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VÁLKY**

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**THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF THE AMERICAN
CIVIL WAR**

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Prohlašuji, že jsem práci vypracoval/a samostatně s použitím uvedené literatury a zdrojů informací.

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ABSTRACT

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The object of this undergraduate thesis is to track the events and historical development of the United States before and during the years 1861-1865 and to discover the causes and effects that led to the American Civil War and that followed. The thesis is divided into five main parts based on the historical succession. The first part of the thesis points out the most important and most significant reasons how and why the Civil War started, it gives several reasons for the war making slavery the most important one and making it the main issue that alienated both the North and the South. The second part describes the historical timeline of the war pointing out the most important battles and characters that were directly involved in the battles and that were changing the history of the United States. The third part describes the differences in economy that were also one of the reasons for the war along with the social changes that are part of the fourth section of the work where the main focus is again on the question of slavery and the rights of African-Americans and also the social status of women in America during the war and afterwards is mentioned. The next part focuses on President Lincoln and his views on slavery. It images Lincoln in a slightly different way. The work shows that Lincoln was not such an abolitionist the majority of people may think.

Keywords: Civil War, Abraham Lincoln, slavery, economics, rights of blacks, Union, Confederacy, USA

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1. INTRODUCTION

The American Civil War was an event that divided the nation and that embedded into American history. The main part of the conflict, the war itself, began in 1861 and lasted until 1865 with two sides fighting against each other. The Confederacy in the South and the Union in the North. Despite the fact that this event was horrible and is considered to be one of the bloodiest wars in the history of the United States, it helped to form a single and unified country and also helped to abolish slavery and create an industrial country as well as making the industrial capitalists a dominant group in the nation.

Long before the actual conflict the question of slavery was brought up. According to Todd & Curti, (1986) slavery existed in the territories nearly hundred years before the Civil War. It died out in the North due to the different economy, but on the other hand it grew in the South as cheap manpower was needed because of the agriculture in the region and the manual labor at plantations. Territorial crisis and the question of slavery in the states grew because of new lands that were acquired during time and that were to become states. These states were declared either slave or free whilst sustaining the balance between the two. The main aim was to balance the number of free and slave states. The Missouri Compromise or the Compromise of 1850 tried to maintain this balance. After these compromises the citizens of these states gained popular sovereignty which allowed them to decide what status the state would have. According to Opatrný (1986), the reasons for war i.e. sectionalism, territorial crisis and elections, but the question of slavery was undoubtedly the main reason for the conflict.

The question of slavery among the states escalated even before the actual conflict in 1860, when the Republican Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States. Right after the inauguration of the President the southern states started to secede from the Union. After the secession of the states they formed the Confederate States of America with Jefferson Davis as its president and two different hostile territories were formed which eventually led to war.

In 1861 the war started and during the first years of the war, many battles were won by the Confederate army that was led by General Lee. The Union lacked a person that would be skilled in combat and tactics and that is the reason the North was not successful in the first part of the war. In 1863 things changed in Virginia and Maryland and the Union started to gain strength and the outcome of the battles turned. In the same year the emancipation proclamation was signed by Abraham Lincoln which freed the slaves and banned slavery among all states that were part of the Union. This was also the reason for

blacks to join the army because they wanted to free the black people from the South, their families. In the same year an important battle of Gettysburg took place in Maryland, where General Robert Edward Lee was defeated. Shortly after in 1865 the Civil War ended with the Confederacy defeated. Slavery was abolished but hatred among some of the people towards the blacks remained. The African-Americans then started to pursue their rights to be equal to the white race. The American Civil War was the reason for many changes in the social and economic sphere. This is connected with the rights of black people and equality between men and women and the changes in the economies both in the north and south.

The American President, Abraham Lincoln was an important character in American history and the first republican president. He was a smart politician and he wanted the nation to be united at all costs. He was in charge of the country during the civil war and shortly after murdered in Ford's Theatre during a play which he attended.

The aim of this thesis is to provide a thorough analysis of the main events that led to and caused the American Civil War, the economics on both sides that were so vastly different and also the changes in social and economic situation in the country before and after the conflict. The idea is to point out the main causes and reasons of such an important and significant conflict that helped to shape the American society as we know it. It also gives a timeline of the events during the war that were the cause for the social changes among women's rights and self-awareness.

2. EVENTS THAT LED TO THE START OF THE WAR

According to Todd & Curti (1986), the confederate forces started the attack on Fort Sumter on the 12th of April 1861 starting a conflict that was a result of years of crisis deepening and the differences between the northern and southern part of the nation. The American Civil War as the conflict is named lasted four years from 1861 until 1865 and resulted in massive American casualties on both sides and was in fact the only conflict fought on American ground until today. Even though the nation was still formally one country, in reality it was devastated and nearly torn apart by this event. The conflict was cruel, but it helped unify the nation for the future. According to Johnson (2000), the true American nation was formed by this war.

After the Civil War ended, slavery was banned but the Southern states were damaged by the war, because most of the battles were fought on their ground. As written, the conflict did not start immediately, it was a result of a few dominant and different factors that alienated the two fractions long time before the conflict and delayed the war for years (Todd & Curti, 1986).

Slavery as one of the dominant factors of the war was absolutely legal and dominant in the South where mostly black slaves worked in fields and on farms, while in the northern part of the country slavery was made illegal in 1777 with the constitution of Vermont which was then followed by the Emancipation Act in 1780. Slavery was banned across the northern countries at the beginning of the 19th century. This was because of the abolitionists. This group of people was not active just during the Civil War but they have been present much earlier while gaining more support at the start of the 19th century. The main goal of the abolitionist movement was to abolish slavery and free the African-Americans in the South and improve the social status of blacks (Opatrný, 1986).

When taken from the beginning, settling and building a new nation began on the East Coast as the settlers from Europe proceeded and continued to the west. As new states were added after reaching a certain population in a particular area, the question of slavery was to be debated in each and every territory. In the 1850's the US would accept 400,000 immigrants annually. These immigrants would find jobs in the factories in the North or they would own farms in the South. In the South, the rich men would own slaves to work on their farms, while the North was against slavery. The balance between free and slave states was very fragile and this stability was destroyed by the Louisiana Purchase at the beginning of the 19th century. At that time the territory was empty so it could not be considered a state which just delayed the debates whether the territory would be slave or

not. The population limit in a territory before becoming a state was 60,000 inhabitants. Eventually Louisiana became a slave state in 1818 and in 1821 joined the Union. The northerner abolitionists did not care whether slavery would be banned in the South, as long as it stayed out of the northern colonies. The northerners were partially dependent on the south because they gave jobs to the people of the North. Northerners bought cotton from the southern states, processed it into fabrics and clothes and sold it back to the South for more money (Morkesová, 1994).

Territories throughout the nation pursued the idea of becoming states along with Missouri and Maine in 1820. The states were very different from one another. Missouri was a slave territory in the very South while Maine was free in the far north. To maintain the equality between the slave and free states senator Thomas proposed that Missouri would become a slave state and Maine would become free while the rest of the Louisiana territory would be also free. The main idea was to sustain the balance between the two (Todd & Curti, 1986).

