

American Equality: The Declaration of Independence, The Gettysburg Address and The *I Have a Dream* Speech

CLEI Summer Civics Series
2022 Professional Learning Series

Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support

Open Ended Question Activity

- Placeholder slide for activity in Nearpod.



Breakout Session Goals





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Agenda

- Institution of Slavery.
- Study Primary Sources to Explore The Founding Principle of Equality:
 - The Declaration of Independence (1776).
 - The Gettysburg Address (1863).
 - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *I Have A Dream* speech (1963).
- Guiding Light.



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How Was the Institution of Slavery Introduced in the Americas?

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Nearpod – Poll Activity

Hook Statement: Did the Founding Fathers do **ALL** they could to eliminate slavery?

Agree

Disagree

Somewhat
Agree

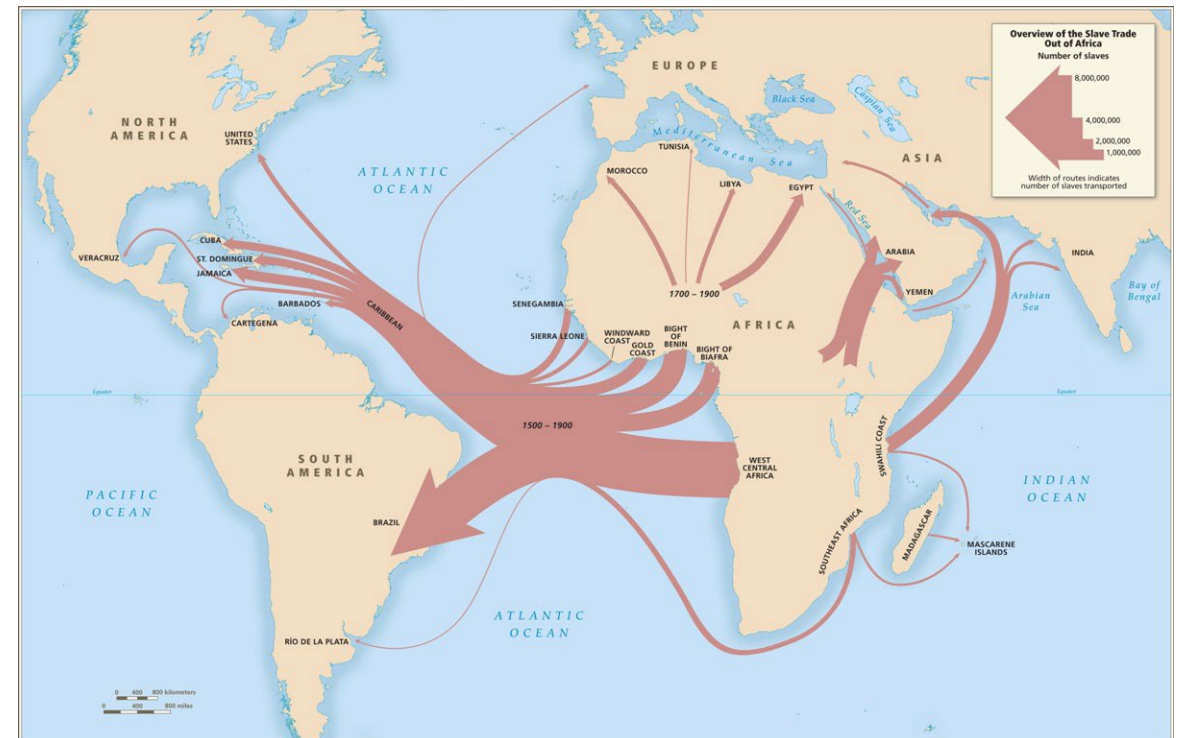


Establishment of Slavery

Ancient practice expanded by the Europeans.



Adobe Picture Stock



United Nations Image



Creating a Nation

- Priority of the Founders is to unite the states.
- 2/3 of the Founders held slaves – even those that held slaves did not defend the institution.
 - In November 1789, Benjamin Franklin described slavery as, “an atrocious debasement of human nature.”

