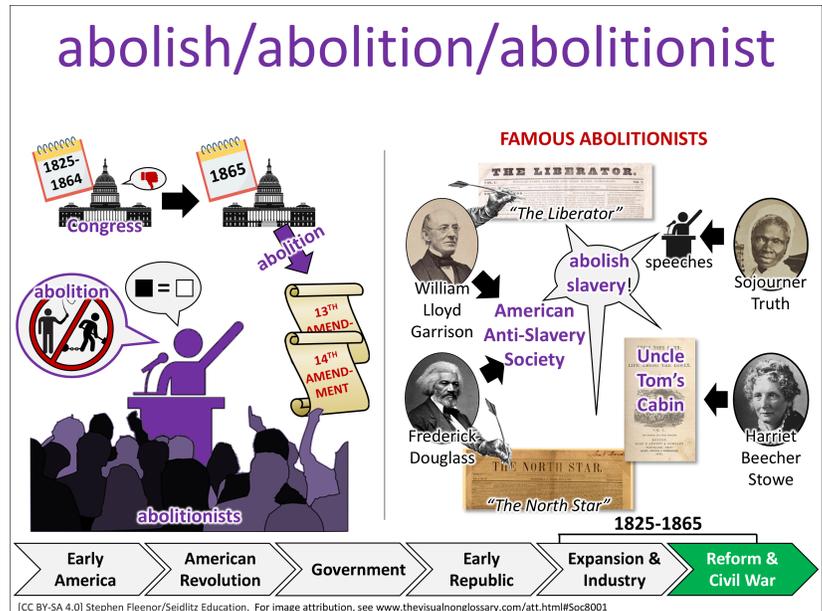


The Abolition Movement in America

The purpose for reading is to understand the strategies and actions taken by abolitionists and the American Anti-Slavery Society that led to the abolition of slavery through the 13th Amendment.

Pay Attention To:

- Actions taken by abolitionists to end slavery
- The role of the American Anti-Slavery Society in the movement
- How Congress responded to the abolition movement
- Events leading to the passage of the 13th Amendment



During the 1800s, the **abolition** movement grew as more people began speaking out against **slavery** in the United States. **Abolitionists** believed that owning other human beings was morally wrong and worked tirelessly to end the practice. They used speeches, pamphlets, and petitions to persuade others to join their cause.

One of the most influential works of the time was **Uncle Tom's Cabin**, a novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe. The book depicted the harsh realities of **slavery** and stirred emotions across the nation. Many readers in the North, who had never witnessed **slavery** firsthand, began to see it as a moral crisis that demanded action.

Groups like the **American Anti-Slavery Society** organized public meetings, printed newspapers, and supported the freedom of enslaved people. Members of the society often faced threats and violence, but they continued their work. This organization gave **abolitionists** a united voice, making their movement stronger and more visible.

Even with growing pressure, **Congress** was slow to act. Economic interests, political tensions, and deep divisions between the North and South delayed decisions. It was not until the Civil War and the passage of the **13th Amendment** in 1865 that **Congress** finally moved to **abolish slavery** nationwide.