Many politicians and institutions wanted to somehow declare where slavery was legal and otherwise. One of these early attempts to declare slave and free states was the Missouri Compromise that showed where is the border between slave and non-slave states. The Missouri Compromise that was declared in 1820 was an imaginary boundary that defined the position of free and slave states due to its geographical location. Missouri Compromise line¹ went through the parallel 36°30' north. This designation was acceptable by the southerners because their agriculture needed a specific climate to grow cotton and tobacco and this climate bordered at that line. To the north of the border the states would be free while to the south they would be slave (Todd & Curti, 1986).

The Missouri Compromise held the states in peace for more than two decades until 1840's, when the Mexican-American War started. During 1846-1848, the United States acquired more than 1,300,000 sq. km of land ("Mexican-American War, "2015).

During the Mexican-American War, the debates over the spreading of slavery arose again because the Missouri Compromise did not include new territory gained from the conflict. Classifying the new states would not be possible with the Missouri compromise. According to Rocca (1990), when the American-Mexican War was to end, the land acquired would include i.e. Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas, Utah and Wyoming. Soon after the war started it was obvious that if America would win the war, vast lands would be

¹ See appendix A

added to the nation. As written above the problem was that the Missouri Compromise from 1820 divided just the states that were part of the United States at that time, not newly acquired lands and again the debates over the spreading of slavery started and heated up the cauldron. David Wilmot, a young representative, who was absolutely against slavery came up with a plan, later on called the Wilmot Proviso, which declared that not one part of the newly acquired lands would support slavery. Despite the fact that it came up in the Congress many times, it did not pass because northerners voted for the Proviso and the southerners voted against it. Voting ended in a draw every single time because of the equality among the voters of the North and the South. The southerners did not want the territories to be proclaimed as free states because they would lose their power and would be outvoted. The population in the North was growing faster than in the South and so the abolitionist groups were growing stronger. As written above, the main task for the southerners was then to maintain their number and prevent the newly acquired territories from joining the free states.

To settle the situation Congressman Henry Clay came with a solution that would solve the debates over the territory gained from the Mexican War. Clay did not like slavery but his only aim was to help the two opposing fractions come to a diplomatic solution of the dispute and he actually believed that the Compromise of 1850 that he proclaimed would settle the struggle permanently. Clay had previous experience from 1820 when helping to form the Missouri Compromise and from that he is called the Great Compromiser (Rocca, 1990).

The debate over the territories lasted for nearly 9 months when it finally came to an end and the Compromise of 1850 passed. It solved the problem of slavery in the newly acquired lands and many people thought that this act would settle the question of slavery forever. The Compromise also included the Fugitive Slave Law which prohibited people to aid the slaves that had fled from the slave states and also allowed capturing these slaves and then deporting them back to their owners. People in the free states would even make a living out of this slave law and known as the Slave Catchers, they would pursue and catch the slaves that had fled and would receive a reward from the rich southerners that owned the slaves for help bringing their slave back. Not every northerner would obey this law fortunately, some abolitionists would help the slaves escape from the southern area and help them even though it would, if they were caught, result in a fine or spending some time in jail. Abolitionists also developed a web of shelters and helpers called the "Underground

Railroad” that was formed in first half of the 19th century and helped black slaves free the southern states (Hart, 1905).

Thanks to the Compromise of 1850 the situation between the northerners and southerners cooled down but not for long. Events, which separated the nation more and more apart started almost two years after the Compromise. Two years after the 1850 Compromise a politician from Illinois Stephen Douglas wrote the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The act cancelled the Missouri Compromise from 1820, because it allowed citizens of every state to decide for themselves whether the state would join slave or free states. This was called popular sovereignty. It resulted in massive immigration of settlers from North and the South to the territories of Kansas and Nebraska (Rocca, 1990).

Violence began after the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854 which cancelled the Missouri Compromise and changed the political situation. The Kansas-Nebraska Act allowed the people of the new states that were established from the territories to choose whether they would be slave or not. This was a temporary solution to the problem of classifying the new territories that would become states after the American-Mexican War. The beating of Senator Sumner, the main objector of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, also deepened the tensions between the North and the South (Todd & Curti, 1986).

Later on, California entered the Union as a free state, Utah and New Mexico were bounded as territories and in these, if becoming states, people would decide, if the states would be free or slave. California was a free state also because of the Gold Rush. Due to this, during just two years California had a population overgrowing 60,000 people. For comparison, other states needed a couple of decades to reach this number (Johnson, 2000).

The Kansas-Nebraska act of 1854 called for separation of the territory. The two future states were to the north of the Missouri Compromise line and so they were to be free states. As written above, the Kansas-Nebraska act stated that people of these states would decide for themselves because of popular sovereignty. The southerners were happy because it would mean that neither of the new territories would become free which would have happened if Kansas-Nebraska Act did not exist. But at the same time, the northerners were concerned because if now the Missouri compromise would not relate to new territories there was no certainty that this would not continue and that the South would gain slave territories in the North. But for now the Kansas-Nebraska act was accepted by the South and forwarded and written into law (Johnson, 2000).

When popular sovereignty was allowed, now two territories that were partially empty were ready for settling and both parties northerners and southerners started to send people to these parts of the land to settle the territories. Both sides wanted to declare the state as theirs. When fighting for a new land, there were two ways of how to approach it. Via diplomacy and negotiations or via force and violence. Unfortunately in Kansas the second option was very frequent. Both parties coming to Kansas from different sides formed their own government and tried to capture Kansas. Soon the fighting between the two sides started. Kansas was a territory that was without an authority and this led to a crucial and major event known as Bleeding Kansas. This included violent confrontations between the pro-slavers and abolitionists (Rocca, 1990).

The two groups started fighting around 1856 when a small civil war raged in the state of Kansas. In 1856 the city of Lawrence was attacked by the pro-slavery fraction, demolishing a local Free State Hotel, burning down the governor's mansion and throwing the printing machines of the local newspaper into the river (Johnson, 2000).

Other sources say that the abolitionists started the struggle. That when a sheriff that was against slavery visited the town of Lawrence was shot and that the pro-slavery people were just performing revenge (Opatrný, 1986).

Almost immediately after the events in Kansas, a new political party, the Republicans, was established. While also Kansas was now a warzone instead of a land of peace, fighting went on between the slaveholders and abolitionists. From both fractions people were pouring into the territory and tried to proclaim the land as theirs. This struggle ignited a fuse that led to a war that was not to end until 1865; a war that divided the nation and drove the people of one nation against each other (Todd & Curti, 1986).

According to Johnson (2000), after the fighting in Kansas the situation was very harsh and events that happened from the end of Bleeding Kansas until the election in 1860 were just more and more driving the nation into war. One of these events was the beating of Senator Sumner. Sumner offended his colleague A.P. Butler. After the speech that took place the day after the attack on Lawrence, Sumner was beaten by Butler's nephew, Preston Brooks, with a stick. Sumner was left lying in his own blood and unconscious. The injuries and shock were so severe that it took almost two years for Sumner to recover. The southerners supported Brooks and even though he committed a crime and resigned afterwards he was then reelected and supported by the South. Many sent him new walking sticks the same ones that he used to beat Sumner to show that he was praised for his action.

