The Civil War (1861-1865)

Causes of the Civil War (15 slides)

Civil War: Sides and Leaders (15 slides)

Battles of the Civil War (15 slides)

Civil War Outcomes (15 slides)

Causes of the Civil War:

- 1) U.S. Constitution ratified (1787): The Old Articles of Confederation would have made for more powerful states, but the New U.S. Constitution made for a stronger federal government
- 2) Missouri Compromise (1820): Slavery was allowed in Missouri, but not in the new state of Maine (kept the number of slave and free states equal)
- 3) Abolition movement (1830s): The movement was growing popular in the north (e.g. Tubman, Douglass, Truth, and Transcendentalists)
- 4) The Wilmot Proviso (1846): A proposition to outlaw slavery in the new territories from Mexico. This wedge issue divided Democrats, eventually allowing Abraham Lincoln to win the presidency in 1860
- 5) Compromise of 1850 (1850): California could enter the Union as a free state, but the "Fugitive Slave Act" would go into effect
- 6) Fugitive Slave Act (1850): made it illegal to help runaway slaves, any found in the North were to be brought back to their owner

Causes of the Civil War:

- 7) Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852): Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* revealed the true horrors of slavery to many northerners
- 8) Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854): A plan to divide the Louisiana territory & allow the people to vote on whether it would be slave or free
- 9) Election of 1860 (1860): When Northern Republican Abraham Lincoln was elected president, Southerners felt little connection with him as their leader
- 10) Southern States seceded (1860): These states left the Union to maintain a slave economy and way-of-life, which was being threatened
- 11) North wanted to keep the Union (1860): Leaders in the North were unwilling to let the country split, and resolved to uphold the authority of the federal government
- 12) Attack on Fort Sumter (1861): The newly formed Confederate (Southern) States attacked the federal outpost in South Carolina after the northern troops refused the Confederate evacuation order

Causes of the Civil War: #1 U.S. Constitution ratified (1787)

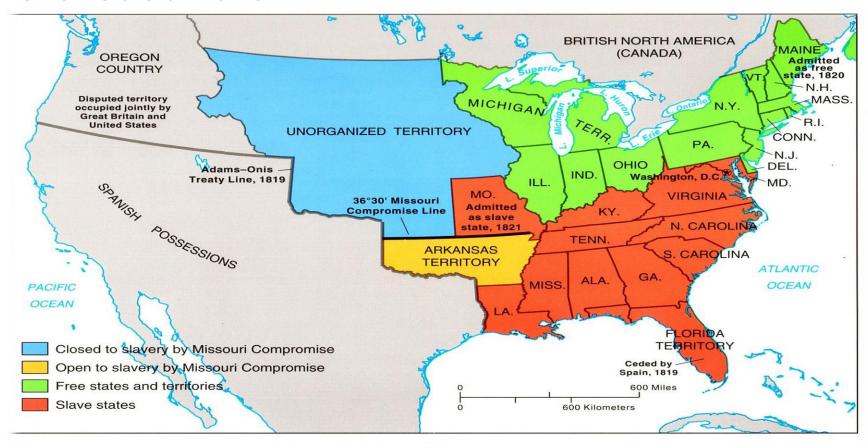
After declaring independence from England and winning the Revolutionary War, the newly formed United States needed a set of laws to guide the country. The first attempt at this produced the Articles of Confederation. The Articles would have made for more powerful, independent states. But federalists ultimately led the country in a new direction, creating the U.S. Constitution. The Constitution made for a much stronger federal government that shared power with the states.



The **U.S. Constitution** is a living document that establishes government, law and order in our country. It replaced the Articles of Confederation, which was commonly considered to have established too weak a federal government.

Causes of the Civil War: #2 Missouri Compromise (1820)

By 1820, the nation was already beginning to divide over the issue of slavery. In order to maintain an equal number of free states and slave states, slavery was allowed in the new state of Missouri, but not in the new state of Maine.

