

Brown and Turner

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Legacy of Nat Turner and John Brown

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3 Legacy of Nat Turner and John Brown

5 The paper discusses two freedom fighters; Nat Turner and John Brown. The two fought against black slavery through violent acts. Despite them using violence to fight for freedom, the paper considers them to be legends and champions of justice and equality.

Nat Turner acted heroically to free the black slaves in the South. There was no other way to liberate the blacks from the hands of whites. Nat Turner's attempt to liberate the blacks would have yielded successful results. His move instilled fear among the whites, which proved to them that the African Americans were not weak as they thought. Despite Nat Turner's death, I believe that he showed the rest of the African American community that their liberation depends on them. Violence was their only means to freedom, to fight for their rights, and show the whites their true strength¹.

John Brown was an Abolitionist from Torrington, Connecticut who started interacting with abolitionists at the young age of five. He was born on May 9, 1800 and grew up in a Christian family. The middle-class white man had a robust belief in human rights, and was concerned about people's lives facing injustice and oppression. The *Dred Scott v. Sanford* case was ruled against the black American slaves. The ruling stated that they were not citizens and couldn't be protected by the constitution. To Brown, the ruling was corrupt, and the only way to liberate the black Americans could be through violence. He organized a group to help his raids. He received funds from the "Secret Six" he invaded several white settlers, killed them, and liberated the slaves.

¹ Nat Turner was heroic in freeing black slaves from the South. He instilled fear among the whites. He also demonstrated to the blacks that the only way they would get freedom was through violence. Sometimes violence is the only way of getting freedom. Therefore, I believe Turner was right to use violence for him to get liberty.

The trial of Dred Scott instigated John Brown's rebellion against the whites. The court ruled in favor of Sanford and stated that African Americans were not American citizens and the constitution never protected them. Brown wouldn't petition, talk freely about the slaves' freedom or write letters leaving him with no other choice. Turners grew as a black slave with a deep hatred for slavery. He believed that God chose him to free the blacks from the whites. In my opinion, their rebellion was a success. Their actions passed a message that African Americans needed to be free, which helped to pave the way for movements that fought against racial discrimination in the United States.

Brown and Turner fought for the liberation of the African Americans². They were strong Christians and believers in the name of God. They confronted white slavery with violence by organizing groups that, with their help, attacked slave owners and freed the slaves. They were killed by hanging. However, they differed in various ways. Brown was a middle-class white man while Turner was a black slave to Joseph Travis. Brown pushed his war against slavery to the North while Turner to the South. Brown's body was ferried to his wife after he was hanged, received a decent burial, and after that, a monument was built in memory of John Brown's achievements. On the contrary, Turner was hanged, the surgeons skinned and dissected his body before the crowd as a lesson to other African Americans who would make such an attempt. Brown was regarded as a crazy terrorist who betrayed his race, while Turner was a hero who fought for his people's freedom.

² Brown and Turner were similar in that both fought for the liberation of African Americans. They were also Christian believers and confronted slavery with violence. Both were killed by hanging. One of the differences between the two is that Brown was a middle-class white man while Turner was a black slave to Joseph Travis.

Nat Turner and John Brown should be remembered as black legends³. They worked towards freeing the African Americans. John Brown was labeled a traitor for fighting for the blacks' freedom despite being white. He didn't follow the whites' deeds against the blacks, making him an outstanding freedom fighter. Nat Turner as a slave, managed to influence his followers to fight against the whites. He never feared for his life but was focused on delivering the blacks considering that slaves were required to remain loyal to the whites.

In conclusion, Turner and Brown's tactic against the whites proved to be the only way to free the African Americans. Brown played a significant role by showing that the evil behind racial discrimination despite being white. They showed that the blacks deserved to be treated just like other Americans. The lives of African Americans matters, and they shouldn't face any form of racial discrimination.

³ Nat Turner and John Brown should be remembered as legends and black freedom fighters. John Brown was thought to be a traitor because he fought for the freedom of African American's despite being white. However, he is remembered as an icon of justice and equality.

Bibliography

² Easter, Chelsea E. "RACE AND THE REVOLUTIONARIES: HOW RACIAL IDENTITY HAS DETERMINED THE LEGACY OF NAT TURNER AND JOHN BROWN." *SUPPORTING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES* (2011): 706.

Work cited

¹ Easter, Chelsea E. "RACE AND THE REVOLUTIONARIES: HOW RACIAL IDENTITY HAS DETERMINED THE LEGACY OF NAT TURNER AND JOHN BROWN." *SUPPORTING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES* (2011): 706-722

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