Another event that also led to the start of the war was the Dred Scott Decision. This decision, named after one of the slaves, was presented just two days after the inauguration of President Buchanan, elected in 1856, before Lincoln. The problem was that Dred Scott, a slave in the free territory of Wisconsin, wanted to be free and not the property of Eliza Emerson, a slaveholder. To achieve freedom, he passed his case to the Supreme Court that decided that Dred Scott was not to be free because he was not a citizen of the US and through this he did not have the right to even sue somebody. This court also declared that the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional. The Kansas Nebraska Act opened new opportunities for creating new farms and fields and this also lowered the price of slaves in the US while boosting the economy of the country. This decision was warmly accepted by the South while the northerners were outraged (Johnson, 2000).

The country was feeling uncertain because of many things that happened in the last few years. At the end of 1850s it was obvious that spreading slavery to the West was just pure utopia and that the southern economy would suffer massive recession also because of their primary export attribute – cotton. In 1858 more states joined the Union – Minnesota and Oregon. This adding destroyed the balance between the free and slave states that was artificially created by the Kansas Nebraska act. From now on the free states devoted the South by 147 votes against 90 so for the North it was not a problem to outvote the southerners (Hart, 1905).

One of the events that separated the country was John Brown's Raid. According to Todd & Curti (1986), in 1859 a Christian devotee Mr. John "Old" Brown, who he thought was chosen by God himself to get rid of slavery, gathered and armed men and attacked the city of Harper's Ferry. They slaughtered men with swords. It took more than 200 lives and millions of dollars in damage before the government sent in support and helped to restore peace and order in the area. This raid was to be the start of a slave rebellion in Virginia. The town was a manufacturing center for ammunition, guns, rifles and that was the reason for beginning the raid right there. John Brown wanted to capture this building and arm the slaves with weapons and start the rebellion that would spread nationwide and would free the slaves. He gathered a party of around 20 men and began the raid. Unfortunately, this plan did not work out well because he and his men were captured. Brown, was then sentenced to death by hanging because of murder and offence against the Commonwealth of Virginia. For many people, Brown was a hero because of his bravery. This raid however upset the southerners and they now thought that the north was to end slavery. Up until now the city of Harper's Ferry has been a sightseeing place with Brown's museum.

The year 1860 was a year of great election which then drove the south to recession and the Civil War. The election was a contest between four men: Stephen Douglas (Northern Democrats, 12 votes), John Breckinridge (Southern Democrats, 72 votes), John Bell from Tennessee (Constitutional Union Party, earlier the Whig party, 39 votes), and Republican Abraham Lincoln. The Whig party, at this time was not in a good condition and many of the members voted for Democrats. Lincoln won the elections with 180 votes (Todd & Curti, 1986).

According to Johnson (2000), the southern disagreement with the election came almost immediately, more precisely it came three days after the election results were published, long before Lincoln was inaugurated. On the 20th of December 1860 the first state left the Union. It was South Carolina, where the debate whether to remain in the Union or not took place. A week later Georgia followed South Carolina and until the end of January 1862, it was obvious that every southern state will leave the Union. At this time President Buchanan was about to leave the White House and things were about to change. It was on the 12th of April when the southern states wanted to take over Fort Sumter and the war started. The war that started in Kansas between the two opposing sides – the abolitionists and pro-slavers was about to erupt throughout the country and would last until 1865 (Křížek, 1994).

3. THE CIVIL WAR

According to Todd & Curti (1986), the Civil war started with a bombardment of Fort Sumter in South Carolina in 1861. The fort's commander, Robert Anderson was forced to surrender two days later after a non-stop bombardment from a floating battery of the southern forces. It was upon Lincoln, how he would react and what consequences this violent act would have. This was the start of the war and three days after Anderson left the fort, Lincoln called for help from the states of the Union. He called for backup and thought that 75,000 men would be enough to stop the revolt. This attack was taken by the South as the beginning of the war. Virginia as known as the cradle of independence wanted to settle this argument in a peaceful way and many Americans sympathized with this idea but there was no diplomatic solution to the attack and no peaceful outcome. Eventually Virginia joined the South on April 17, 1861, because Virginia was against Lincoln's violence. As the states seceded the Confederation had eleven members, but other states such as Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland and Missouri were to choose which side they would join. Delaware was not economically or militarily important but the exact opposite was Maryland. Maryland wanted to be neutral, but this was not acceptable for the Union. Particularly because Baltimore, the capital of Maryland, had the biggest and most important naval ports in the US and it also had the train lines that connected New York and Washington and that were used by the military. This was very important for the Union because of their industrial economy and if Baltimore was a part of the Confederacy, Confederate forces would have been granted the access to a railroad that led right into Washington. The Confederate forces were preparing an attack on the capital of the Union, Washington. The diplomatic negotiations about connecting Baltimore to the Union were not successful and therefore it was captured on the 14th of May, 1861 and from this time it was part of the Union. Kentucky had almost the same value for both sides as Maryland but it paid for its indecisiveness. This state had been neutral which led to a series of political and military conflicts which would affect the land in the upcoming years. The last one was Missouri. Despite the fact that Lincoln obtained only 10% of all of the votes here, Missouri joined the Union and in the summer of 1861 there was no state that would remain neutral. The Union had 23 states and population over 20 million people and seem to have advantage over the South with just 11 states and 10 million inhabitants.

According to Opatrný (1998), the main goal of the Confederation was to attack Washington and proclaim their independence while sustaining slavery among their states. The Union knew that the confederate forces were planning an attack so they began to

gather forces for defense. Many politicians at this time could not believe that the war would be raging between the states on their own ground.

According to Rocca (1990), Lincoln said that the war is “a People's contest...a struggle for maintaining in the world, that form, and substance of government, whose leading object is, to elevate the condition of men...” (p.405).

According to Křížek (1994), the first major land battle was fought just a few months after the start of the Civil War. The Union thought that they would win the battle for the Manassas railroad because the southerner Army had only about 20,000 men. At this time many groups of men had volunteered into the army formed in Washington under the command of General Irvin McDowell. McDowell's attack on the Confederate forces had been approved and on July 16 the army began to march upon the battle of Bull Run which is named after a creek that was nearby. This battle is commonly referred to as the battle of amateurs because both North and South had just poorly trained soldiers. The troops went only through the most basic military training and were able to handle guns but nothing more. They were recruited shortly after the start of the Civil War, so their contracts were to end shortly and that was also reflected in their motivation for fighting. On the 18th of July the soldiers arrived at Centreville. Daniel Tyler as the leader of one division counting up to 8000 men was to perform an exploration of the surroundings of Bull Run, but he attacked the enemy with the army instead.

The battle began on July 21, 1861 and mostly took place at Henry House Hill which was a strategic point for both sides. The Unionists had their own cannons on top of the hill but they lost them to the Confederates. Both armies consisted mostly from amateurs were not able to handle the battle. The Unionists panicked and did not retreat but fled in chaos. This also included many other civilians that were spectators to this battle. When they saw their army flee, they did the same thing to save themselves. On the other hand the southerners who won the battle had a chance to conquer the capital city of Washington that was just 50 km away but blinded by their own victory they did not pursue the Unionists. The first major battle was won by the Confederate Army. It was also because of one man, Thomas Jonathan Jackson a West Point graduate and one of the best generals in the American Civil War, began his career right there (Křížek, 1994).

