

Quote

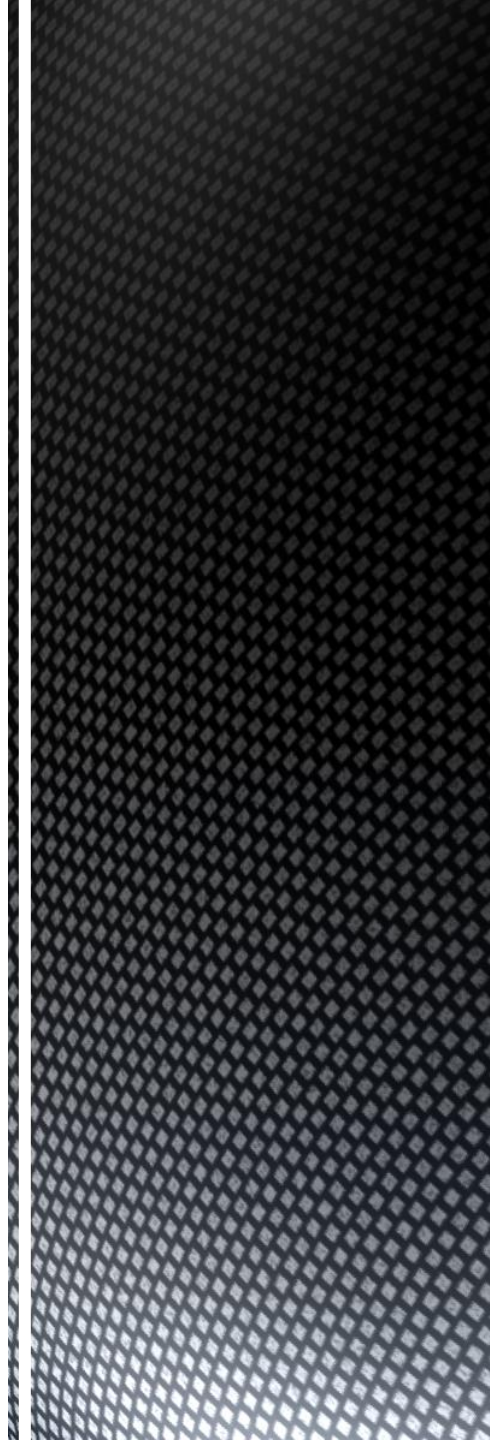
The best way to predict the future, is to create it.

-Abraham Lincoln

Key People

- **Dred Scott** – a slave seeking emancipation
- **Roger B. Taney** – the Chief Justice who ruled in Scott's case
- **Abraham Lincoln** – elected President in 1860

Conflict over Slavery 1850s 2



Objectives

- Explain why the Republican Party came into existence in the 1850s.
- Summarize the issues involved in the Dred Scott decision.
- Identify Abraham Lincoln's and Stephen Douglas's views on slavery.
- Describe the differing reactions in the North and the South to John Brown's raid.



Why did tensions between the North and South grow stronger after the Lincoln-Douglas debates and John Brown's raid?

In the late 1850s, new political parties, political debates, and court decisions highlighted the nation's clashing views on slavery.



These events caused growing tension between the North and South.

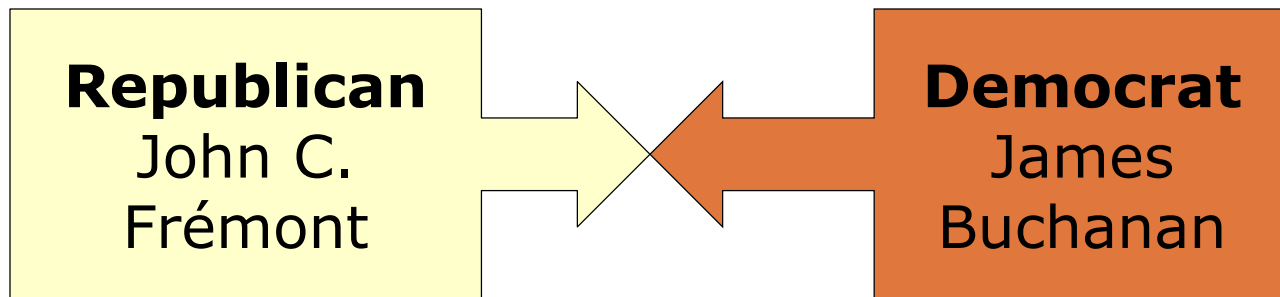
Because of growing tensions, in 1854, the Whig Party split apart. Many northern Whigs formed a new party: the Republican Party.

