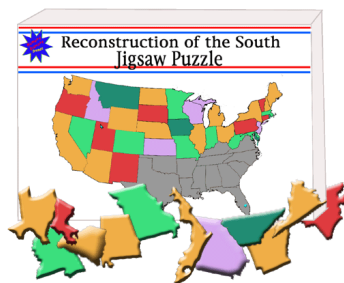


Reconstruction = 1866 – 1877



- **What was Reconstruction? (1866-1877)** A series of laws that put southern states under U.S. military control and required them to draft new state constitutions upholding the 13th, 14th & 15th amendments.

Human toll of the Civil War: The North lost 364,000 soldiers. The South lost 260,000 soldiers.

- **Black Southerners** were starting out their new lives in a poor region with slow economic activity. They were called “Freedmen”.
- **Plantation owners** lost slave labor worth \$3 billion.
- **Poor white Southerners** could not find work because of new job competition from freedmen.
- *The war had destroyed two thirds of the South’s shipping industry and about 9,000 miles of railroad.*



Lincoln’s (moderate) Plan “The 10% Plan” (12/1863)

- Sooner the nation reunited, sooner the South could rebuild!
- A southern state could form a new government after 10% of its voters swore an oath of loyalty to the Union
- State must abolish slavery
- Could then take part in national government again
- Amnesty (pardons) to those who swore their loyalty!

The Radical's Plan

- **Radical Republicans headed by Thaddeus Stevens believed Lincoln's plan was too forgiving!**

- Radical Republicans controlled Congress and voted to deny seats to representatives from any state readmitted under Lincoln's plan.



- **Congress passed the Wade Davis Bill (July, 1864)**

- The bill said to rejoin the Union, a state had to meet the following requirements:
 - **Majority of white males must swear loyalty to the Union**
 - Only white males who did not fight against the Union could vote for delegates to a state constitutional convention



- **Each state had to ban slavery**



The Freedmen's Bureau-

Set up by Lincoln and Congress to help African Americans adjust to freedom

- **Provided food, clothing and medical services**
- **Set up schools**
- **Helped freed people acquire land or find work**



Assassination of Lincoln (April 15, 1865) by John Wilkes Booth



...Andrew Johnson becomes President

Johnson's Plan: (amnesty = extended by the government to a group or class of persons, usually for a political offense.)

- **Grant amnesty to most Southerners once they swore loyalty**
- He desired to humiliate Southern Confederate leaders by making them appeal to him personally for a pardon
- **Opposed equal rights for African Americans**
- **States had to ratify the 13th Amendment before allowed back in the Union**

By the end of 1865, all states, except Texas, had new governments and were ready to join the Union.



The Reconstruction Act of 1867 = Calling for "reform not revenge"

1. Southern states would be under military rule by northern generals.

2. Southern states would have to create new state constitutions

3. States would be required to give the vote to all qualified male voters (including African Americans).

4. Supporters of the Confederacy were temporarily barred from voting.

5. Southern states were required to guarantee equal rights to all citizens

6. All states were required to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment



CIVIL WAR AMENDMENTS

- **13th Amendment = Abolished slavery (1865)**
- **14th Amendment Provided citizenship & equal protection to *all* under the law. (1868)**
- **15th Amendment Provided the right to vote for all *men* which included**

Black Codes: As southern states were restored to the Union, they began to enact black codes, laws that restricted freedmen's rights.

- **Curfews:** Generally, black people could not gather after sunset.

- **Vagrancy laws:** Freedmen convicted of vagrancy– that is, not working– could be fined, whipped, or sold for a year’s labor.
- **Labor contracts:** Freedmen had to sign agreements in January for a year of work. Those who quit in the middle of a contract often lost all the wages they had earned.
- **Land restrictions:** Freed people could rent land or homes only in rural areas. This restriction forced them to live on plantations.

Ku Klux Klan

- **Secret society who used fear and violence to deny rights to freed men and women.**
 - Killed thousands of African Americans while wearing sheets and hoods
 - **Burned African American schools, churches and homes**
 - Supported by many Southern planters and Democrats
- Congress passed several rather unsuccessful laws to stop the Klan in 1870 and 1871.

SHARECROPPING & TENANT FARMING

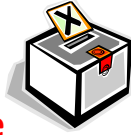
Sharecroppers were Freedmen and poor Whites who stayed in the South and continued to farm.

- ❖ Freedmen signed a work contract with their former masters .
- ❖ Picked cotton or whatever crop the landowner had.
- ❖ Freedmen did not receive “40 acres and a mule”

Segregation and Jim Crow Laws

- Starting in 1881, **blacks had to stay in separate hotels, sit in separate parts of theaters, ride in separate rail cars, and have separate schools, libraries, and parks. This is known as segregation.**
- Segregation - the legal separation of blacks and whites in public places
- **Jim Crow Laws - laws that forced segregation**

JIM CROW LAWS =Laws that required African Americans and whites to be separated in almost every public place (forced segregation!)



Poll Tax = A fee people had to pay to vote

Most African Americans could not afford the tax and therefore could not vote= this is called *DISENFRANCHISEMENT*

Another law was passed that said a person could only vote if their grandfather had voted. These laws were called the *Grandfather Clause*.

Literacy Test = Voters take a test in which they have to read and explain difficult parts of the Constitution in order to vote.

Because most African Americans had little education, literacy tests prevented many from voting.

Scalawags and Carpetbaggers

Scalawags: Southern whites who were non-slave holding and backed Republicans

Carpetbaggers: Northern whites to moved south after the war and backed Republicans

□