After this defeat of the northerners at Bull Run people started to blame the general that led the soldiers, McDowell for the loss. This was a time of great unease and panic within the White House. For most people it was obvious that the White house and Washington would be conquered soon and therefore people surrendered to the South.

Lincoln and McClellan a new general recruited from West Virginia were working on improvement. The two main priorities were to train better soldiers and to protect Baltimore. At this time the South was celebrating victory at the first battle even though many historians wrote that this battle ended in a draw because neither one of the armies finished their job. Many preparations and changes in the North took place after the battle of Bull Run, but the southerners were somehow lax and did not commence any other attacks (Opatrný, 1998).

According to Opatrný (1998), it was a mistake not to utilize the victory at Bull Run to take over Washington, maybe the war would end in a different scenario and in a shorter time. But for this time Washington was controlled by the Union and the battles then moved from the East to the West. In 1862 the first battles were fought in the West. These were different because the Unionists attacked the enemy forts, i. e. Columbus, Fort Henry, and Fort Donelson, from the river and battle boats. Fort Henry was then conquered by the Union in February 1862 in western Tennessee. This was the first clash where, to this time an unknown person Ulysses Grant joined the battle. As many of the generals at that time he was a West Point graduate and he had had gained experience in the Mexican War. After the Battle at Fort Henry, his career began. Soon the situation in Kentucky changed dramatically. The Union gained control of important places in the state because of Ulysses Grant. He was then praised in the press as the “Unconditional Surrender” Grant because of his comment about the terms of surrender when attacking Forts Henry and Donelson.

Grant then continued south and on April 6, 1862 the Union Army was attacked by the Confederate army counting 40,000 men in the early morning hours in the battle of Shiloh. This time the southerners were led by General Johnston and came close to actually defeating the Unionist Army. The northerner Army was locked between a river and the southern troops but in the end they lost because in the last minute the northern army was supported by fresh forces. The battle of Shiloh is thought to be the bloodiest battle of the war. Both sides suffered massive casualties. The day after the battle, the burials began. Over 20,000 men died the day before, 12,000 Unionists and 8,000 Confederates. The first phase of the Civil War was over. Many American women lost their men in this battle and it greatly affected them in the upcoming years (Rocca, 1990).

According to Opatrný (1998), McClellan who was best known for preparing men for the army of Potomac which was the major army in the American Civil War and which also involved the soldiers fighting and actually losing in the battle of Bull Run had many disputes with President Lincoln over his skills and abilities. McClellan was capable of

training 70,000 men and preparing them for battle. His disputes with the President originated from the different views of the war between these two men. Lincoln wanted to use force, while McClellan was against violence and he wanted to end the war quickly. He wanted to end the war with a diplomatic solution – banning slavery in the South via laws. Lincoln was blaming McClellan for not progressing in the East even though his army was bigger than the army of the enemy. At the end of January, the new Secretary of War was appointed. He was Edwin M. Stanton. Lincoln and Stanton were not good friends but when Stanton became the minister of war, the economic situation changed because the war business with overpriced supplies ended.

After appointing the new War General, President Lincoln issued the General War Order No. 1 that commenced the attack on confederate positions and began an attack that was launched on the 22nd of February 1862.

As Lincoln (1862) wrote:

Ordered, That the 22d day of February, 1862, be the day for a general movement of the land and naval forces of the United States against the insurgent forces; that especially the army at and about Fortress Monroe. The Army of the Potomac, the Army of Western Virginia, the army near Munfordville, Ky., the army and flotilla at Cairo, and a naval force in the Gulf of Mexico were ready to move on that day. That all other forces, both land and naval, with their respective commanders, obey existing orders for the time and be ready to obey additional orders when duly given. That the heads of Departments, and especially the Secretaries of War and of the Navy, with all their subordinates, and the General in Chief, with all other commanders and subordinates of land and naval forces, will severally be held to their strict and full responsibilities for prompt execution of this order.

In March 1862 Lincoln ordered McClellan to begin an advance toward the capital of the Confederates, Richmond. McClellan was responsible for training the troops and he did well. In a matter of months the troops were fully ready for battle and could be called soldiers which was not the case in the first battle of Bull Run. McClellan had 100,000 men ready to take Richmond. The soldiers advanced very cautiously but the Confederate Army began the attack. The battle that came as a result of this clash lasted for almost seven days, from June 26 to July 2nd. Yet again, the Union Army was defeated and forced to retreat (Morkesová, 1994).

According to Todd & Curti (1986), the next major battle was fought on the 17th of September, 1862 near Antietam Creek and was the bloodiest one-day battle in US history. The battle under the commandment of Lee and McClellan left 23 000 men dead or wounded. Robert Edward Lee was considered one of the best generals of the 19th century, he was also a West Point graduate. He gained experience in battles in the Mexican War but is mostly known for leading the Confederate forces in the American Civil War. General Lee was forced to retreat near Antietam Creek and this is considered as the key victory for the Union. That was from one particular reason. At this time, France and Britain helped and sympathized with the Confederates. The British also helped the Confederate army by building ships for them but now after the defeat both of these countries were afraid of supporting a fraction that would eventually lose the war.

According to Rocca (1990), Lincoln wanted to save the Union and was prepared to do anything to achieve his goal. On the 22nd of September 1862, he proclaimed the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation that would free the slaves of the South. This was a smart move from Lincoln considering that a large chunk of labor was dedicated to slaves in the South and they were dependent on it. This would wound the southerner economy and defeating the South would be easier. President Lincoln was not satisfied with McClellan because he thought that the army was moving too slow and he wanted McClellan to continue the successful winnings. He urged him to speed up. If not, Lincoln said that he would use the army himself and command it. The army of the North was very discouraged at this time because the southerners defeated twice as many soldiers as their army. This was bad time for the President because he and eventually McClellan were to blame for losses in battles. On the other hand, General Lee, the head of the Confederate forces was a master of battle and the North did not have a man that would match his force and battle tactics.

In January 1863, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation that freed the slaves in the slave states and confederate territories and also enlisted black soldiers into the Union army. This Proclamation was not respected by the South, obviously. The war was from now on for the abolition of slavery. At this time, Grant was ordered to Capture Vicksburg. In March 1863, the U. S. Congress wanted men from 20 to 45 to join the army and to fight for the Union. If a person didn't want to join the army, they could pay \$300 and provide a substitute for themselves. The poor Northerners were complaining because they did not have money to pay for their surrogates. After proclaiming Emancipation in 1863, the Union army under the command of General Hooker which was to take over the

army after McClellan, was defeated by General Lee, as well. This showed the brilliant tactics of the attacking general, because once again, Lee had fewer troops than Hooker: 130,000 vs. 60,000. Soon after, Hooker said that he lost confidence in himself because of his own lack of nerve during the battle. Despite the enormous number of lost soldiers, the Confederate army had been victorious. In this battle General Johnston was wounded accidentally by his own troops and then died. This was a big loss for the Confederates because they had lost one of their most reliable and skilled General by their own hands. General Lee then described Johnston as his right arm and commented that he had lost it. Shortly after, in June, General Lee started an offensive along with 75,000 Confederates that would head into the north and to Pennsylvania that would later on lead to Gettysburg. President Lincoln once again replaced the commanding officer and General George G. Meade was promoted the commander of the Potomac Army and he was the fifth commander of the army in just a year (Rocca, 1990).

