



connecting current events and popular culture with constitutional history

Juneteenth

POP CIV 10

Glossary

Abolition

The action or an act of abolishing a system, practice, or institution.

Abolitionist

The period of time when Supreme Court justices consider the business before the Court and write opinions.

Emancipation Proclamation

An order by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 to free slaves in the states which were in rebellion against the United States. Not immediately freeing all slaves due to Confederate control, at least 20,000 slaves were freed immediately. The order given by Lincoln was one which was used through his war-time powers as the commander-in-chief, due to slavery at the time being a state issue rather than a federal one.

Executive Order

Concurring opinions are written by justices who agree with the result of the main opinion, or the resolution of the dispute between the two parties, but base their decision on a different rationale.

General Order Number 3

A military order given by U.S. Major General Gordon Granger in 1865 that broadcast the news of the Emancipation Proclamation to the enslaved population of Galveston, TX.

Reconstruction Amendments

The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments are collectively referred to as the Reconstruction Amendments, because of their passage during the Reconstruction era and their central role in opening access to various rights for formerly enslaved African Americans.

Reconstruction Era

The period following the Civil War from 1865-1877 in which the Federal government worked to reunite and rebuild the country. This period included a time of increased personal and political freedoms for newly emancipated African Americans.

Thirteenth Amendment

Passed and ratified 1865, the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime.