed that all citizens over age 21 had the right to vote.
- **Section 3.** Congress has authority to bar public officials , who took an oath of allegiance to the US Constitution, from holding office if they “engaged in insurrection or rebellion” against the Constitution
- **Section 4.** Prohibits payment of any debt owed to the defunct Confederate States of America and any payments to former enslavers as compensation for loss of human “property”.
- **Section 5.** Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, “the provisions of this article”.

# The 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment - Ratified 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1870

- “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”
- 1867 – fewer than 1% of African Americans could vote
- The South under Bayonet Rule...by the end of the decade 80% of African Americans could vote (though some still restricted in the North)
  - Impact: African-Americans became politically mobilized – holding mass meetings, even women and children were involved in politics. joined with white allies, who were generally poorer segments of the white population who shared same interests to have property, education and improve economic conditions.
  - As a result, together they elected the Republican party to power in the Southern states, bringing radical changes.
  - **ENTER – Frederick Douglass**
- 16 African Americans served in the U.S. Congress during Reconstruction; more than 600 more were elected to the state legislatures (mainly So Carolina & Louisiana), and hundreds more held local offices across the South.
  - Hiram Rhodes Revels is elected to the US Senate from Mississippi – 1st African American
  - Robert Smalls - a hero in State legislature
- By late 1870, all former Confederate states had been readmitted to the Union and most were controlled by the (Radical) Republican Party.

# Consequences of the end of the Civil War for former slaves

- Approximately 4 million freed black Southerners become landless and largely destitute
- Massive upheaval as former slaves seek to find family and friends, many putting ads in newspapers
- Lincoln establishes the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands (aka The Freedmen's Bureau); Johnson appoints former Union Army General Howard as commissioner. Howard supportive of purpose but poor administrator
- The Agency fed millions of the indigent, built hospitals and provided medical aid, negotiated thousands of labour contracts for former slaves. Established many schools and training institute for Blacks, e.g Howard University, Washington, D.C.
- The Bureau's annual budget was equal to the cost of one week of the Civil War.
- Intent of the 13<sup>th</sup> amendment violated with impunity by southern states and further weakened after Johnson becomes president.

**INFORMATION WANTED OF MY SON,** Allen Jones. He left me before the war, in Mississippi. He wrote me a letter in 1853 in which letter he said that he was sold to the highest bidder, a gentleman in Charleston, S. C. Nancy Jones, his mother, would like to know the abouts of the above named person information may be sent to Rev. Turner, pastor of A. M. E. Church, Kansas.

**INFORMATION WANTED.**

My father, Phil Givens, left Owensboro Ky., ten years ago for Missouri; also a sister, Biddy Givens. It is said that she lived in Jackson, Mo. Any information about them will be gladly received writing to me at Owensboro, Ky.

JANE GIVENS,

*Personal.*

**NOTICE.—BURRELL ROSE** (colored) wishes to know the whereabouts of his daughter, EMMA ROSE. Her mother was named Tena. She formerly belonged to William Pitman, of Buckingham, Virginia, and was carried by William Pitman to Tennessee, near Memphis. Any information of her will be thankfully received and rewarded. My address is BURRELL ROSE, (colored,) care of T. T. Omohundro, Norwood post-office, Nelson county, Va. my 3—2t\*

**WANTED, INFORMATION** in relation to my children, NANCY, BEN, POLLY, TEMPA, and ISHAM BAILEY, who formerly belonged to Ben Prince, Sussex county. If any of them are living, or if any person can give me information of them, they will confer a great favor. Address me, in this city, care of Mr. George D. Fisher. no 23—3t\* **MARY BAILEY, colored.**

**Lost Friends.**

**NOTE.**—We receive many letters asking for information about lost friends. All such letters will be published in this column. We make no charge for publishing these letters from subscribers to the SOUTHWESTERN. All others will please enclose fifty cents to pay for publishing the notices. Pastors will please read the requests published below from their pulpits, and report any case where friends are brought together by means of letters in the SOUTHWESTERN.

**DEAR EDITOR**—I wish to inquire about my people. I left them in a trader's yard in Alexandria, with a Mr. Franklin. They were to be sent to New Orleans. Their names were Jarvis, Moses, George and Maria Gains. Any information of them will be thankfully received. Address me at Aberdeen, Miss.

CELIA RHODES.

**WANTS.**

**INFORMATION WANTED,** as to the whereabouts of LUCINDA COATES, daughter of George and Sally Coates, of the county of King George. She was sold before the war in this city, and is supposed to be either here or in its vicinity. Any information will be thankfully received. Address **GEORGE COATES,** ap 23—3t\* Edge Hill, King George county, Va.

## EIGHTY DOLLARS REWARD

RAN AWAY, from the subscriber, living at New Town, Chester ferry, Queen Anns county, state of Maryland. The following negroes. xiz. a woman named Nanny, went away on the 23d of January 1800, and took with her a mulatto female child, about two years old, named Arrianna. Nanny is a dark yellow negroe, about five feet four or five inches high remarkable handsome for a negro, her cloathing unknown as she took a variety of good cloathes with her; she went off with a negro fellow named Peter, and calls himself Peter Simpson, he is the property of a certain William Bowers of Talbot county, state as above who has advertised One hundred dollars reward for him, Peter is a stout well made yellow fellow, about six feet one inch high, is a tolerable good carpenter, Nanny passes for his wife, but her real husband is named Bob, who belongs to her master, it is probable they are in the neighborhood of Salem, in the Jerseys, as they were there in October last, and by information Peter had built himself a house to live in between Bum-Bridge, and Gold-Town, it is likely they may have changed their names, and may have passed, as Peter can write a middling hand, it is probable Nanny has another child, as it was thought she was in a pregnant state when

## Committed to Jail,



IN the County of Mobile, on the 17th inst a Negro Man, who says his name is MANUEL, and that he belongs to Madame Marier of Pensacola. He is about 5 feet 6 inches high, a light black, and about 40 years of age. The owner is requested to come forward and take him away otherwise he will be sold as the law directs.

John Archer,

Sept. 21 74th

Sheriff of Mobile County.



## RUNAWAY—\$20 REWARD.

The Negro Woman HANNAH, about 45 years of age, absented herself from my dwelling last February, without cause. She is low in stature and inclined to be fat. It is supposed she is harbored in the upper saubourg. Twenty dollars reward will be paid for her apprehension.