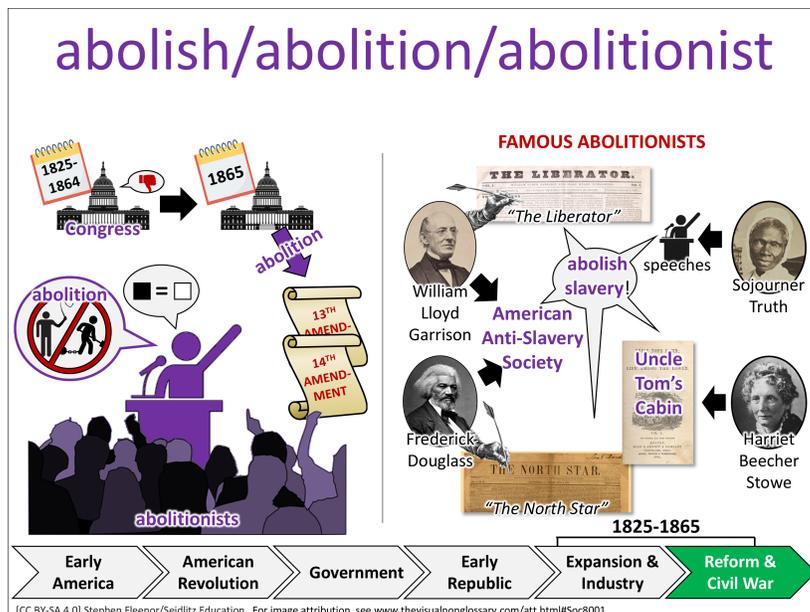


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From the early 1600s, **slavery** was part of the American economy and society. Enslaved Africans were brought to the **colonies** and forced to work on plantations, especially in the South, where crops like cotton and tobacco required large amounts of labor. Over time, **slavery** became deeply rooted in the nation's laws, economy, and culture. Many people in the South defended it as necessary for their way of life, while others in the North began to question its morality.

By the early 1800s, a growing number of Americans began to demand an end to **slavery**. This movement became known as **abolition**. **Abolitionists** believed it was morally wrong for one person to own another and worked tirelessly to bring about change. They used speeches, pamphlets, and petitions to persuade others to join their cause and push for new laws.

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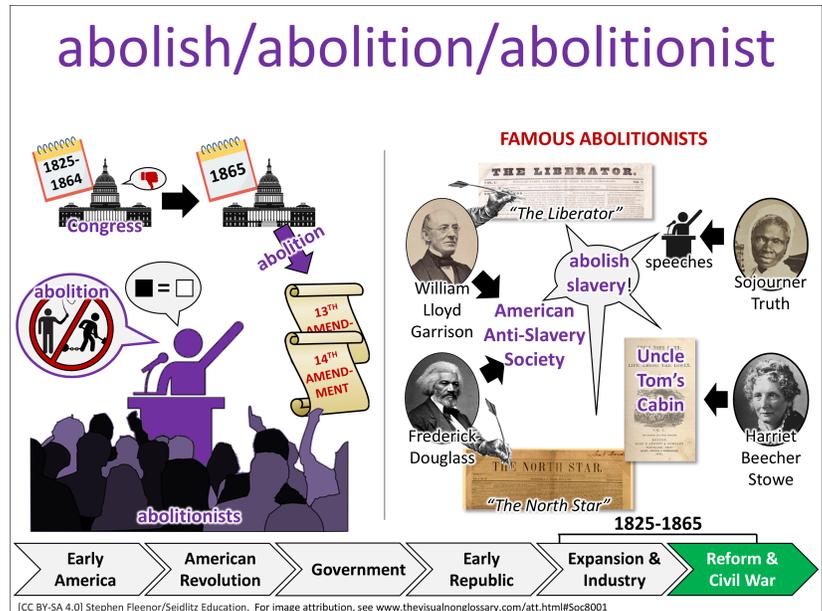


From Colonies to Freedom: The Fight Against Slavery

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Beginning in the early 1600s, **slavery** was a defining feature of the American economy and society. Enslaved Africans were transported to the **colonies** and compelled to labor on plantations, particularly in the South, where crops like cotton, rice, and tobacco fueled economic growth. Over generations, **slavery** became entrenched in legal systems, economic structures, and cultural norms. Southern leaders defended it as vital to their prosperity, while growing numbers in the North condemned it as a moral injustice.

By the turn of the 19th century, the movement to end **slavery**—known as **abolition**—gained momentum. **Abolitionists** organized speaking tours, wrote persuasive essays, and lobbied lawmakers to enact change. They framed **slavery** not merely as a political issue but as a violation of human rights.

The 1852 publication of **Uncle Tom's Cabin** by Harriet Beecher Stowe intensified national debate. Its vivid portrayal of enslaved life awakened public conscience,

especially in the North, and expanded the ranks of those demanding reform.

Central to this effort was the **American Anti-Slavery Society**, which coordinated nationwide campaigns, printed thousands of pamphlets, and aided escape efforts for enslaved individuals. Though their activism invited harassment and violence, members persisted, forging a unified voice for freedom.

Despite mounting public pressure, **Congress** resisted decisive action for decades. Only amid the upheaval of the Civil War did lawmakers pass the **13th Amendment** in 1865, permanently **abolishing slavery** throughout the United States.