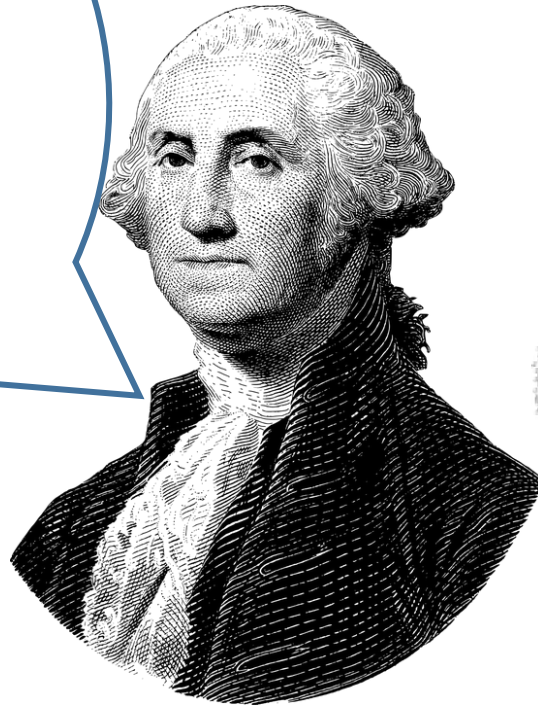


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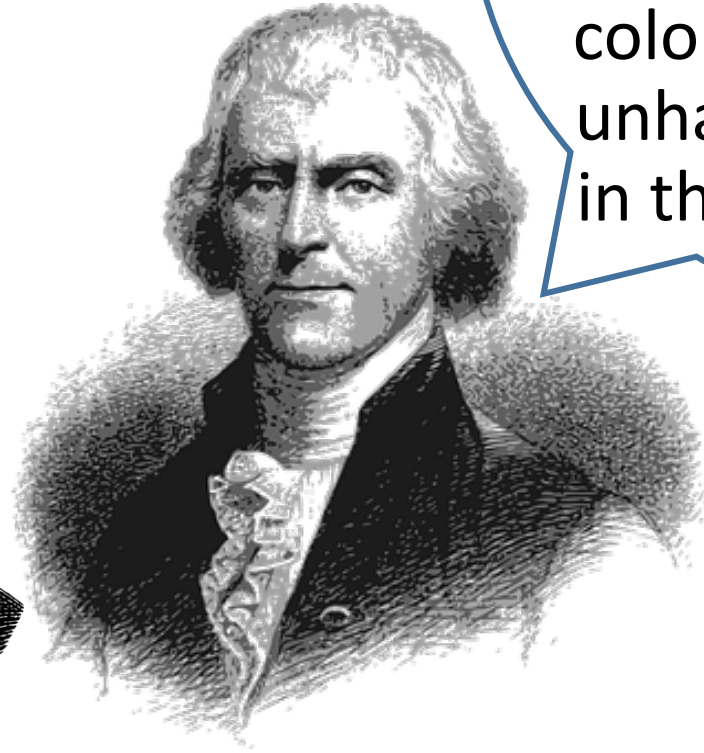


Opposition to Slavery

“It being among my first wishes to see some plan adopted, by which slavery in this country may be abolished by law.”



Images from Pixabay

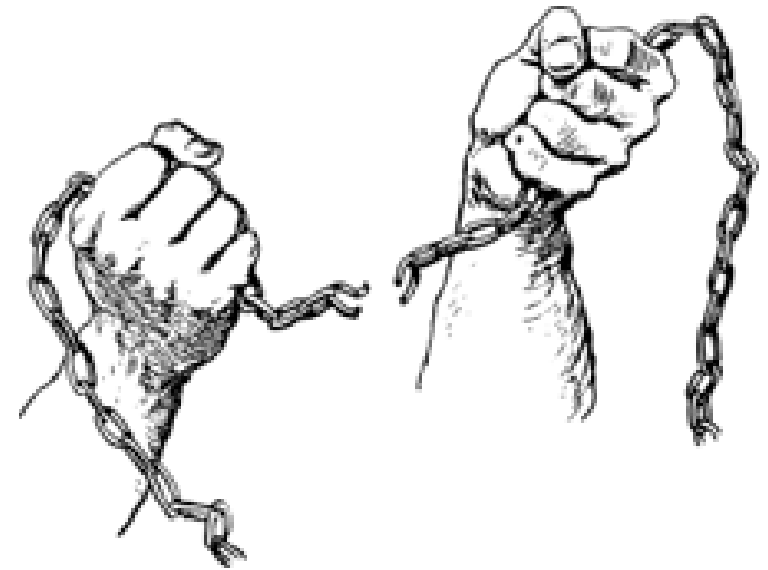


“The abolition of domestic slavery is the great object of desire in those colonies where it was unhappily introduced in their infant state.”