W. M. LAMETH.

## TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.



RANAWAY from the subscriber, on the night of the 26th July, 1799, a negro man named WILL, aged 49 years, about 5 feet 8 inches high; he is stout made and has a bald head; when he walks he throws out his feet and toes in a singular manner, walking very wide. He is a bold, daring fellow; talks and laugh's much, and very loud; he speaks Low Dutch and middling good English, although he frequently gives his words the Dutch accent; he is not so very black as many of the African race; he is an arch fellow, and is very active on a farm, or on the water.

Any person who will take up said negro, and deliver him to his master, or secure him in any goal so that his master may get him again, shall receive the above reward and all reasonable charges paid.

All masters of vessels and other persons are forbid taking away said slave, or harboring him at their peril, under the penalty of one hundred pounds.

DAVID BANKS.

Newark, New-Jersey, February 8, 1802.

N. B. The above negro has been seen at Providence (R. I.) and at Lime in Connecticut, but on being pursued, left that and is now supposed to be in some other parts of the Eastern states.

A Database of Fugitive Slave Ads Reveals Thousands of Untold Resistance Stories

Freedom on the Move from Cornell University is the first major digital database of fugitive slave ads from North America.

# What is a Citizen – Who were Citizens?

- Before the Civil War, a “Citizen” was never defined; although the word citizen or citizens is found at least ten times in the Constitution of the United States.
- In 1866, Congress charged two legal scholars to discover the definition – in relation to deliberating over the consequences of *emancipation*.
- The Constitution refers to citizenship mainly as a requirement for running for office and in relation to the status of immigrants, e.g. “ *No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of the President.*” (n.b. Jay to Washington)
- Most US laws did not discriminate between “natural born” and “naturalized” citizens : Americans –immigrants and their children rejected the fealty of blood. *The door to the United States was meant to be open. (Lepore, p.312)*

# Emergence of the Black Codes in Southern States

- By late 1865 – before the end of the war and after the EP –Mississippi (M) and South Carolina (SC) enacted the first black codes:
  - M. required Black people to have written evidence of employment for the coming year each January. If they left before the end of a contract, they would be forced to forfeit earlier wages and subject to arrest and in some cases auctioned off. (**Labour contracts**)
  - SC prohibited black people from holding any occupation other than farmer or servant unless they paid an annual tax of \$10 to \$100. Black people were given heavy penalties for vagrancy, including forced plantation labour in some cases. (**Vagrancy laws**)
  - Under Johnson, nearly all the southern states enact their own black codes between 1865 and 1866 – primary purpose to restrict black peoples labour and activity.
  - Some codes granted freedom to own property, marry , make contracts and testify in court (only involving other Black people).
  - If a black person had no job, children would be taken away and put into service in the plantations/homes of whites (**Indentured “servants”**)
  - **Violent enforcement of the codes – coincides with the development of the Ku Klux Klan (1866)– just another version but more aggressive than the former Slave patrols**



LE  
CODE NOIR,  
OU  
RECUEIL

DES REGLEMENS RENDUS  
jusqu'à présent,

CONCERNANT le Gouvernement, l'Ad-  
ministration de la Justice, la Police,  
la Discipline de la Commerce des Né-  
gres dans les Colonies Françaises,  
Et les Droits & Compagnies établis  
à ce sujet.



A PARIS,  
Chez PAVAUT pere, Imprimeur &  
Monsieur le Chancelier, Quai  
de Giverni, au Palais.  
M. DCC. XLII.  
AVEC PRIVILEGE DU ROI.

SLAVERY CODE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

WITH NOTES AND JUDICIAL DECISIONS EXPLANA-  
TORY OF THE SAME.

BY A MEMBER OF THE WASHINGTON BAR.

WASHINGTON:  
L. TOWERS & CO., PRINTERS.  
1862.

REGISTRY OF SLAVES  
ON THE  
DUPARC PLANTATION  
MAY, 1808

VALUE IN US\$, 2003

JEAN-PIERRE, age 25 years, A Creole mulatto from Louisiana. He works in the fields and is a highly skilled worker . . . . .	\$100,000
ABANNIERE, age 40 years, A black Creole from America. He works in the fields and is a good worker . . . . .	\$26,000
DOCTEUR, age 26 years, A slave coming from Canga, He works in the fields. . . . .	\$40,000
ONTIME, age 25 years, A black coming from Canga, He works in the fields and is a good worker . . . . .	\$40,000
DUIS, age 20 years, A slave coming from Moco, He works in the fields and is a good worker . . . . .	\$45,000
MATHE, age 20 years, A slave coming from Minan, She is a lunatic. . . . .	\$10,000
DELAIDE, age 25 years, A black woman coming from Quesy, and her black daughter, LOUISE, age 9 months. She works in the fields. . . . .	\$40,000
ATIENCE, age 24 years, A black woman coming from Moco, and her son, TANTALE, age 18 months. She has no redeeming qualities at all. . . . .	\$35,000
ANGELIQUE, age 20 years, A black woman coming from Congo, She tries to run away and is a bad house maid. . . . .	\$26,000
MARIE, age 26 years, A young black Creole girl, and her two children, TUSSON, age 7 years, a mulatto, LIZA, age 5 years, a black child. She works as a house servant. . . . .	\$80,000
EUGENIE, age 26 years, A black woman coming from Congo. She can do a few house cleaning chores. . . . .	\$45,000
ROZE, age 13 years, She is a half-black & half-Indian Creole. . . . .	\$45,000
DARINCE, age 8 years, A young black orphan . . . . .	\$23,000

I. CIVIL RIGHTS OF FREEDMEN  
IN MISSISSIPPI

Sec.1. *Be it enacted, . . .* That all freed-  
men, free negroes, and mulattoes may sue  
and be sued, implead and be impleaded in  
all the courts of  
and may acqui  
choses in action,  
may dispose of  
ner and to the  
sons may: *Provis*  
this section shall  
allow any freedn  
to rent or lease  
cept in incorpor  
places the corpor  
the same. . . .

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 29.—A bill was in-  
troduced in the State Senate to-day to repeal the  
Civil Rights bill passed by the State Legislature in  
1870 under the reconstruction régime. The feeling  
was very generally expressed through the leading  
newspapers of the State immediately after the  
Supreme Court decision adverse to the civil rights  
law passed by Congress, that the State law should  
be allowed to remain upon the statute-books, and  
it is thought that the General Assembly will stand  
to this and reject the bill which was introduced  
to-day.

