

Chapter Eighteen Reconstruction and the Changing South

Please study your Powerpoint slides!

RECONSTRUCTION – *The Nation Heals its Wounds*

- Total war is the idea of destroying your enemy's economy by destroying all of their food and equipment
- Following the Civil War the South was destroyed both physically and economically
- Reconstruction was the period in which the South was rebuilt, and restored to the Union
- Carpetbaggers were northerners who moved south during Reconstruction to gain wealth or power
- Scalawags were southerners who supported the Radical Republicans who were viewed as traitors by fellow southerners
- A positive effect of Reconstruction was that new constitutional amendments expanded the political and civil rights of African-Americans
- Black Codes were laws which restricted the rights of African-Americans in the South
- Poll Taxes, Literacy Tests, Grandfather Clauses, and Jim Crow Laws were all tools used by Southern governments following Reconstruction to deny rights to African-Americans
- The Ku Klux Klan was a group, which terrorized African-Americans in the South and attempted to maintain segregation in the South, as well as preventing African-Americans from exercising their right to vote.
- Segregation is the process of separating the races in society (keeping whites and blacks separated)
- African-Americans in the South (freedmen) were extremely poor following the war, and many became sharecroppers
- Sharecropping was virtually a new form of slavery where freedmen were taken advantage of by rich landowners
- The Freedmen's Bureau was established to help former slaves by providing food, job training, and an education
- Black Codes and Jim Crow Laws were both southern attempts to deny African-Americans their political and civil rights
- Segregation became legalized in 1896 following the Plessy vs. Ferguson decision, which stated that segregation was legal if "separate but equal" facilities were provided to both whites and blacks. The facilities were rarely if ever "equal."
- Impeachment is when a public official is accused of committing a crime or some other wrongdoing
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- The 13th Amendment ended slavery in America.
- The 14th Amendment granted citizenship to African Americans.
- The 15th Amendment says a citizen cannot be denied the right to vote based on that citizen's race.