Stepping Stones Put in Place to End Slavery

- **Gradual abolition laws** - Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey.
- **Articles of Confederation (1781 – 1789).**
 - Northwest Ordinance (1787).
- **U.S. Constitution (1789 – Present).**
 - Atlantic Slave Trade outlawed in 1808.
 - “A tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.” – U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 9.



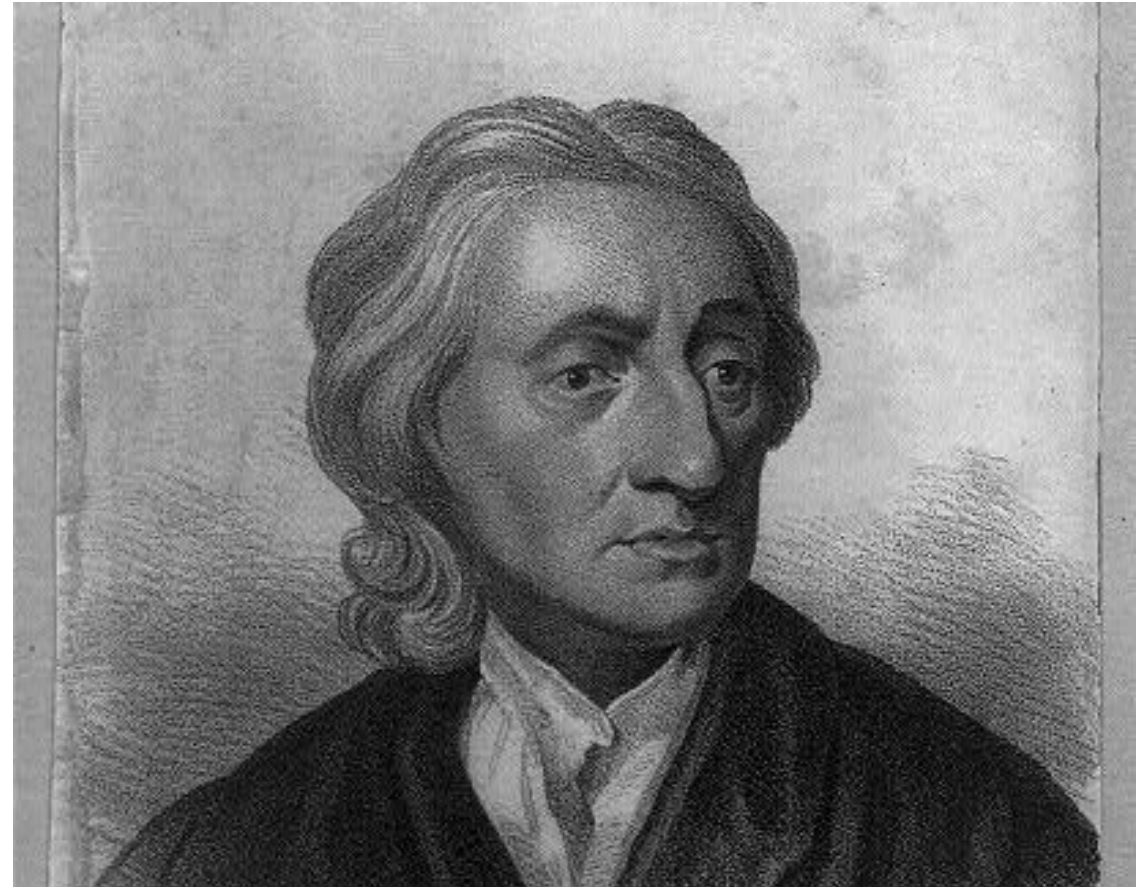
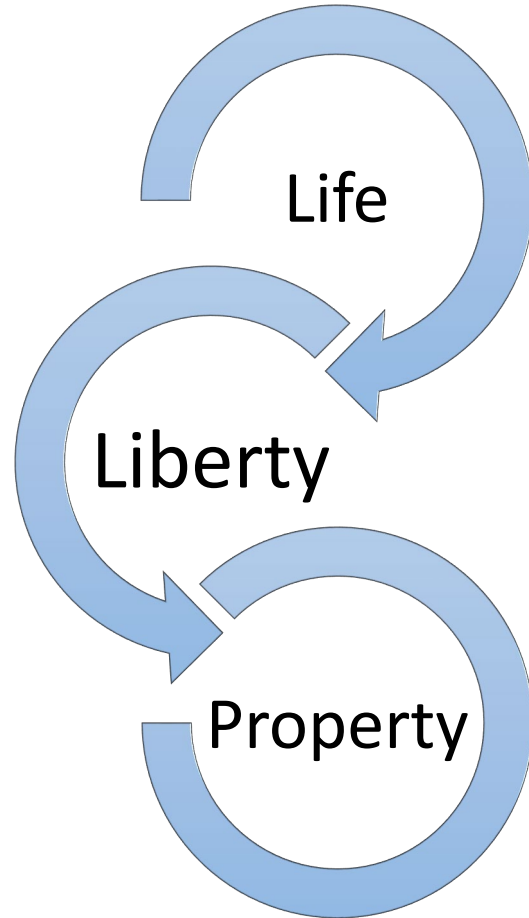
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How Does the Declaration of Independence Set the Foundation for Equal Rights for all Americans?