An Act to define and  
as Slave

Section 1. *Be it e*  
Texas, That all person  
sons of color, shall have  
sue and be sued, to int  
real, personal and mixe  
to have and enjoy the  
vate property, and all  
and enforcement of the  
against such persons in  
the administration of the criminal laws of  
this State.

Sec. 2. That all laws and parts of laws relating to persona  
lately held as slaves, or free persons of color, contrary to, or in  
conflict with the provisions of this act, be and the same are  
hereby repealed: Provided, nevertheless, that nothing herein  
shall be so construed as to repeal any law prohibiting the inter-  
marriage of the white and black races, nor to permit any other  
than white men to serve on juries, hold office, or vote at any  
election, State, county, or municipal: Provided, further, that  
nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to allow them  
to testify, except in such cases and manner as is prescribed in the  
Constitution of the State.

Approved November 10, 1866.

NORTH CAROLINA,

*Alamance* . . . . . County,  
*Patterson* . . . . . Precinct.

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the United States and  
the State of North Carolina: I am *53* years of age: I was on the first day of  
January, A. D. 1867, or prior to that date, entitled to vote under the Constitu-

tion and laws of the State of . . . . ., in which I then  
resided (or, I am a lineal descendant of *William Moody*  
who was on January 1, 1867, or prior to that date, entitled to vote under the

stitution and laws of the State of . . . . .  
(wherein he then resided).

*James M. Moody*  
*make*

Sworn and subscribed before me, this *22* day of *Oct* . . . . . 1902.

*A. G. M. Pherson*  
Registrar.

### 3. Transformation of Southern Society

The struggle between federal and state rights

# 40 Acres + A Mule

- Jan. 1865- Sherman had promised the freed slaves who followed his army 40 acres per family & the use of army mules
- Afterward- 40,000 freed persons settled on 400,000 abandoned or forfeited acres in coastal GA & SC
- Farmed until Aug. 1865- Pres. Johnson ordered the original landowners be allowed to reclaim their land & evict former slaves
- Many freedmen asserted they deserved part of the planters' land
- AL black convention argued that the property was earned through black labor
- Thaddeus Stevens called for government confiscation and redistribution
- Republicans considered it wrong to seize property
- 1866- Homestead Act- set aside 44 million acres in the S. for freed blacks and loyal whites, land was swampy & unsuitable for farming
- + few homesteaders had resources- seed, tools, plows and horses to farm successfully

# Southern Homestead Act of 1866

- Passed on July 21, 1866, the Southern Homestead Act opened up 46 million acres of public land for sale in 160-acre plots in the Southern states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi.
- The primary beneficiaries for the first six months were freedmen who were in desperate need of land to till.
- Before too much land was distributed, however, the law was repealed in June 1876



# Cotton No Longer King

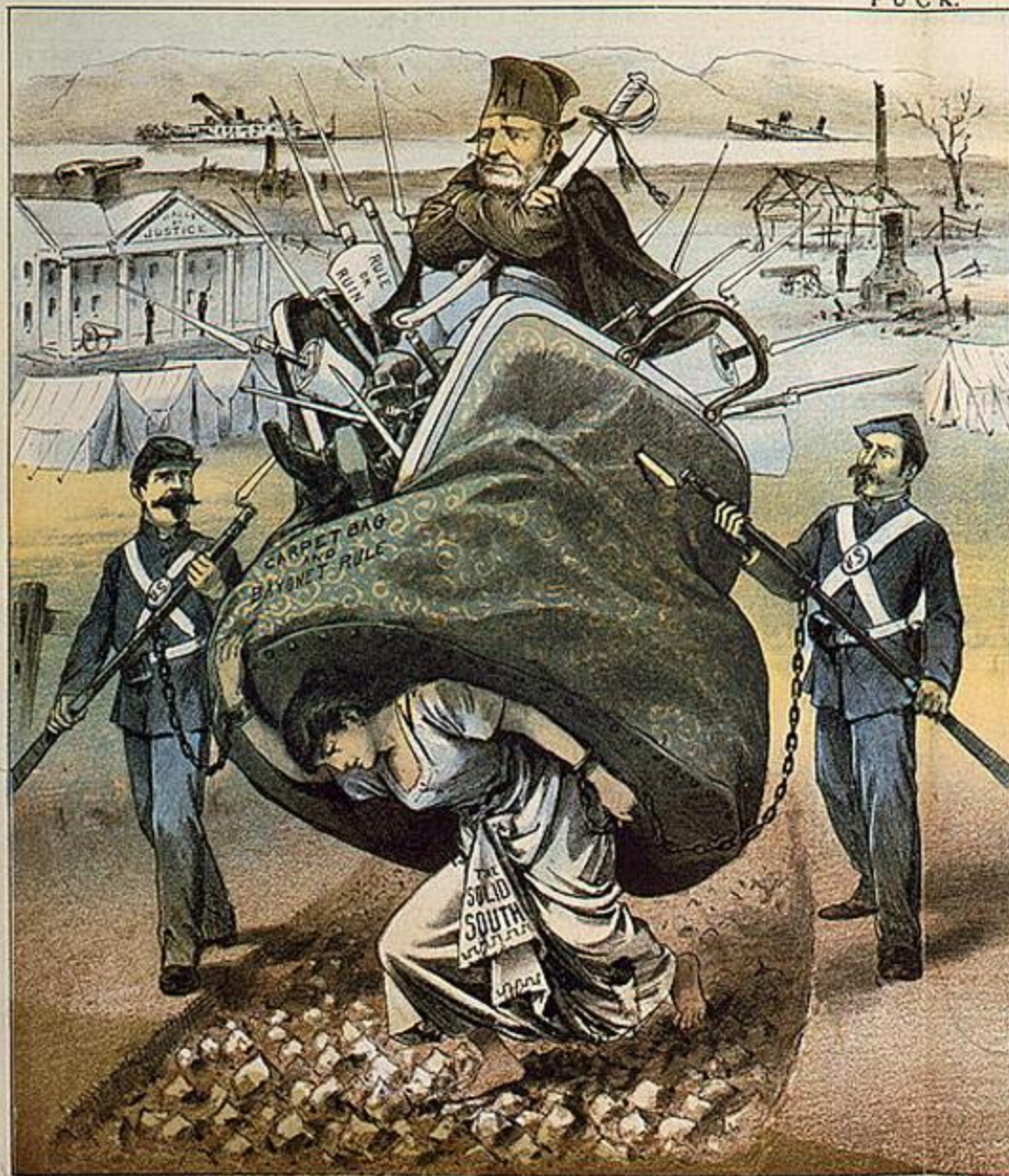
- During the war demand for S. cotton had begun to drop, as other countries had their own production means
- Prices plummeted
- 1869- 16.5 cents per pound, by 1870s- 8 cents per pound
- Instead of diversifying their crops, s. planters tried to make up for lower prices by growing more- leading to oversupply that drove prices down more
- Textile mills sprang up, and tobacco-product planting took hold
- Diversification helped raise the average wage in the S. though it was still lower than N. workers
- State banks were saddled with Confederate debts- loans made to the Confederate government
- Banks awaited repayment, mostly never came
- Many banks failed, credit only given by local merchants
- Rippled into 20<sup>th</sup> century life
- Many whites frustrated took anger out on African Americans- late 1860s and early 1870s, white groups embarked on terrorizing African Americans into giving up their political rights and economic improvement