A great change in the whole war happened in the battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania on July 1-3, 1863. Union forces and confederate army met at the city of Gettysburg on June 30. For two and a half days battles were fought around the town. On the third day, Lee wanted to end this and make Confederacy victorious. He took 15,000 of his elite soldiers and began a rush up the Cemetery Ridge through the places where the Unionists fired their weapons. This attack was a desperate move from Lee and did not end well. Nearly all of the attacking soldiers died or were wounded. The Confederate flag had been raised for a short moment along the ridge but the Union forces were too strong and Lee had to retreat back to Virginia. Lee was not pursued by his opponent, Meade (Hart, 1905).

According to Opatrný (1999), there had been a short period of relative peace after the Battle of Gettysburg. The main aim of the Confederacy was now to weaken the Unionist naval bases. But the truth was that the bases that were on the Mississippi River surrendered to the North after a long time of siege. The Confederacy was now divided and its positions had weakened.

In August, 1863, Frederick Douglas met President Lincoln and pushed for full equality of "Negro Troops". Here another sign of abolitionism could be seen. The Civil War was to enter its terminal phase but still it was almost two years from the end. After Gettysburg another big battle was fought, this time in Chattanooga towards the end of 1863. From this battle came a skilled general, Grant (Křížek, 1994).

In the beginning of 1864, Lincoln wanted Gen. Grant to lead the whole army. He compared Grant to McClellan because of the great skill in battle tactics. McClellan, who was not favored by Lincoln, was also his opponent in the next Presidential elections. For the accomplishments in battles, president had his portrait imprinted on coins. This was because Grants accomplishments primarily at Vicksburg, Shiloh and Chattanooga. In May of 1864 an offensive campaign involving all the armies that belonged to the Union started and the main aim was to attack Lee's Army that was now in Virginia. This resulted in major battles at Wilderness and Cold Harbor. In the west, Sherman, with 100,000 men began an attack that would lead toward Atlanta to engage the Confederate Army that was led by Joseph E. Johnston. The Confederates were outnumbered at both places. But even before the Cold Harbor battle, Grant was pursued by the Confederates and he deduced that this was a big mistake from him, because over 30 000 men died in less than ten days. But his biggest mistake was to come at Cold Harbor (Opatrný 1986).

June 3, 1864, was the day that Grant was not going to forget until the end of his life. His mistake led to 7,000 Union men killed within twenty minutes in Cold Harbor, Virginia. Soldiers, after the second order to attack Lee's positions, stood still and did not make a move. They knew the result of this clash even before Grant. Some soldiers fighting at Cold Harbor seen the outcome of the battle. A soldier fighting in the battle wrote into his diary that he was going to be killed at Cold Harbor and unfortunately he was not mistaken. General Sherman wanted to attack General Johnston in Georgia. The main advantage was the number of men in the Union Army. Needless to say, in most cases, the attacking army suffers more casualties than the defending one. This led to massive losses among the Unionists because the defenses of Confederates were well built and protected. Sherman was proceeding deeper into the enemy territory even though the losses were massive. This led to worries in the Confederate capital, Richmond. Union forces missed an opportunity to capture Petersburg in June and to cut off the Confederate rail lines. Because of this, a nine month siege of Petersburg began shortly after. At Atlanta, the battle was won by the Unionist Army with Sherman in charge (Opatrný 1986).

Because of General Hood that led the Confederate Army in Atlanta the city was conquered by the enemy without any attacks or fighting. The Rebels left the city even before the Unionists entered it. This was greatly appreciated by the civilians whose homes remained undamaged. This Sherman's victory helped Lincoln to be re-elected in the Presidential Election in November 1864. In November Sherman arrived in Atlanta and focused on warehouses and railroad facilities. He destroyed them and with the support

from the White House. Lincoln sent him more than 60,000 men. At the same time General Thomas triumphed at Nashville while destroying a rebel army with over 20,000 troops led by Hood. Sherman reached Savannah in Georgia and because of the battles a “battle scar” that was 300 miles long and 60 wide impaired the land all the way from Atlanta. Sherman then telegraphed Lincoln, and offered him Savannah as a Christmas present. This was the end of 1864. The year after the U. S. Congress passed the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution that banned slavery. Shortly after President Lincoln wanted to end the war and invited Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens to Hampton Roads in Virginia, but the meeting ended in failure and the war would continue (Hart, 1905).

In March, Lincoln was inaugurated and gave the second inaugural address. Lincoln (1865) says, "With malice toward none; with charity for all...let us strive on to finish the work we are in...to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations" (p. 2).

The Confederate states lost power, because the only remaining armies fighting for the South were Lee's and Johnston's. At this point the Northern Army had 280,000 men. In March, Lee began the last offensive with the aim of attacking the center of Grant's forces at Petersburg. The attack lasted for only 4 hours. This confederate failure boosted the Union forces and they began marching and then broke through Lee's lines at Petersburg. Lee was forced to evacuate Petersburg and shortly after also the capital of the Confederate States, Richmond. The war was to end. The Union Forces raised the Stars and Stripes the next day in Richmond. When President Lincoln visited the capital, he sat at the desk of Jefferson Davis for a few moments. After this event, General Lee surrendered to General Grant in the Appomattox Court House in Virginia. Celebrations then began in Washington while other Rebel Army surrendered to Sherman later in April. The war ended, where it all began four years ago – at Fort Sumter in April, 1865. The remaining Confederate forces surrendered. The Nation was reunited as the Civil War was over. Over 620,000 Americans died during the conflict. The fighting was not the only reason for the soldiers to die. Diseases and lack of hygiene killed twice as many soldiers than the actual fighting. Almost 50,000 veterans would return home as amputees. The Civil War ended and slavery was abolished in December 1865 (Opatrný, 1986).

4. ECONOMIES OF NORTH AND SOUTH DURING THE CIVIL WAR

According to Křížek (1994) warfare has always been a great business. The valued and most wanted goods were weapons, horses, equipment, food, and building material which were the essentials of battle. Businessmen who traded these were one of the few that were satisfied with the situation in the country and because everyone wanted to make money, these commodities were often overpriced.

During the pre-war time the economies of the South and North were very different. In the northern part of the country the economy was based on industry, the people were more forward-thinking and had realized earlier that the slave work was not sustainable long term, while in the South the economy was established on slave power and agriculture, mainly cotton production and export. This was also because of the different climate in both of these areas. Both the South and the North had class systems. In the South the social order was sustained through slavery, in the North people could and would move up or down the social class system. This was not so often and it was not easy but a person could climb the class system. These vastly different economies and cultures were part of the fuse to the Civil War (Křížek, 1994).