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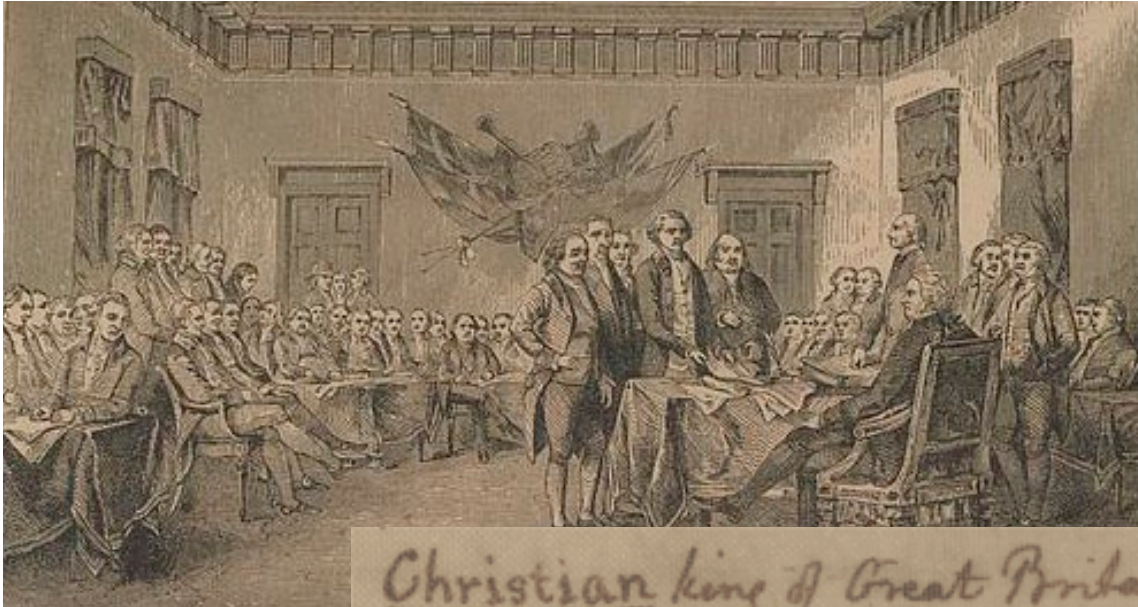
The Principle of Equality and Self-Government



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Statement of Aspirations



*Christian king of Great Britain, determined to keep open a market
where MEN should be bought & sold he has prostituted his negative
for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or to restrain this
determining to keep open a market where MEN should be bought & sold:
execrable commerce; and that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact*

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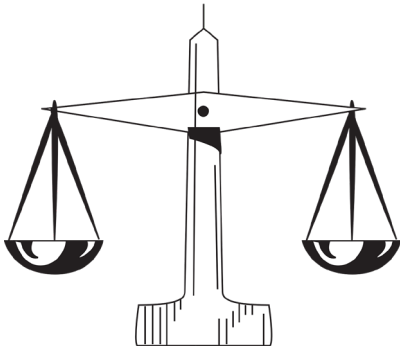
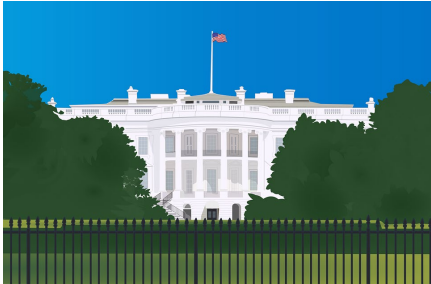


PDF of the Declaration of Independence

- Placeholder slide for activity in Nearpod.



Where Do Rights Come From?



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“Endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights”

“Protection of divine Providence”

“Supreme Judge of the world”



How Does the Gettysburg Address View the Future Through the Lens of the Founding Principles?

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Fragment on the Constitution and the Union



- President Abraham Lincoln, January 1861.
- “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.”
- The principles of the Declaration and the purpose of the Constitution.



Gettysburg Address – New Birth of Freedom

- “Four score (20) and seven years ago” = 87 years.
- The “proposition” that all men are equal – put out there for proof.
- Self-government is emphasized at the end as he stated, “and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”



Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania United States Gettysburg, 1863.



PDF of the Gettysburg Address

- Placeholder slide for PDF of Gettysburg Address which will be visible on Nearpod.



Nearpod Discussion Board



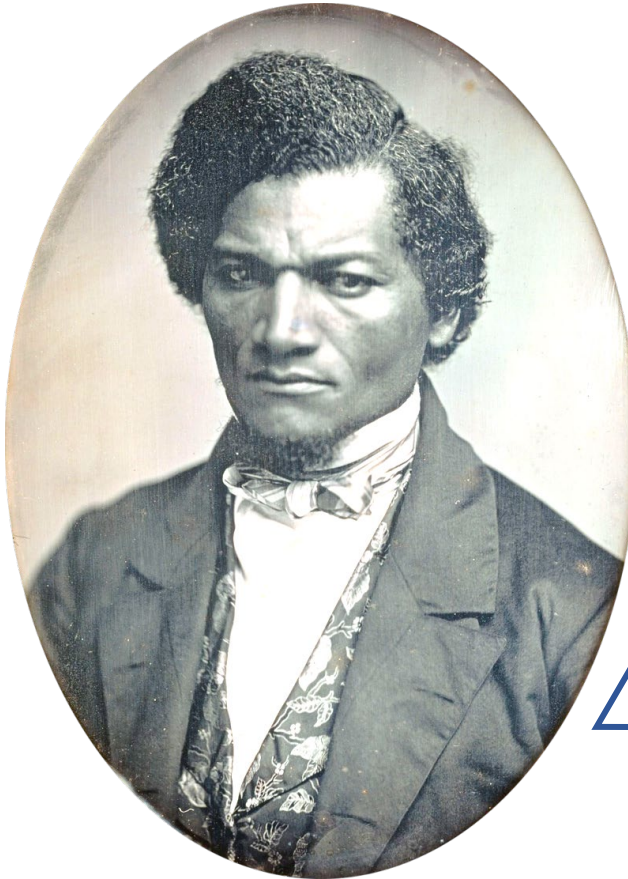
National Archives

- What evidence from the Gettysburg Address suggests that President Lincoln used the Founding Principles to change the cause for the war and to extend American equality?



Sound Bites From the Fourth of July Speech

"This is the Fourth of July. It is the birthday of your national independence and of **your** political freedom."

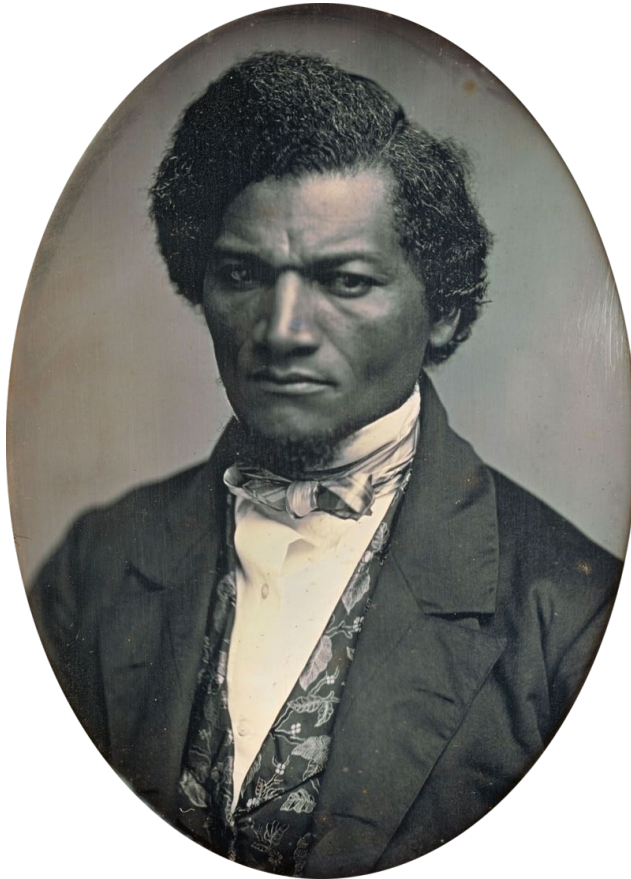


Frederick Douglass, ca. 1852

"Fellow citizens, pardon me. Allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here today? What have I or those I represent to do with **your** national independence? "



"What to the Slave, is the Fourth of July"



Frederick Douglass, ca. 1852

"[L]et me ask, if it be not somewhat singular that, if the Constitution were intended to be, by its framers and adopters, a slave-holding instrument, why neither slavery, slaveholding, nor slave can anywhere be found in it?"



PDF of the Fourth of July Speech

- Placeholder slide for PDF reading of the Fourth of July Speech.



**How does Frederick Douglas
Appeal to the Founding Principle
of Equality in His Speech, “What
to the Slave, Is the Fourth of
July”?**



How Does Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *I Have a Dream Speech* Call for the Expansion of American Rights?

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Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *I Have a Dream* Speech – The Promissory Note