# Impact of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

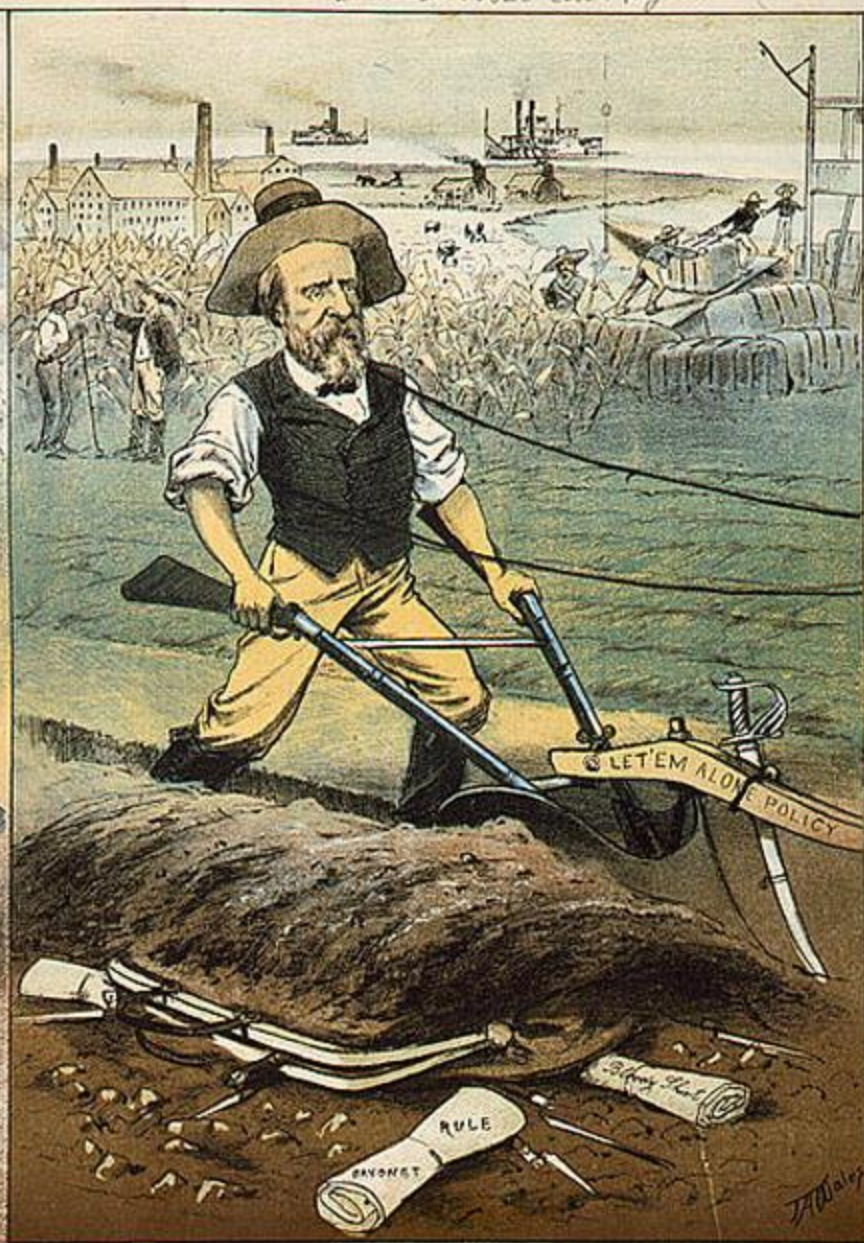
- Alters the balance of power between federal and state governments, however, early Supreme Court decisions often limited the applications of its protections on a state and local level.
- Note: Impact of earlier Supreme Court 1857 Dred Scott decision: ...A black man , even if born free, could not claim rights of citizenship under the federal constitution
  - Most notable future decisions: ***Plessy v. Ferguson 1896*** Court ruled that racially segregated public facilities did not violate the equal protection clause (*separate but equal doctrine*)
  - This ruling helped establish the infamous Jim Crow laws throughout the South for decades.
  - By the 1920's Supreme Court increasingly applied the protections of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment on the state and local level
  - However, not until 1954, does the Supreme Court in ***Brown v. Board of Education*** overturn the Plessy ruling on “separate but equal” doctrine
- Congress uses the enforcement authority of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965

# Supreme Court Decisions

- During 1870s- Court issued series of decisions that undermined both the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments
- *Slaughterhouse* cases of 1873- Court decided that the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment protected only the rights people had by virtue of their citizenship in the U.S.
  - Right of interstate travel
  - Right to federal protection when traveling on the high seas & abroad
  - Courts contended most of Americans' basic civil rights were obtained through their citizenship in a state that the amendment did not protect those rights
- *U.S. v. Cruikshank* 1876, Court ruled the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment did not give the federal government the right to punish individual whites who oppressed blacks
- *U.S. v. Reese*, Court ruled in favor of officials who had barred African Americans from voting, stating the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment did not "confer the right of suffrage on anyone" but merely listed grounds on which states could not deny suffrage
- Late 1870s, Supreme Court's restrictive rulings had narrowed the scope of these amendments so much the fed. Gov't no longer had much power to protect the rights of African Americans
- Although the Supreme Court would later overturn them, these decisions impeded African Americans' efforts to gain equality for years to come



