

1 | Discussion of the Middle Passage Reading

Manifest destiny: European-American team for subjugation

1.1 | Discussion of Viewpoints

1.1.1 | Afrocentric View

- That there is a core, "pure" African view
- Middle passage did not change the African culture
- Cites cultural example in Haiti, etc. as the mark of cultural survival

1.1.2 | Traditionalist View

- That there was no continuance from African culture after the middle passage
- Essentially, a new generation was born, and the culture did not survive the middle passage at all.

1.1.3 | Cultural Syncretism

- Combination of the two?
- That the middle passage was a change and process of combination
- That African culture from different places was brought to the America to form a new element. A process of translation and a modification
- Creation of the "New World" multicultural system

1.2 | Defining Slavery

"Kidnapping." Weaponized processes of African communities, pitched cultures against each other. Europeans turned people against each other.

****"Divide & Conquer"**: British Colonial policy — created conflicts and leveraged people against each other.**

1.3 | Defining Culture

There is no Monolithic African culture. In fact, most of the African captives were shipped to the Caribbeans and South America.

1.4 | Is literature a good history?

Variety of perspectives in as derived for literature. The leverage of religion as the "Great Awakening". The idea of "Black Churches" as a point of strength in the American south.

2 | Discussion of the Middle Passage Video

2.1 | Initialization

- Not initially **racial** slavery; it was simply those who are enslaved are enslaved

- Due to labor shortage indentured servants were no longer viable
 - Due to shortage, had to turn to Africa
 - Also allowing

2.2 | **Downfall**

- Peak to downfall of slavery as an accepting institution
- Created coverage of the American revolution
- From Revolution Brits offer emancipation for Black Soldiers
- Large controversy: American demand of freedom to England is similar to that of Africans
 - Huge use of vocabulary — "enslaved" by the policy
 - "all men were created equal", so what about..
- Constitutional Convention's 3/5 compromise
 - Justification of "All men equal"
 - Slavery though, still a sign of wealth

2.3 | **Discussion**

Slavery also lead many into debt. British Bankers held debt, so revolution essentially allowed the institution of slavery to continue by absolving the debt of debtors.