

# Causes for the landowners to use slaves instead



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Causes of civil war I believe the civil war was fought for many reasons and is not held to just one.

If I had to choose one main reason it would be because of the future of slavery, States rights, western expansion and the bleeding in Kansas. This war was fought by the Northern and Western states and territories to preserve the Union, and the South fought to create Southern independence as a new confederation of states under its own constitution. Slavery was of great importance to the south because of the southern economy. The south was an agricultural-based economy whose biggest yields were cotton and tobacco, depended almost entirely only slaves for labor (Slavery without submission). Northern workers felt that slavery hurt wages and took land that could have been used by poor whites to sustain an economic independence, whereas Southerners argued that ending slavery would destroy the southern economy (Sectional Crisis). In 1790, a thousand tons of cotton were being produced every year in the South. By period, 500, 000 slaves grew to 4 million. 1860, it was a million tons.

(Slavery Without Submission) The majority of labor landowners bought African slaves to work their massive plantations, and even small time farmers often used slave labor. As the region expanded, industries expanded too, particularly those needed to process the mass amount of crops or extract natural resources. These industries often employed poor whites as well as slaves, either owned or used. As the use of slaves lowered in the North over time, it increased in the Southern states. This was because it was smart for the landowners to use slaves instead of hiring white laborers whomight cost more, strike, or quit, as to where slaves couldn't. Their plantations depended

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on increased production of export crops on increasingly tired soil.

The tobacco plant in itself requires massive amounts of water, and other nutrients to stay alive.

The plant "tired" the soil by taking all of the important nutrients away from the soil. In addition, the south wanted slave states to expand into the west while the north wanted to make western states free states. Additional territories gained from the U. S and Mexican war heightened the slavery debate. Abolitionists fought to have slavery pronounced illegal in those territories, just like the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 had done in the territory that became the states of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.

Slavery supporters feared that if the institution were prohibited in any states carved out of the new territories the political power of slaveholding states would be diminished, possibly to the point of slavery being illegal everywhere within the United States. Pro- and anti-slavery groups rushed to populate the new territories. The Republican party was opposed to westward expansion of slavery into these new states and when Abraham Lincoln, who was a member of the Republican party, won the 1860 election, the southern states saw this as a major loss to their cause. (YAWP) Southerners were sure that the North meant to take away their right to govern themselves, abolish slavery, and destroy the Southern economy.

Having exhausted their legal and political options, they felt that the only way to protect themselves from this Northern assault was to no longer be a part of the United States of America. After South Carolina seceded in December of 1860, it demanded that the United States abandon its military forts in

Charleston Harbor. On April 10, 1861, knowing that resupplies were on their way from the North to the federal garrison in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, Confederate forces in Charleston demanded the fort's surrender. The fort's commander, Major Robert Anderson, refused. On April 12, the Confederates opened fire with cannons. At 2: 30 p. m. the following day, Major Anderson surrendered.

War had begun. Lincoln called for volunteers to put down the Southern rebellion. Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee, refusing to fight against other Southern states and feeling that Lincoln had passed his presidential authority, reversed themselves and voted in favor of secession. The last one, Tennessee, did not depart until June 8, nearly a week after the first land battle had been fought at Philippi in Western Virginia. (The western section of Virginia rejected the secession vote and broke away, ultimately forming a new, Union-loyal state, West Virginia. The debate over which powers belonged to the states and which to the Federal Government became heated in the 1830s. The disagreement of whether slavery would be allowed in the new territories forming as the nation expanded westward.

The Missouri compromise tried to solve the problem but this only temporarily calmed the storm that was brewing. Congress passed a bill granting Missouri statehood as a slave state under the condition that slavery was to be forever prohibited in the rest of the Louisiana Purchase north of the 36th parallel, which runs approximately along the southern border of Missouri.

Abolitionists in the north made southerners believe that their way of life was under attack and slavery would soon be illegal. Nat Turner's rebellion, a violent slave revolt in 1831 gave southerners the argument that slaves were

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dangerous and that being said slavery was stopping Africans to create conflict. (States Rights) As long as there were an equal number of slave-holding states in the South as non-slave-holding states in the North, the two regions had even representation and neither could overpower the other. Each new territory that applied to be a state threatened to disrupt the balance. Southerners argued for states' rights and a weak federal government but it was not until the 1850s that they brought up the issue of secession. Southerners argued that, having ratified the Constitution and having complied to join the nation in the late 1780s, they had the power to appeal the agreement and threatened to do just that.

In an effort to keep the balance of power in Congress between slave and free states, the Missouri Compromise was passed in 1820 adding Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state. The Missouri Compromise marked a major turningpoint in America's sectional crisis because it exposed to the public just how big the slavery issue had grown. The debate filled newspapers, city halls and Congressional records. Which ultimately created rebellion in the southern states. Antislavery and pro-slavery positions from that point forward repeatedly returned to the arguments made during the Missouri debates. Legislators battled for weeks over whether the Constitutional framers intended slavery's expansion or not, and these contests left deep scars. Even seemingly simple and straightforward phrases like "All Men Are Created Equal" were hotly contested all over again.

Questions over the expansion of slavery remained open, but nearly all Americans concluded that the Constitution protected slavery where it already existed. (Sectional Crisis) The Missouri Compromise was criticized by many

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southerners because it established the principle that Congress could make laws regarding slavery; northerners, on the other hand, condemned it for acquiescing in the expansion of slavery south of the compromise line. Even so the act helped hold the Union together for more than thirty years. It was repealed by the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which established popular rule regarding slavery in Kansas and Nebraska, though both were north of the compromise line. Three years later, the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case declared the Missouri Compromise unconstitutional, on the ground that Congress was prohibited by the Fifth Amendment from depriving individuals of private property without due process of law (13-5). The Kansas-Nebraska Act allowed each territory to decide the issue of slavery on the basis of popular rule.

Kansas with slavery would violate the Missouri Compromise, which had kept the Union from falling apart for the last thirty-four years. The aftermath of the act led to the period of violence known as Bleeding Kansas. Many people from Kansas would argue that the civil war ultimately started in 1855. This is when pro-slavery citizens rushed into Kansas to try to establish that territory as a slave state. In doing so they looted, burned and killed in order to intimidate the abolitionists. They were met by anti-slavery Kansans, as well as many other abolitionists like John Brown, who solely went to Kansas to fight against slavery.

Though Kansas eventually came in the country as a free state in 1861, the events there helped spread the idea of violence as a solution to the slavery problem. The use of propaganda by both sides increased tension which

ultimately led to the civil war. So overall there were many reasons the civil war happened, mostly all of them lead back some way to slavery.

The civil war was a turning point in America history. The Civil War was one of the most deadly wars in American history. More Americans died than in all other wars combined. Sons fought against fathers and the nation was torn apart. The nation was reunited and the southern states were not allowed to secede. (States Rights) The South was placed under military rule and divided into military districts. Southern states had to apply for readmission to the Union. The Federal government proved itself superior over the states.

Essentially this was a war over states' rights and federalism and the victor was the power of the national government. Slavery was effectively ended. While slavery was not outlawed until the passing of the 13th amendment, the slaves were set free upon the end of the war. Industrialism began as a result of the increase in wartime production and the development of ne