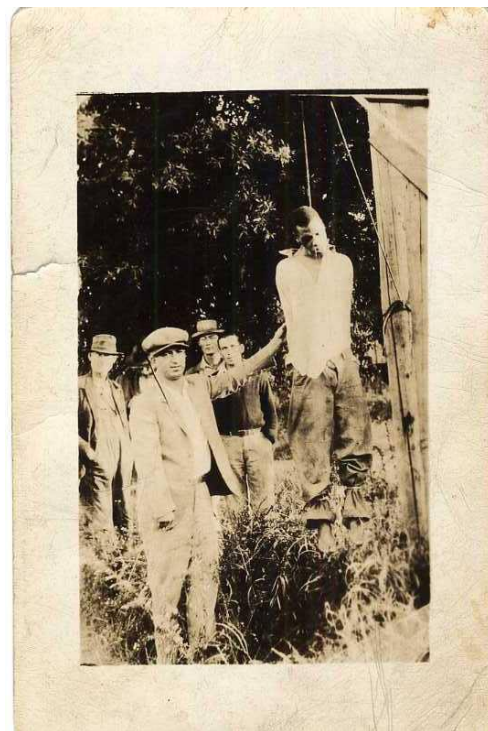
THE "STRONG" GOVERNMENT 1869-1877.



THE "WEAK" GOVERNMENT 1877-1881.



# How the South Reacts to Progressive Legislation



- As the African American population takes an increasing role in government – the Southern states find more ways to suppress both black voter registration and voting at the ballot box.
- Intimidation of black voters and increasing violence becomes widespread and black people lived in constant fear.
- Mob violence occurred in many towns
- Lynchings as a means of social and racial control to terrorize Black Americans into submission and into a inferior racial caste position was already in existence by the 1830's, and became widespread by the 1877's.
- And lynchings continued at a slower pace until the emergence of the Civil Rights Movement



Do not look at the Negro.  
His earthly problems are ended.  
Instead, look at the seven WHITE children who gaze at this gruesome spectacle.  
Is it horror or gloating on the face of the neatly dressed seven-year-old girl on the right?  
Is the tiny four-year-old on the left old enough, one wonders, to comprehend the barbarism her elders have perpetrated?  
Rubin Stacy, the Negro, who was lynched at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on July 19, 1935, for "threatening and frightening a white woman," suffered PHYSICAL torture for a few short hours. But what psychological havoc is being wrought in the minds of the white children? Into what kinds of citizens



# Ku Klux Klan

- **Ku Klux Klan (KKK)** *n.* a secret organization that used terrorist tactics in an attempt to restore white supremacy in Southern states after the Civil War.
- Founded as a social club for Confederate veterans
- Began in TN in 1866
- 1868- existed in every S. state
- Goals:
  - Prevent African Americans from exercising their political rights
  - b/w 1868-1871- killed thousands of men, women, and children & burned schools, churches and property



# Revisiting the History of Lynchings in America

- An organisation that founded the US's first memorial to lynching victims has announced that it documented thousands of additional killings of Black people during the era known as the Reconstruction.
- The **Equal Justice Initiative** (EJI) said it has now documented nearly 6,500 lynchings of Black people between 1865 and 1950. The group, which had previously documented 4,500 lynchings, on Tuesday released a new report, titled *Reconstruction in America*, that documents nearly an additional 2,000 lynchings between 1865 and 1876.
- The Memphis journalist **Ida B Wells** was the most strident and devoted anti-lynching advocate in US history, and spent a 40-year-career writing, researching and speaking on the horrors of the practice. As a young woman she travelled the south for months, chronicling lynchings and gathering empirical data.
  - Ida B Wells-Barnett (July 16, 1862 – March 25, 1931) was an American investigative journalist, educator, and early leader in the civil rights movement. She was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). *Also years before Rosa Parks – Ida b Well refused to move to the coloured train car*

