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## From Slavery to Freedom

### Chapter 10

This chapter highlights the uneven federal guidelines, which developed into opposition to Lincoln's policies. Most individuals from the north supported warfare to reinstate union but not a campaign to end slavery. The fear of slave departure fueled these hostilities between the black and white workers to the northern cities and the rising job competitions. Consequently, the military draft commenced a four-day riot in New York City. Rioters were inflamed by the sight of black individuals in army attire and agonized by militant abolitionists who were critical to the Republican Party and Lincoln for failing to take an uncompromising position on slavery. They were disappointed by shifting policies towards slaves who had escaped to Union lines during the initial year of the war. Lincoln expressed concern and discouraged declarations of freedom for fear of losing the slave-owning border nations (Franklin & Higginbotham, 2017). On the contrary, he recommended that the US administration collaborates with any government proposal that progressively unrestrained slaves and compensated slave proprietors in 1869 as his contingency plan. However, this recommendation was denounced by both parties leading to its failure.

Lincoln considered an executive directive of freeing all slaves and issued the order for all slaves held in rebel states to be freed beginning of 1863. However, freedom did not come fully because rebel slave proprietors did not feel obliged to Lincoln's announcement. This setback leads to the establishment of the thirteen amendments aiming at abolishing slavery. However, the shift from slavery to freedom presented challenges to both the army and the free but deprived blacks coming over federal lines. However, there was fear of arming blacks amongst the whites.

Nonetheless, the secretary of war directed the army to employ escapee slaves who would be used for service roles. In 1862, President Davis issued a directive that all captured slaves should be delivered to their home state and punished lawfully. Consequently, Lincoln ordered that for every Union soldier killed in the desecration of the law, a rebel soldier would be executed, and for each union soldier imprisoned, a rebellious prisoner would be put to hard labor. However, Union executives maintained that apprehended blacks should be handled as detainees of war. In 1865, the confederate army's yielded, bringing an end to three eras of black enslavement in North America. Therefore, the history of civil war gives context to current issues like the recent police brutality experienced in the United States, which led to the adoption of the famous black lives matter movement.

## Chapter 11

Lincoln's ten percent presidential reconstruction plan was to settle the conflict between congress and the president over who was to set the conditions of the south's readmission. His plan allowed the readmission of states if a tenth of qualified voters swore allegiance to the United States and acknowledged the eradication of slavery. However, conflicts commenced between two branches because of Andrew Johnson's policies after he became president. He wanted to abandon black suffrage up to the states and began ordering restoration policy. On the contrary, southern states started passing laws that restrained black independence and bore similarities to the slave codes. In 1865, the south voted many allied leaders to represent them in congress, and republicans under Thaddeus Stevens recommended that congress take over reconstruction. Congress later approved the civil, constitutional rights act over Johnson's veto and gave centralized statutory safety in contrast to the black Codes.

As a result, diverse northern interests began promoting the empowerment of black men leading to the continuation of the fight between the president and congress. This phenomenon led to the political mobilization of blacks against presidential reconstruction. It gave rise to radical reconstruction, which saw ex-confederate states divide into five military districts under the matrimonial law. Each state held a constitutional agreement based on widespread male suffrage—additionally, the fifteenth amendment protracted suffrage to black men constructing a black electorate in the former confederation (Franklin & Higginbotham, 2017). Similarly, black women were active in getting out the votes and were also vocal in political discussions. However, white supremacist secret communities grew and used illegal and extra-legal means to deny blacks equality. Struggles to outlaw organizations and stop the violence proved to be unsuccessful. Although blacks were defiant to the threats, they stayed at home, and the political authority shifted to the democrats. These events consequently give context to modern-day slavery experienced worldwide today. Some people come up with policies that are primarily beneficial to them because most people are illiterate.

## Reference

Higginbotham, E., & Franklin, J. H. (2017). *From Slavery to Freedom* (9th Ed.). McGraw-Hill Education.

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