The people from the North realized that sooner or later the agricultural South would have problems because the production of cotton which was the main article exported from the south would lose its price because of new technologies and processes. The northerners would then take this as advantage and use it in their industrial Revolution which came much sooner than in the South. In the North many factories were built, producing many goods such as weapons and machines. Also the factories processing cotton were built in the North. The northerners would buy cotton from the South and then sell it back to them in form of clothes instead of building the factory directly in the South. At this time the railroad was also built and many important interstate routes were opened so the transportation of goods was not a problem. More and more people were coming to the North and they were urbanizing cities while making them bigger and growing in population. The northerner population and industrialization grew more quickly than the southerner and money were and will be an instrument for winning wars and supporting the population. The North was now not dependent on the import from England and so the Government placed taxes on imported goods. This prevented the people from buying imported goods and helped the economy because it supported the factories that were now growing and producing in the North. This made imported goods from England almost a luxury article. All things necessary for living were made directly in the Northerner

factories. Another idea of placing taxes on the imported goods was that the southerners would buy goods from the North rather than from England. As written above, railroads were built at this time between the cities in the North and this also helped transport goods and rapidly decreased the time needed for transporting anything. This northerner strategy that involved building factories and expanding the railroad proved to be a great start for the upcoming years (Opatrný, 1999).

The Southern states had a completely different view on economy than the North. One might say that they were very narrow minded and selfish in a certain way. The economy of the South was only based on agriculture, the production of raw materials and prospering on slaves and their labor. At first the southerner idea of producing cotton was not bad. The invention of cotton gin a machine that allowed to produce almost ten times more cotton than using bare slave hands helped process cotton. The cotton gin was invented in 1793 which led to establishing more farms, more fields and more people to work on them. Throughout the years, the South was known as King Cotton because at a certain time it was producing two thirds of the world's cotton. But with a narrow mind and sustaining one idea through years would cause the South's economy to weaken because there was no dynamics or adaptation (Křížek, 1994).

Before the Civil War, the Southern economy was based on slavery and agriculture. The blindness and also rejection of the idea that slavery would end one day resulted in the loss in the Civil War. The South expanded very quickly and the industrial revolution came after the Reconstruction Era where the states were restoring themselves from the war. The financial situation, different views and opinions on the question of slavery, the deepening separation of the two regions that were very opposite from each other and the vastly different economics were the main differences that separated these two regions. It is very interesting how these factors led to 620,000 deaths in a war that had much more casualties among the US citizens than WW1 and WW2 and that was fought on home ground (Křížek, 1994).

5. MAIN SOCIAL CHANGES AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

According to Purvis (1995) the Civil war was one of the main events that changed the United States and significantly affected the society and all American citizens. The main changes to the social situation in the land were changes in the question of women's rights and the decisions that focused on slavery and African American freedom. Throughout the next years that were affected by the Civil War the social situation would change.

After the Civil War ended, African Americans were free but they were not able to possess land and most of them were never taught to read or write. Emancipation Proclamation issued on January 1, 1863 had to be spread through the southerner states to free the slaves. As the Civil War ended, slaves began to fight for their rights. Thanks to the Emancipation Proclamation the African Americans did not have the duty to work for white people but they also wanted to proclaim other rights such as the right to vote and the right to own land. Along with this, the black people wanted to have equal rights as the white race (Morkesová 1994).

The differences between the black race and white race were becoming smaller and smaller. Soon the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendment were passed and through these amendments the living for the blacks would improve in the US and it was also declared that the blacks would have the right to vote. Due to this change, white people began to use violence against the African American people because they thought the black people were not on the same level in the society as they were. They persisted the idea that black are not to be in equality with the whites. While the blacks began to vote and have more rights, some of the southerners began to form groups that used violence against them. One of the most known groups is the Ku Klux Klan. These people wore white clothes all over them while having white caps on their heads which was an identifying element of the group. This group that has existed until today was, at that time consisted from former confederate soldiers. The members of Ku Klux Klan thought that they were a benefit for the country by helping to prevent peace by destroying everything that was connected with blacks (Todd & Curti, 1986).

To prevent and somehow help the freed slaves and to stop discrimination, the Congress passed the Enforcement Act, sometimes called the Force Acts in 1870-71. People were trying to stop the African Americans to take advantage of the rights that were given to them and the Enforcement Act gave the government power to punish people for oppressing the blacks. It also gave a privilege to the government to control the secret societies such as the Ku Klux Klan. Thanks to this the African Americans were more

protected and also felt that way. The lives of the slaves improved after 1871 significantly because they were then also elected to the reconstruction governments which helped to revive and restore the country after the Civil War (Todd & Curti, 1986).

When improving the lives of the former black slaves, women also wanted to have more rights and they wanted to be equal to men. To this time they were not at the same position as the slaves during the Civil War but women were not taken as equal to men at all. At the beginning of the 19th century women did not have the right to vote or to hold office nor to have access to a higher education. During the first half of the century, a movement called feminism was formed. This movement compared the question of women's rights with the question of slavery. Feminists wanted equal social, political and economic rights for both men and women. This was not reached until 1920. During the American Civil War it was necessary that strong, young, healthy men were drafted and fought in battles. This led to a lack of work power in factories and jobs where men would do the work. In this time women would substitute men in their jobs and somehow saved the economy of the United States because the factories would not stop producing goods. This was a very important era for the feminists and for women in general. They would work on farms, factories, schools, etc. This work gave women more self-confidence and opened new possibilities for them. Americans now saw that women were fully capable physically and mentally of substituting most of the jobs that were given to men. As written above this helped them enforce women's rights later on and they felt that they really were a benefit for the country. As the Civil War ended most of the women had to return to their domestic environment and stopped substituting men's work. Up until this time the women were to be home, take care of children and be there for their husband. After the war they signed up for employment, had a chance to possess their own money and be independent (Todd & Curti, 1986).

The United States changed in many ways. Not only were African American slaves freed, but they were also given more rights which greatly impacted the way that society grew. Another group that was able to gain more privileges and respect were the women of the Civil War Era. The social changes that appeared after the American Civil War affected the upcoming years.

6. ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND SLAVERY

Americans believe that Abraham Lincoln was the person that was responsible for freeing the slaves and freeing the country while unifying it. He was born in 1809 to a farmer Thomas Lincoln and his wife Nancy in a town of Springfield, IL. Lincoln's family was poor when Lincoln was a child and because of this, he grew up in poor conditions. Young Lincoln started working in the age of 14 as a lumberjack then he changed professions. Abraham Lincoln learned by himself and became a self-educated man. He also worked as a lawyer then as a member of the military police but the most important role as the President of the United States started in 1861 and ended in 1865 when he was killed when attending a play in a local theatre. He was a very good speaker which helped him a lot during the election process. His communication skills helped him in 1858 in a series of seven debates between Douglas and Lincoln, the two presidential candidates. These were somehow different from the debates that we know from the present day. Modern debates are specific because in each debate an MC is present. This was not until 1960. Beforehand the participants would take turns during speaking after certain time. After winning the election in 1860 with a total of over 1.8 million votes he did not have an enviable situation that he would go through. He had to deal with unstable situation in the nation, the secession of states and the American Civil War. As written above the two main reasons for the civil war were slavery and vastly different economies. Lincoln's main objective was to unify the nation, freeing the slaves was not his priority at first. His race towards the White House forced him to gain favor among the pro-slavery people as well as the abolitionists to gain enough votes to become the President. He considered himself as antislavery and he was against the expansion of slavery but was not against banning it in the states where it existed (Brož, 1995).