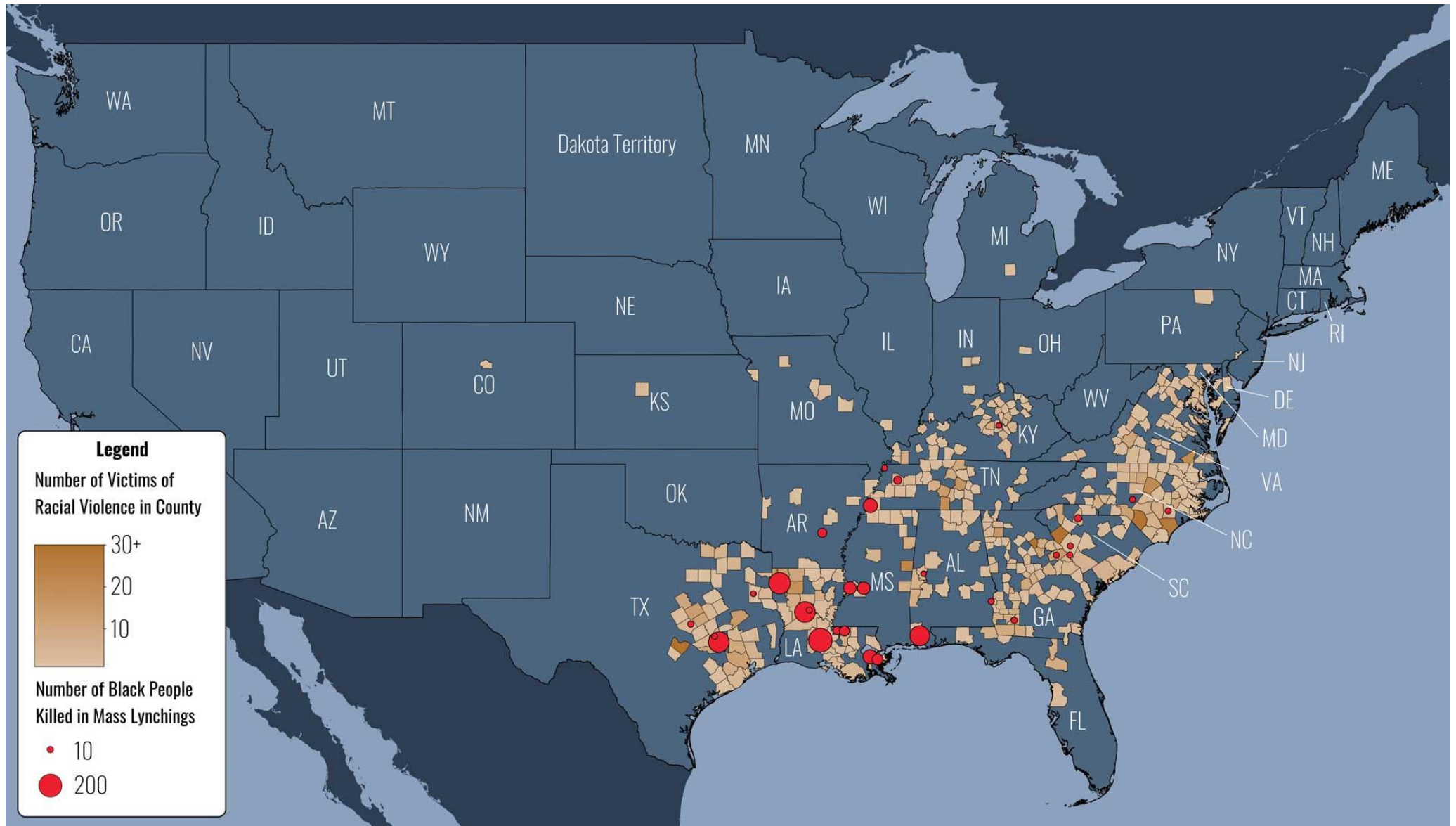


Figure 1: Racial Violence During Reconstruction, 1865-1876

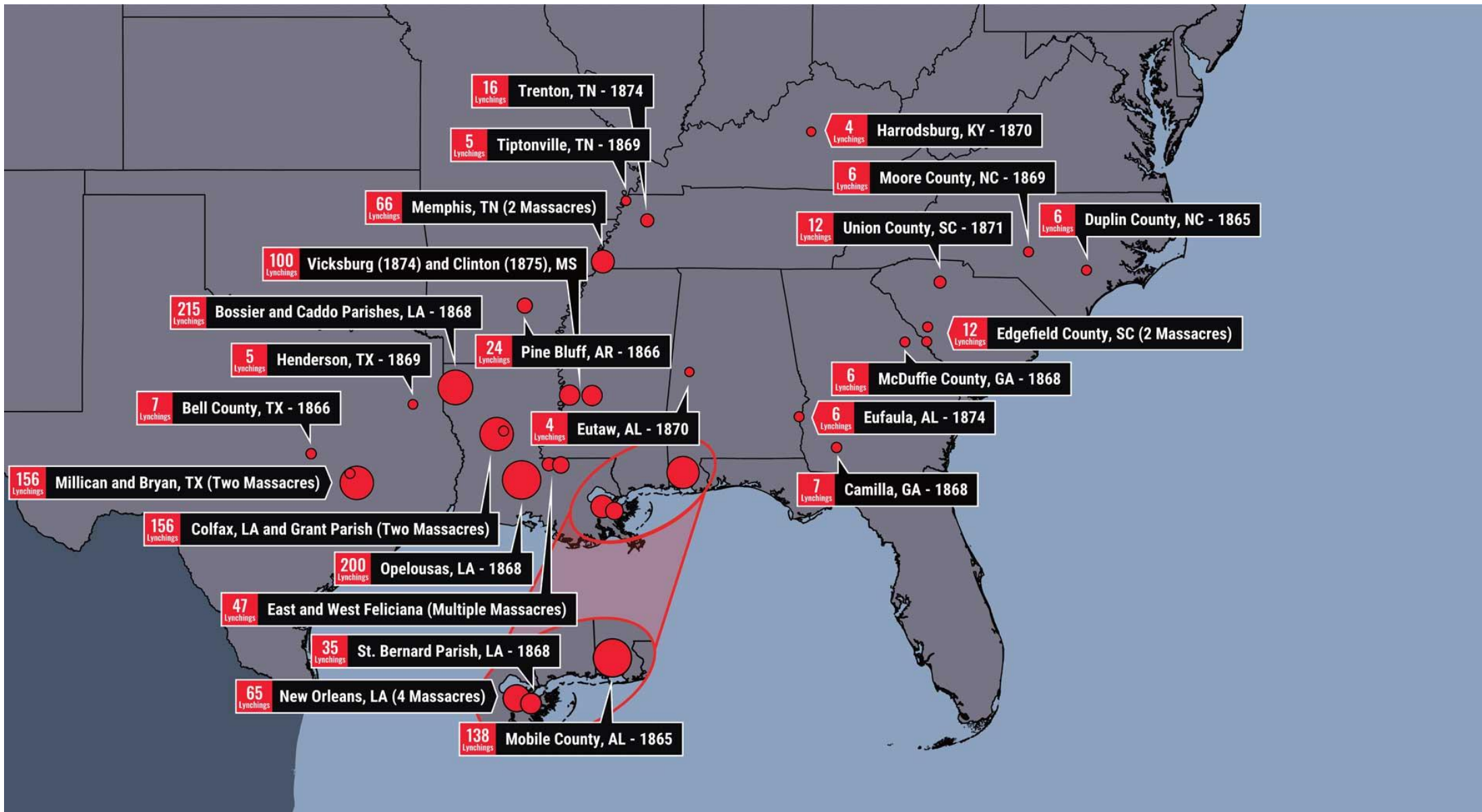
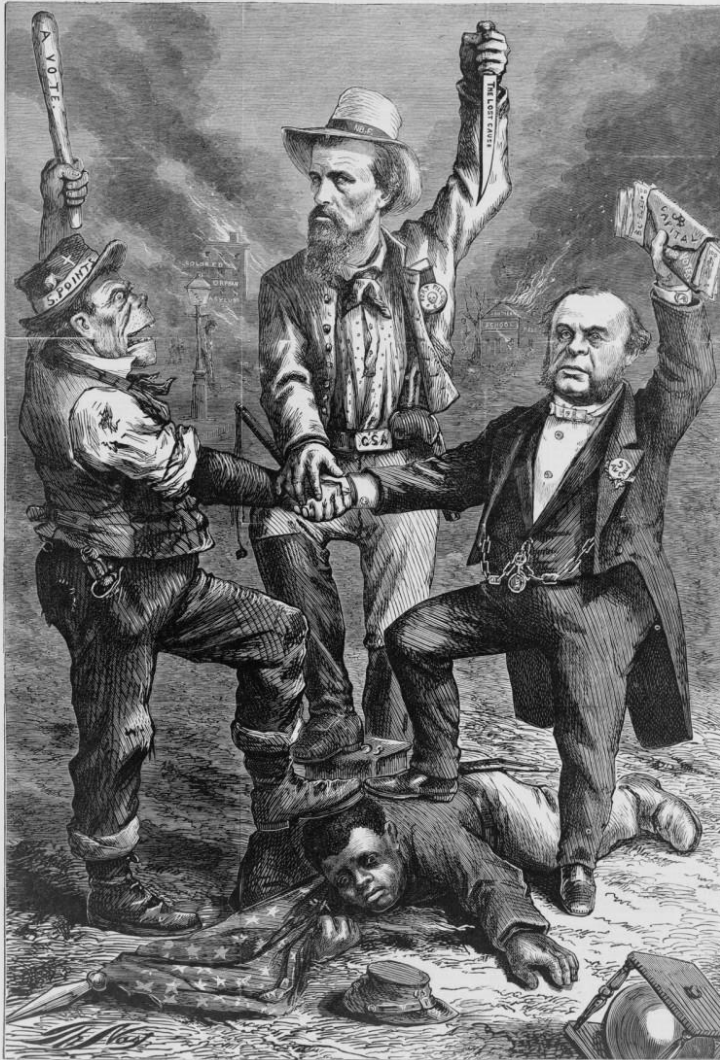


