

4. Discuss were the sparks that set course to the war

The Civil War was a long coming event caused by the mutual hatred between the North and the South. The civil war was caused by many problems between the North and South but the sparks that immediately led to the war include the election of President Lincoln, the publishing of Uncle Tom's Cabin, and John Brown's Raid. Although the controversy over the La Amistad ship was a contributing cause to the war it was not an immediate spark.

From the beginning the South made it clear they were going to leave the Union if President Lincoln was elected as president and in 1861 when Lincoln was elected they did just that a day after the election. With South Carolina being the first to leave it produced a "declaration of reasons for succession". South Carolina was soon followed by Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Florida. Though in his speeches Lincoln tried to compromise with the beliefs of the North and the needs of the South and campaigned against the expansion of slavery not abolishing it many Southerners stereotyped all Northerners as "Black Republicans" and they did not want one running their county. Even though Lincoln only received 40 percent of the vote and won not a single vote from 10 southern states Lincoln was the election against Breckenheart and became President of the United States in 1861. Even with many attempts to compromise with the South this caused the Creation of the Confederation on February 4 1861 with Jefferson Davis as the president. When the South Fired on Fort Sumter on April 12th 1861 President Lincoln sent 75,000 troops to try to resolve the issue. The issue was not resolved and resulted in The Civil War lasting from 1861 until 1865.

Uncle Tom's Cabin was considered one of the most controversial books of it's time. It sold over 300,000 copies its first year in the United Sates alone. It depicted the lives of two slaves Tom who was a strong passionate and faithful man, and Eliza who was a favorite to her masters and treated like a child to them ,and the hardships they went through from being promised their freedom then being sold multiple times to being forced to run away from your beloved mistress in fear of your child being sold. The end of this book had a happy ending for Eliza who was free and reunited with her family in Canada and a sad ending for Tom's who was beaten to death for refusing to change who he was. Harriet Beecher Stowe who was a fierce abolitionist herself hoped to show the North the harsh realities of slavery and what was really being done to the slaves in hope for change. The south was outraged by the book and took it as a personal attack against them. Writing threatening letter to Stowe and any bookstore owner who had the book for sale in the South. It is said that upon meeting her President Lincoln said to Stowe,"so you're the little lady that caused this great war". Implying the large impact the book had on starting the Civil War.

John Brown was a diehard abolitionist who would do what ever it took to get his point about slavery being wrong across. This took form in a slave revolt which was planned to raid a United States arsenal. He originally ask Harriet Tubman and Fredrick Douglass both great abolitionist to join him in the raid but he was turned down by both of them. He continued anyways and on October 16 1851 Brown

and 18 of his men stormed the Arsenal at Harpers Ferry and took many captives using a broad sword as his weapon. Instead of making an escape like in the original plan Brown decided to stay and on October 17 when men started to inspect the arsenal Brown decided to move the men to a smaller engine room which became named John Brown's Fort. As soon as General Robert E. Lee heard of the news he ordered Brown to surrender and when he did not Lee ordered the Arsenal to be stormed by marines. This led to a quick and bloody confrontation which in the end led to the capture of Brown. Brown was tried and hanged for treason. This was not the end of the ordeal the raid had large aftermath as Brown was the first white man to use violence as an end to slavery. The South soon became concerned as to what other means Northerners would use to get their way and with tensions already thick things quickly became out of control.

In summation the Civil War had multiple causes but the immediate sparks that lead to the civil war include the election of Lincoln, The publishing of Uncle Tom's Cabin, and John Browns raid. Although the issue over La Amistad was a contribution factor it was not an immediate spark.