

# SLAVERY, SECTIONALISM, & WAR

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**Outcomes: Students will**

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- A. explain how the issue of slavery in the territories acquired from Mexico disrupted American politics from 1848 to 1850
- B. point out the major terms of the Compromise of 1850 and indicate how this agreement attempted to deal with the issue of slavery
- C. indicate how the Whig party disintegrated and disappeared because of its divisions over slavery
- D. describe how the Pierce administration engaged in various pro-southern overseas and expansionist ventures
- E. describe Douglas' Kansas-Nebraska Act and explain why it stirred sectional controversy to new heights
- F. relate the sequence of major crises that led from the Kansas-Nebraska Act to secession
- G. explain how and why "bleeding Kansas" became a dress rehearsal for the Civil War
- H. trace the growing power of the Republican party in the 1850s and the increasing divisions and helplessness of the Democrats
- I. explain how the Dred Scott decision and Brown's Harpers' Ferry raid deepened sectional antagonism
- J. trace the rise of Lincoln as the major exponent of the Republican doctrine of no expansion of slavery
- K. describe the movement toward secession, the formation of the Confederacy, and the failure of the last compromise effort

**Resources**

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- A. *American Pageant & Spirit*, ch. 18-19

**Outline**

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- I. 1848: Fallout of the Mexican War
  - A. Election of 1848
  - B. California gold rush
  - C. Fugitive slaves & the Underground Railroad
  - D. Compromise #2: The Compromise of 1850
    - 1. The debate
    - 2. The compromise
      - a) California
      - b) D.C. slave trade
      - c) western lands
      - d) Fugitive Slave Act
    - 3. Evaluation & Results
- II. Maintaining the Sectional Balance
  - A. Election of 1852
  - B. Looking for slave states: Nicaragua, Cuba
  - C. Gadsden Purchase
  - D. Compromise #3: The Kansas-Nebraska Act & popular sovereignty

- III. The Slippery Slope
  - A. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *The Impending Crisis of the South*
  - B. Bleeding Kansas
  - C. Sumner v. Brooks
  - D. Dred Scott
  - E. Election of 1856; the Lincoln-Douglas Debates
  - F. Panic of 1857
  - G. John Brown's raid
- IV. The Election of 1860
  - A. party politics
    - 1. Free Soilers
    - 2. death of the Whigs
    - 3. development and ascendancy of Republican Party: Abraham Lincoln
    - 4. Know-Nothings & Do-Nothings
    - 5. sectionalism & split of the Democrats
  - B. Secession & farewell to the Union

## **Vocabulary**

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### **Chapter 18**

Lewis Cass  
 Stephen A. Douglas  
 Franklin Pierce  
 Zachary Taylor  
 John C. Calhoun  
 Winfield Scott  
 Martin van Buren  
 Daniel Webster  
 Matthew C. Perry  
 Harriet Tubman  
 William H. Seward  
 James Gadsden  
 Henry Clay  
 Millard Fillmore

popular sovereignty  
 filibustering  
 Free Soil party  
 Fugitive Slave Law  
 "conscience" Whigs  
 "personal liberty laws"  
 Underground Railroad  
 Compromise of 1850  
 "fire-eaters"  
 Clayton-Bulwer Treaty  
 Ostend Manifesto  
 "higher law"  
 Kansas-Nebraska Act  
 Seventh of March Speech

### **Chapter 19**

Harriet Beecher Stowe  
 Hinton R. Helper  
 John Brown  
 James Buchanan  
 Charles Sumner  
 John C. Fremont  
 Dred Scott  
 Roger Taney  
 John C. Breckenridge  
 John Bell  
 Abraham Lincoln  
 Jefferson Davis  
 John Crittenden

self-determination  
 southern nationalism  
*Uncle Tom's Cabin*  
*The Impending Crisis of the South*  
 New England Immigrant Aid Society  
 Pottawatomie Creek massacre  
 Lecompton Constitution  
 "Bleeding Kansas"  
 American (Know-Nothing) Party  
 Dred Scott decision  
 Panic of 1857  
 Lincoln-Douglas Debates  
 Freeport Doctrine  
 Harpers Ferry raid  
 Constitutional Union party  
 Crittenden Compromise