Figure 2: Racial Terror Massacres During Reconstruction

"THIS IS A WHITE MAN'S GOVERNMENT."



"We regard the Reconstruction Acts (so called) of Congress as usurpations, and unconstitutional, revolutionary, and void."—Democratic Platform.

THIS IS A WHITE MAN'S GOVERNMENT... We regard the Reconstruction Acts (so called) of Congress as usurpations, and unconstitutional, revolutionary, and void. —Democratic Platform.' Cartoon by Thomas Nast, published in Harper's Weekly, September 1868.

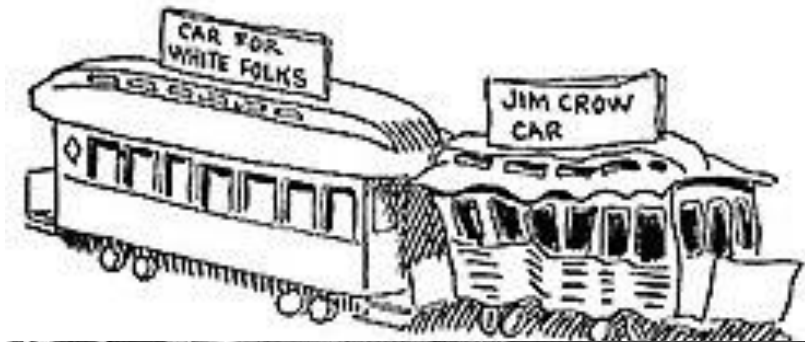
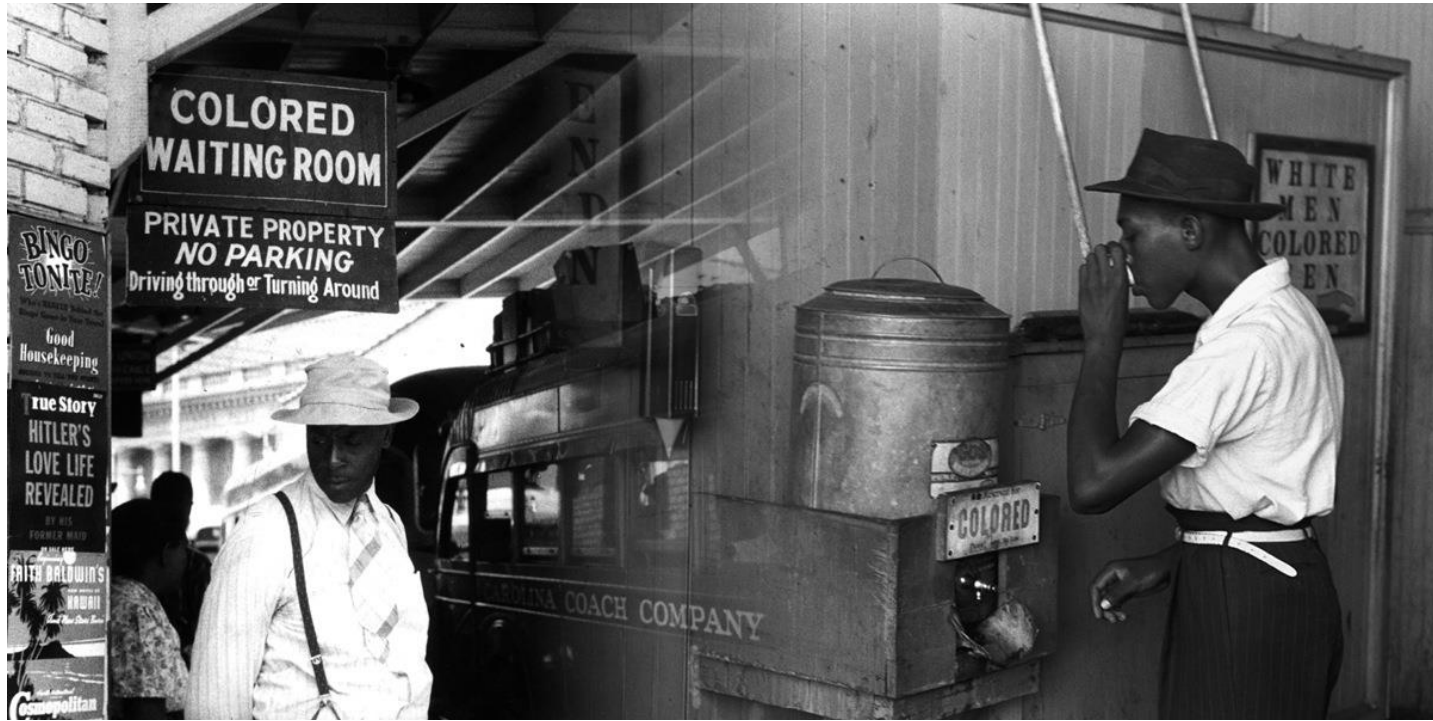
Library of Congress

The Opelousas massacre remains one of the harshest examples of African American voter suppression in U.S. history, with estimates of the dead ranging from several dozen to several hundred. Occurring in the run-up to the 1868 presidential election, which pitted conservative Democrat Horatio Seymour against Republican war hero [Ulysses S. Grant](#), the killings also underlined the importance of partisan media in shaping the postwar political discourse.