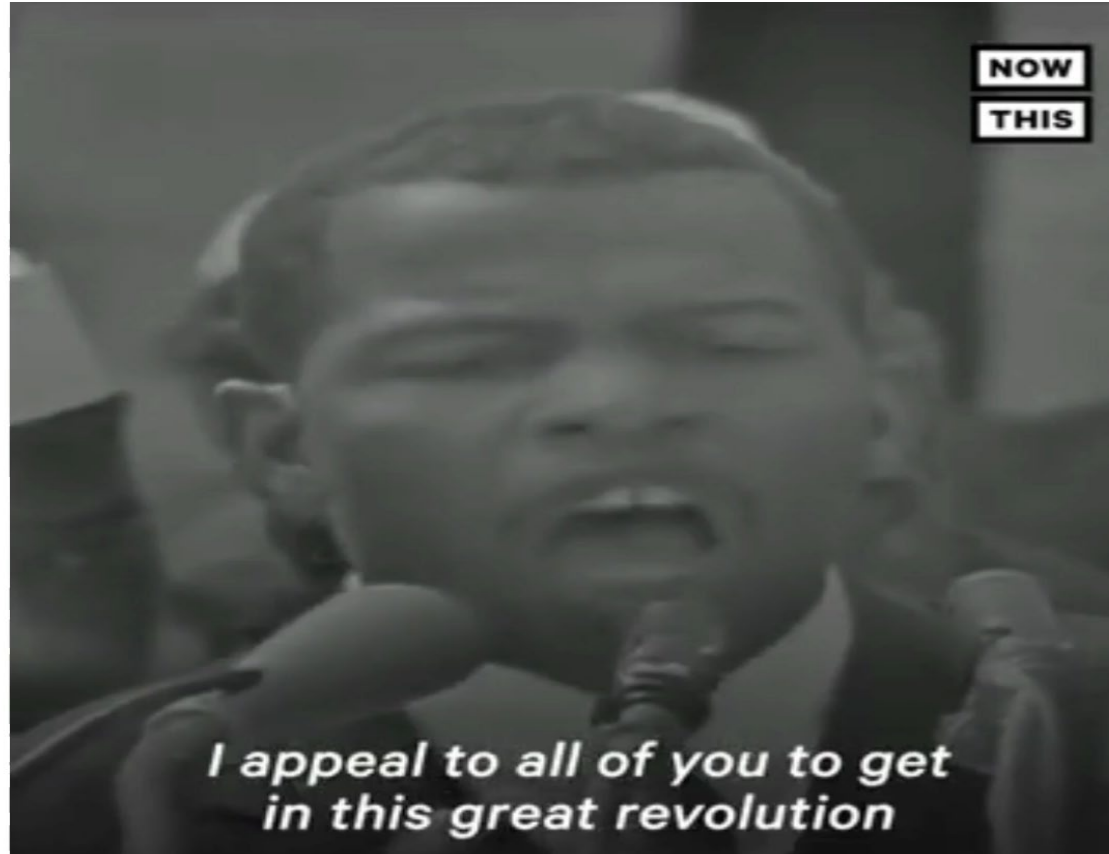


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Excerpt from John Lewis, “Speech at the March on Washington”

- August 28, 1963.
- The remarks of John Lewis, the 23-year-old Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, came before Rev. Dr. King at the March on Washington.



John Lewis Speech on YouTube



The Bank of Justice is Not Bankrupt



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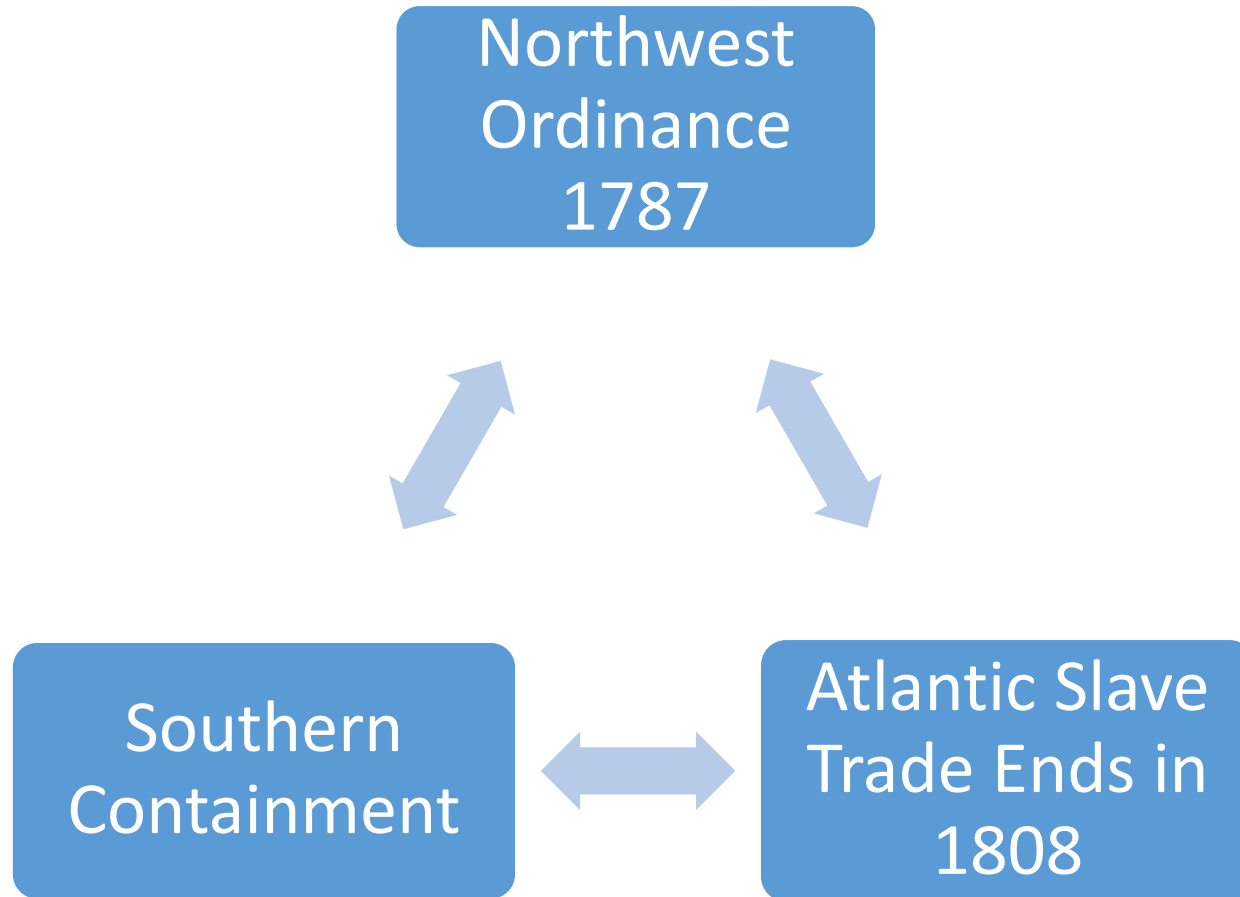
- Brown v. Board of Education (1954 & 1955).
- The Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
- Has The Revolution Of 1776 been fully realized?