According to Lincoln (1989), during a speech in Chicago he said,

"I have always hated slavery, I think as much as any Abolitionist. I have been an Old Line Whig. I have always hated it, but I have always been quiet about it until this new era of the introduction of the Nebraska Bill began. I always believed that everybody was against it, and that it was in course of ultimate extinction. I have said a hundred times, and I have now no inclination to take it back, that I believe there is no right, and ought to be no inclination in the people of the free States to enter into the slave States, and interfere with the question of slavery at all. "(p. 447)

On the other hand when speaking in a slavery town of Charleston he chose a slightly different word selection and he said that he did not want the Negroes to hold offices.

According to Lincoln (1989) in the town of Charleston he said:

“I will say then that I am not, nor ever have been, in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races — that I am not, nor ever have been, in favor of making voters or jurors of negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office, nor to intermarry with white people; and I will say in addition to this that there is a physical difference between the white and black races which I believe will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality. And inasmuch as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as any other man am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race.” (p. 636)

Some might say that Lincoln was adjusting his speech a little bit according to the audience that he was speaking to. In today’s world where the access to information is granted by the internet and is instant, Lincoln might not have been taken as trustworthy. According to Brož (1995), Lincoln’s primary goal was to unite the states to become one nation again. From the first point banning of slavery was not the primary objective he has set to himself. He said it in his first inaugural address:

"I believe that I have not lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so" (p. 32).

When the first states started seceding from the Union, he tried to persuade them to join back in. not to ban slavery. Lincoln through his acts and words started to lose favor among the abolitionists and realized that abolishing slavery is the key to the future. Due to this, Abraham Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation that would free the slaves and by which he is the best known. Along with the idea of freeing the slaves he also wanted through this document to somehow “justify” the Civil War for himself and the people.

The Civil War itself led to the end of slavery and to its abolition throughout the United States. The fact is that not only Lincoln but also the people fighting in the Civil War were responsible for the freedom of the slaves. The slaves that fled the South fought for their freedom in the northern Army and helped the Union win the war.

After the war Lincoln attended a play “Our American Cousin” in Ford’s Theatre where he was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth on Good Friday, April 14, 1865. Lincoln was the first American President that was assassinated. After his death the funeral

procession that lasted for almost two weeks carried the body of the president from Washington to Springfield, his home town and there he was buried. The national newspaper was commenting on this event and many photographs of the railway car were taken but they were all in greyscale and therefore nobody knew what the color of the railway car was until 2013 when the chemist Wayne Wesolowski of the University of Arizona in Tucson decided to end this particular mystery. Weselowski, according to the articles and comment that he had went through found out that the color of the train was either red-wine or claret. He then also used powerful microscopes when defining the color from the remains of the wagon that burned down. He and his team then identified that the color was dark maroon, sort of like a brownish-red. The reason for the importance of this research and even mentioning this wagon is that it served the Presidents of the United States as an important means of transport. It could be compared to today's Air Force One, the Presidential aircraft (Todd & Curti, 1986).

7. CONCLUSION

The major purpose of my thesis was to point out the main reasons for the American Civil War and to track the historical events that led to it while familiarizing the reader with Lincoln's views along with the economic and social changes that the nation gone through before during and after the Civil War. The development and historical timeline is based on books that focus on the American Civil War and the changes in the nation throughout the conflict. The thesis provides a summary of factors and differences that dissociated the northern part of the country from the south while providing the timeline of the American Civil War and the changes in African-American and women's rights after the war.

Before the Civil War that raged from 1861 until 1865 the northern part of the country was a center of industrialization and urbanization while in the south it was agriculture. These two different economies used different manpower. In the north people worked in factories and in the south, the rich men had their own slaves working on their plantations and farms. Slaves did not have any rights, they were just a property of the rich. Slavery was not sustainable throughout time and it was the biggest obstacle in unifying the two different areas. The main reasons for the actual conflict along with the historical development of the war is based on my background reading of books related to the Civil War, the economics of the South and the North and its most famous leaders and protagonists. The thesis provides an overall summary of the Civil war, the development of the nation as a whole and also describes the rights among the African Americans and women in this era.

The Civil War started at fort Sumter in 1861 after an attack that was initiated by the south. During this time seven states already seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America which stood against the Union.

During the first battles, Confederate States were more successful in battles while they persisted on attacking the capital of the union Washington and proclaiming their independence. After the first major battle at Bull Run, the Union was thought to lose the war. People were even surrendering to the south without fighting. People wanted to end the war quickly while the President was to use force. During the next years and after finding a person capable of leading the Union Army, north started to proceed into the enemy territory. This was mainly because of the northern superiority and better equipment used. In 1865 the Confederate States of America were defeated and the Union celebrated victory. With the end of slavery, African-American citizens fought for their rights, citizenship, voting allowance and freedom. During the war, many women lost their husbands and they

started to feel more self-conscious while substituting in man's jobs during the war. At this time the feminist movement also started to fight for their rights.

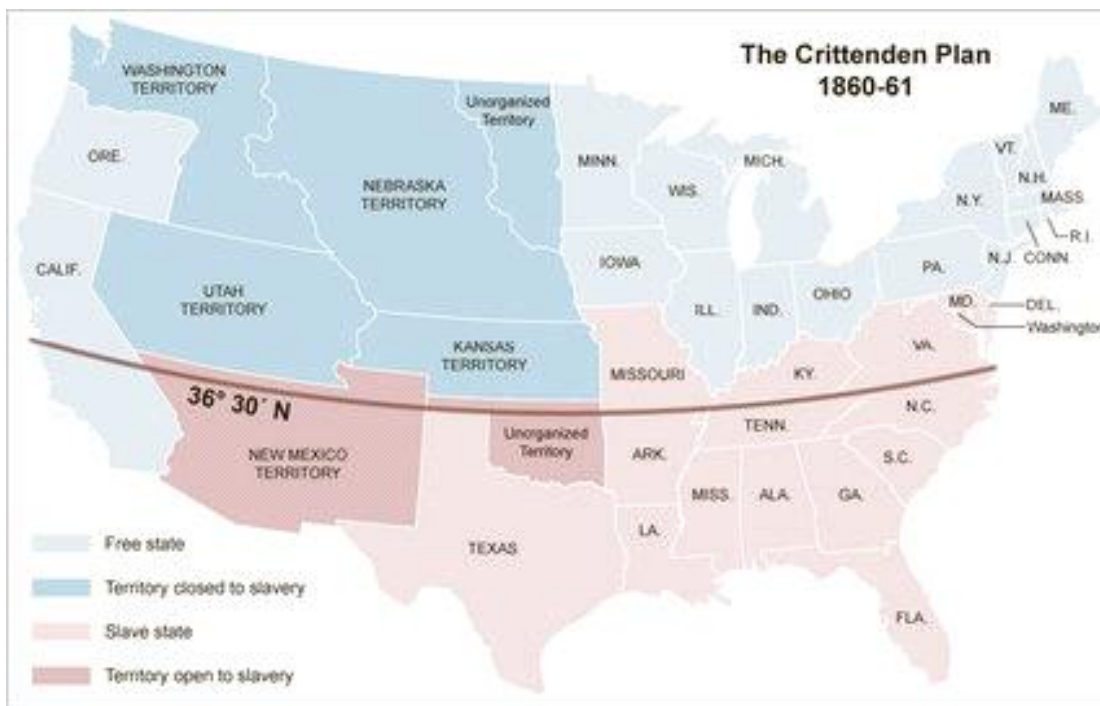
The main figure of the American Civil War along with the generals was the President, Abraham Lincoln. From the readings he was thought of mainly a politician and great speaker who influenced people around the country.