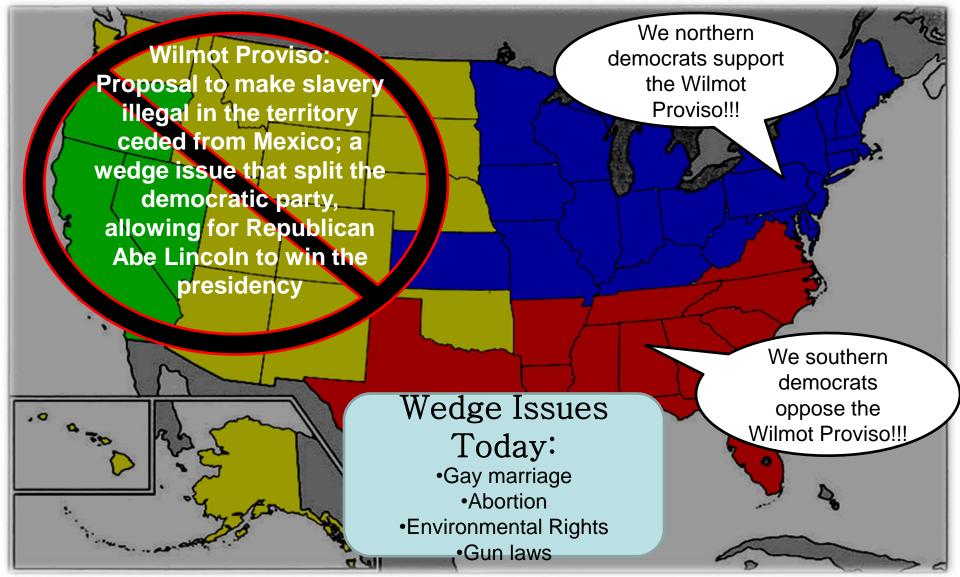


Causes of the Civil War: #3 Abolition Movement (1830s)

When William Wilberforce helped bring an end to England's role in the slave trade in 1807, other nations like the United States soon followed. Although the trade was illegal, slavery itself continued. The Abolition movement to bring an end to slavery, began to move powerfully by the 1830s, especially in the north. Leaders like Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, and many of the transcendentalists brought the issue of slavery to the national conversation.

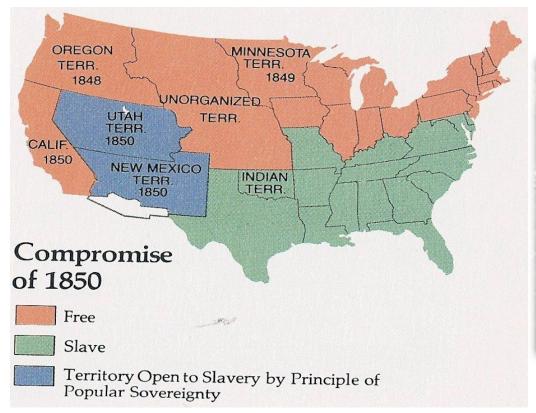


Causes of the Civil War: #4 Wilmot Proviso (1846)



Causes of the Civil War: #5 Compromise of 1850 (1850)

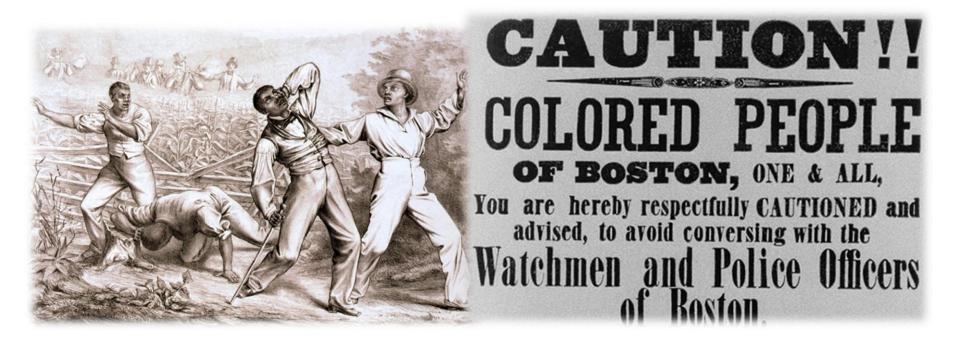
Much like the 1820 Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850 meant to keep the balance of power split evenly between pro-slavery advocates and abolitionists. The compromise was for the new state of California to enter the Union as a free state, while the "Fugitive Slave Act" would go into effect.