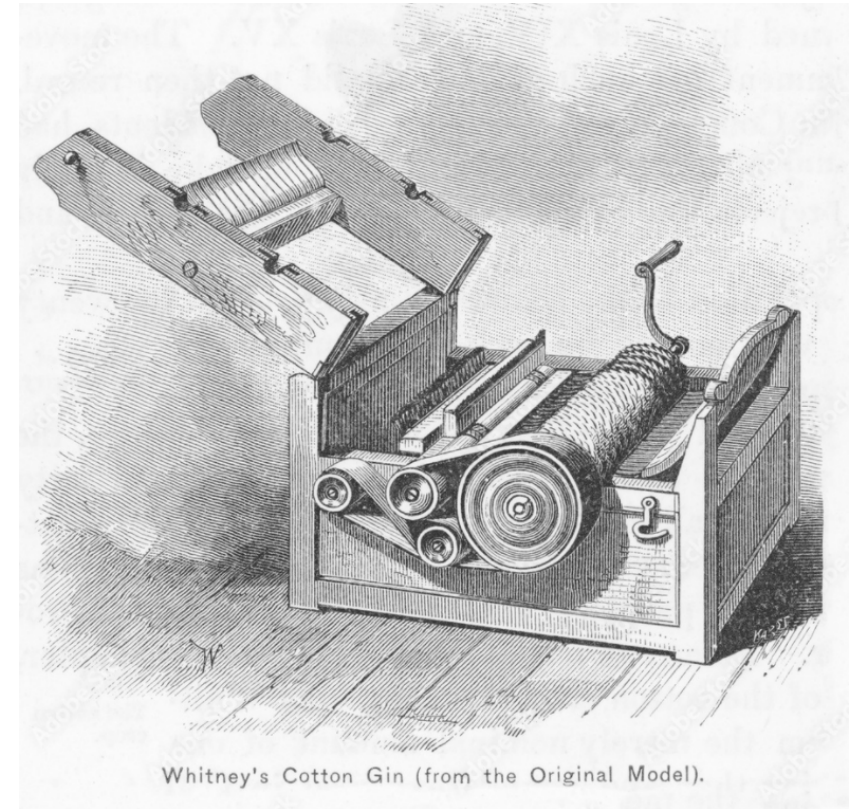
The Guiding Light of Equality is the Declaration of Independence

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What Did the Founders Do About Slavery?



Could not have foreseen...



Adobe Image



Final Discussion

- Using the Guiding Light of the Declaration of Independence, did the Founding Fathers do **ALL** they could do to address slavery?



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"All we say to America is, be true to what you said on paper."
- Rev. Dr. King, *I See the Promised Land*, April 1968



Open Ended Question

- Placeholder slide for activity in Nearpod.





Tower lighthouse Sea Beach Sky Cloud Scenery



Revised K-12 Civics & Government Benchmarks (2023-2024)

K-5 Benchmarks

- SS.1.CG.2.4 – Recognize symbols and individuals that represent the United States.
- SS.5.CG.2.6 – Explain symbols and documents that represent the United States.

6-8 Benchmarks

- SS.7.CG.1.2 – Trace the principles underlying America’s founding ideas on law and government.
- SS.8.CG.3.1 – Trace the foundational ideals and principles related to the U.S. government expressed in primary sources from the colonial period to Reconstruction.

9-12 Benchmarks

- SS.912.CG.1.2 – Explain the influence of Enlightenment ideas on the Declaration of Independence.
- SS.912.CG.2.6 – Explain how the principles contained in foundational documents contributed to the expansion of civil rights and liberties over time.



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Student Success is our STANDARD
Florida Department of Education Presenter's