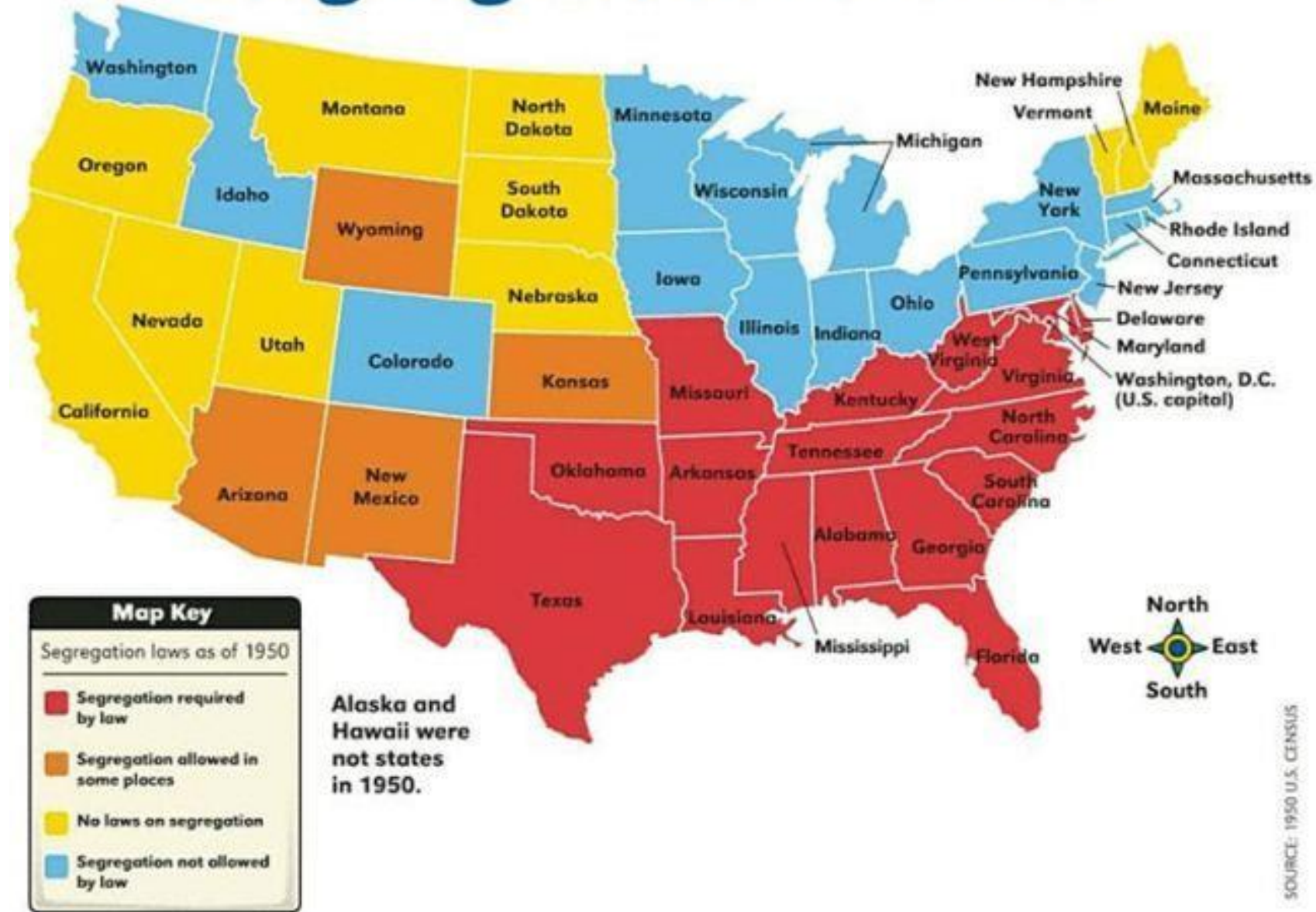
- Violence against Black Americans continues in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- Jim Crow Laws used throughout the US to enforce the Separate but Equal decision of Plessy





Segregated drinking fountains in the Montgomery County Courthouse in Albany, Georgia, August 1964.

# Segregation in 1950



# The Twist to the Story – Civil War History Rewritten and its impact

## Enter – Edward A. Pollard – *Originator of the long-standing pseudo-historical ideology of the 'Lost Cause' of the Confederacy*

- 1866 ***The Lost Cause: A New Southern History of the War of the Confederates***
- 1868 ***The 'Lost Cause' Regained***
- Portrays the Confederacy's cause as noble, and its leaders and armies as exemplars of old-fashioned chivalry
- Before his death wrote that *by 1860, slavery had "completed its historic mission and its continuance would have been an inexcusable oppression."*[16]
- *The Lost Cause* claimed the main reason for the war was the two opposing ways (largely slavery) of organizing society, and viewed slavery as key to the nobility of the South, while *The Lost Cause Regained* argued that the primary reason for secession was not slavery, but the preservation of state sovereignty.<sup>[3]</sup>



## Why *The 'Lost Cause'* matters...

- Advocates the belief that the cause of the Confederate State was just and heroic and slavery was just and moral because the enslaved were happy, even grateful, and it brought economic prosperity
- This notion was used to perpetuate racism and racist power structures fueling the Jim Crow era in the American South
- It emphasizes the supposed chivalric virtues of the antebellum South; views the war as a struggle primarily waged to save the southern way of life and protect “states rights”, especially the right to secede from the Union.
- And it was only due to “overwhelming Northern aggression”
- At the same time, it minimizes or completely denies the central role of slavery and white supremacy in the build-up and outbreak of the war

# Why *The 'Lost Cause'* matters...

- it minimizes or completely denies the central role of slavery and white supremacy in the build-up to, and outbreak of, the war.
- One particularly intense wave of Lost Cause activity occurred during World War I, as the last Confederate veterans began to die out and a push was made to preserve their memories.
- A second wave of Lost Cause activity occurred in reaction to growing public support for racial equality during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s.



Curtis lee ( son of Robert e. Lee) parades in front of Jefferson Davis memorial during Confederate reunion, Richmond VA. 3rd June 1907

# Why *The 'Lost Cause'* matters...

- The construction of prominent Confederate monuments and the writing of school history textbooks, the Lost Cause movement sought to ensure future generations of Southern whites would know about the South's "true" reasons for fighting the war, and therefore continue to support white supremacist policies, such as Jim Crow laws.



Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy around a Confederate monument in Lakeland, Florida, 1915