The war itself helped to stabilize the social situation in the country and to form the new United States and to unify the land. If the social situation is taken into consideration, women acquired more rights along with the slaves. Women played an important role in the Civil war because they had to substitute the men in their jobs. Through this they became more aware of themselves and started to fight for their rights and equality to the men. Slavery was abolished and the blacks would also start to gain rights and catch on with the white race.

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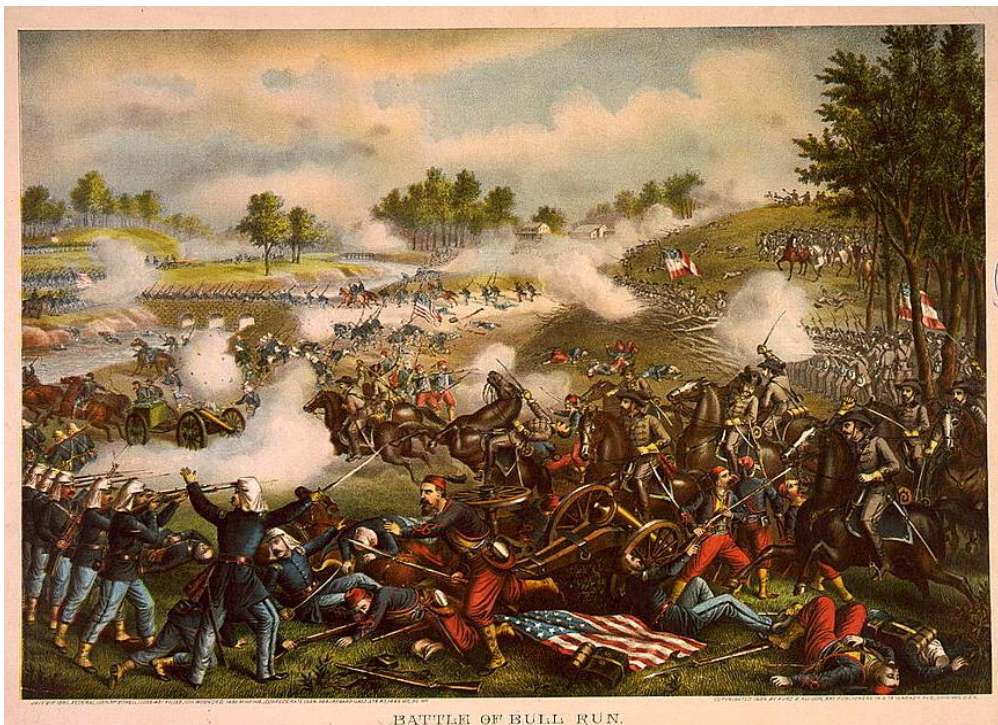
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APPENDIX A



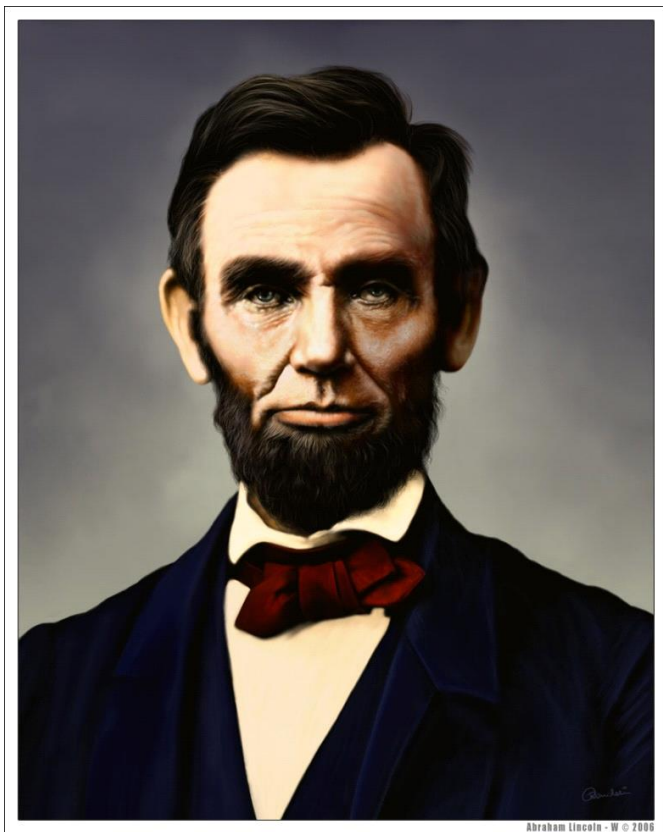
Missouri Compromise line

(http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_4sXMy2Ey8lQ/TS9skfVhYjI/AAAAAAAAACG4/tatrPOGJJRc/s1600/crittenden.jpg)



First battle at Bull Run

(http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/48/First_Battle_of_Bull_Run_Kurz_%26_Allison.jpg)



Abraham Lincoln (<http://highlighthollywood.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/abraham-lincoln-03.jpg>)

SUMMARY IN CZECH

Předmětem této bakalářské práce je popsat události a historický vývoj Spojených států před občanskou válkou a během let 1861-1865, odhalit příčiny a důsledky, které vedly k americké občanské válce a popsat změny, které válka přinesla. Práce je rozdělena do pěti hlavních chronologicky uspořádaných částí. První část práce poukazuje na nejdůležitější a nejvýznamnější důvody jak a proč občanská válka začala a objasňuje hlavní důvod k válce. Tím bylo otroctví, které odcizilo sever a jih země. Druhá část popisuje časovou osu války a poukazuje na bitvy a postavy, které byly přímo zapojeny v bojích a které postupně měnili historii Spojených států. Třetí část popisuje rozdíly v hospodářství obou zneprátených území, jež byly také důvodem, proč válka začala spolu se změnami v sociální sféře, které jsou popisovány v části čtvrté, kde je hlavní důraz kladen opět na otroctví a poté i práva černochů. V této části je také popsáno sociální postavení žen v Americe během války a změny, které následovaly po ní. Poslední část je zaměřena na prezidenta Lincolna a jeho názory na otroctví. Ukazuje Lincolna v trochu jiném světle, než jak je všeobecně vnímán. Poukazuje na to, že Lincoln nebyl takový odpůrce otroctví, jak si většina lidí může myslet a že byl hlavně výborným politickým stratémem.

Klíčová slova: občanská válka, Abraham Lincoln, otroctví, ekonomika, práva černochů, Unie, Konfederace