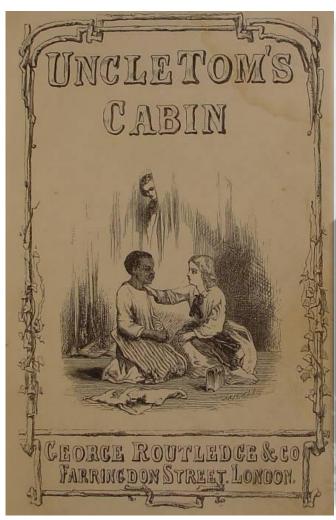
Causes of the Civil War: #6 Fugitive Slave Act (1850)

The Fugitive Slave Act, going into effect in 1850, stated that when escaped slaves were caught, they were to be returned to their plantations in the South. Anyone aiding runaway slaves, even northern whites, were breaking the law. Many free blacks who had never experienced slavery were mistakenly rounded up and brought to plantations during the 1850s.



Causes of the Civil War: #7 Uncle Tom's Cabin (1852)

Uncle Tom's Cabin was a powerful anti-slavery novel written by Harriet Beecher Stowe. For the first time, the horrors of slavery became common knowledge for many northerners who had previously been ignorant on the issue.





Causes of the Civil War: #8 Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)

The Kansas-Nebraska Act was a plan to divide parts of the Louisiana territory (acquired from France decades earlier) and allow the citizens there to vote on whether it would allow slavery or not. Many advocates for either side moved into these territories to champion their respective causes, leading to much conflict and bloodshed. This struggle became known as 'Bleeding Kansas'.



Causes of the Civil War: #9 Southern States Secede (1860)

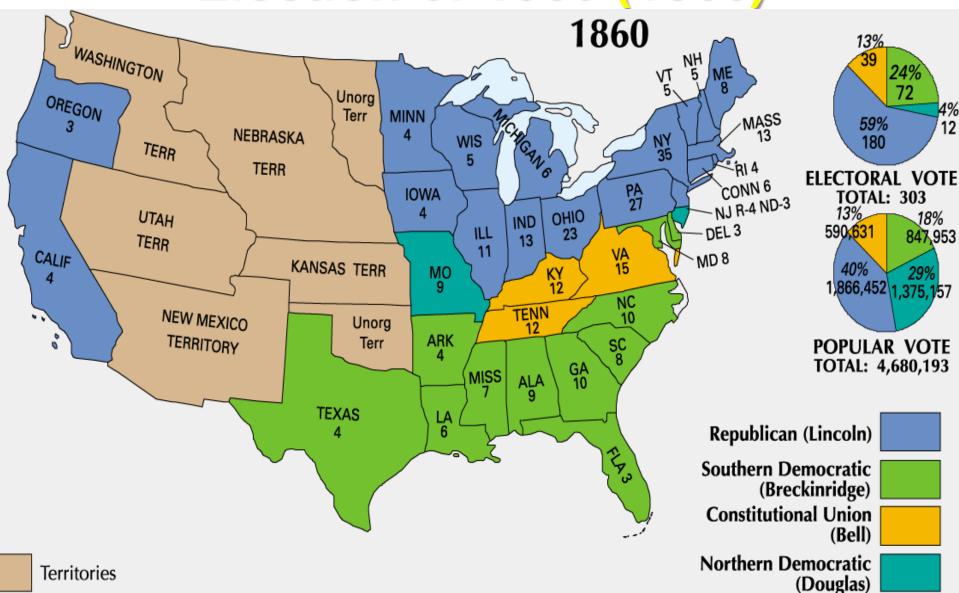
Ultimately, the Southern 'Confederate' states seceded from the Union because an increasing number of people in the federal government opposed slavery and the South needed to maintain the system of slavery to keep their economy strong.



Causes of the Civil War: #10 North wanted to keep the Union (1860)



Causes of the Civil War: #11 Election of 1860 (1860)



Causes of the Civil War: #12 Attack on Fort Sumter (1861)

In 1861, the Federal Outpost in South Carolina was ordered to evacuate by The Confederate States of America. When the Union soldiers did not leave, the Confederates began bombing the fort. This action officially started the Civil War.

