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Reconstruction as a Splendid Failure

- A period of time after the Civil War when there was an attempt to fix the Union

Total War (1863 to 1865)

- You are not just targeting specific points
 - Scorched Earth Policy
- After Gettysburg, the Union turns to total war
 - More than just the army was involved
 - Civilian casualties

Transforming the South

- States Rights
- Agrarianism
 - Focused on growing things
- Aristocratic Ideal

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- Master class of the South
 - The wealthy white land owners
 - Not equality
 - Common folk did not like this
 - Battles were fought by poor people
- Slavery

A War for Black Liberation

- Freed blacks in the Union force
 - Not treated as equals
 - More in the labor forces
 - Paid much less

Reconstruction

- The process by which the nation was rebuilt after the destruction caused by the Civil War
- This attempted rebuilding was social, political, and economic

Issues - How to handle seceded states - Questions of political participation (suffrage) for freedman and confederates

Immediate Problems

- 11 states had left the Union
- Economy in shambles
- 4 million slaves set free without foundations of a wage economy

Lincoln's 10% Plan

- Lincoln announced that when a number of men equal to ten percent of those who had voted in the 1860 presidential election swore an oath of allegiance to the United States
 - They could establish a state government
 - Elect officials
 - Apply to be restored to their normal relations with the nation
- Presidential pardon to confederates

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- Recolonization

Andrew Johnson and Construction

- Tennessee Democrat
- “White men alone must govern the South”
 - Total racist [America’s Worst President](#)

Joint Committee on Reconstruction

- 1866 Civil Rights Act
- 14th Amendment (Provided Constitutional protections for freedman)
- 15th Amendment (Voting rights cannot be denied on account of race)

New Visibility For Freed Slaves

- Enter public spaces denied them before
- Freedmen left plantations, reunited with relatives
- Chose new names
 - Discard their old lives
- Held weddings
 - Marriage was withheld from them

Lost Cause

- In the South, whites passed Black Codes
 - Limits on freedoms of the Blacks in the South
 - Includes anti-homeless laws
- Fear of “Africanization” (introduction of African Americans into White Society)

Disputed Election of 1876

- Electoral Commission partisan vote goes to Hayes

Sharecropper

- Essentially slavery but you get to keep some of the things you make