The Republican Party's main goal was to stop the spread of slavery into the western territories.

American Political Parties During the 1850s	
Democratic Party (1800–present)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opposed strong central government• Divided over slavery issue in the 1850s
Whig Party (1834–1852)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Favored national economic development• Opposed Andrew Jackson• Antislavery members left in the 1850s
Know-Nothings or The American Party (1843–1856)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opposed to immigration• Joined by antislavery Whigs• Took a proslavery platform in 1856
Free-Soil Party (1847–1854)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked to prevent slavery in the western territories• Formed by antislavery Democrats and Whigs• Absorbed into the new Republican Party
Republican Party (1854–present)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opposed to slavery• Opposed to Kansas-Nebraska Act

The Republicans quickly became a powerful force in politics.

A Republican first ran for President in 1856.



Buchanan won, but Frémont carried 11 of the nation's free states.

Soon after Buchanan took office, the U.S. Supreme Court made a landmark decision.



In 1857, a slave named Dred Scott sued for his freedom.



Scott had lived with his owner in two places where slavery was illegal. He argued that this meant he was a free man.

Chief Justice **Roger B. Taney** wrote the decision in the Scott case.

Dred Scott Decision

- Scott could not sue because he was a slave and, therefore, not a U.S. citizen.
- Living in a free state did not make Scott free.
- Slaves are property protected by the U.S. Constitution.

Justice Taney also ruled that Congress did not have the power to prohibit slavery in any territory.

Both northerners and southerners were shocked by the court's decision.

Southerners rejoiced because slavery was now legal in all territories.

Northerners had hoped slavery would die out.

They now feared it would spread throughout the West.

Many leaders spoke out against the ruling.

- Frederick Douglass hoped the outrage against the decision would fuel the abolition movement.
- Abraham Lincoln, an Illinois lawyer, argued against the idea that African Americans could not be citizens.



Tablet

5 Facts about each:

1. Abraham Lincoln
2. Fredrick Douglas
3. Dred Scott
4. Roger B. Taney

Lincoln had served one term in Congress but had returned to practicing law.

Now, his opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Act drew him back to the world of politics.

He joined the Republican party.

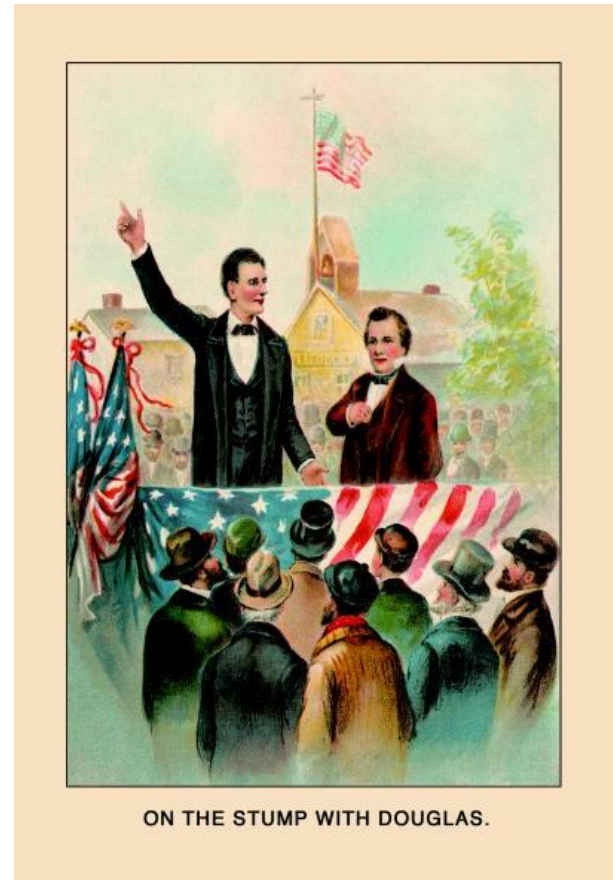
In 1858, Lincoln ran for Senate against Stephen Douglas, an incumbent Illinois senator.

Lincoln and Douglas engaged in a series of debates, which were followed throughout the country.

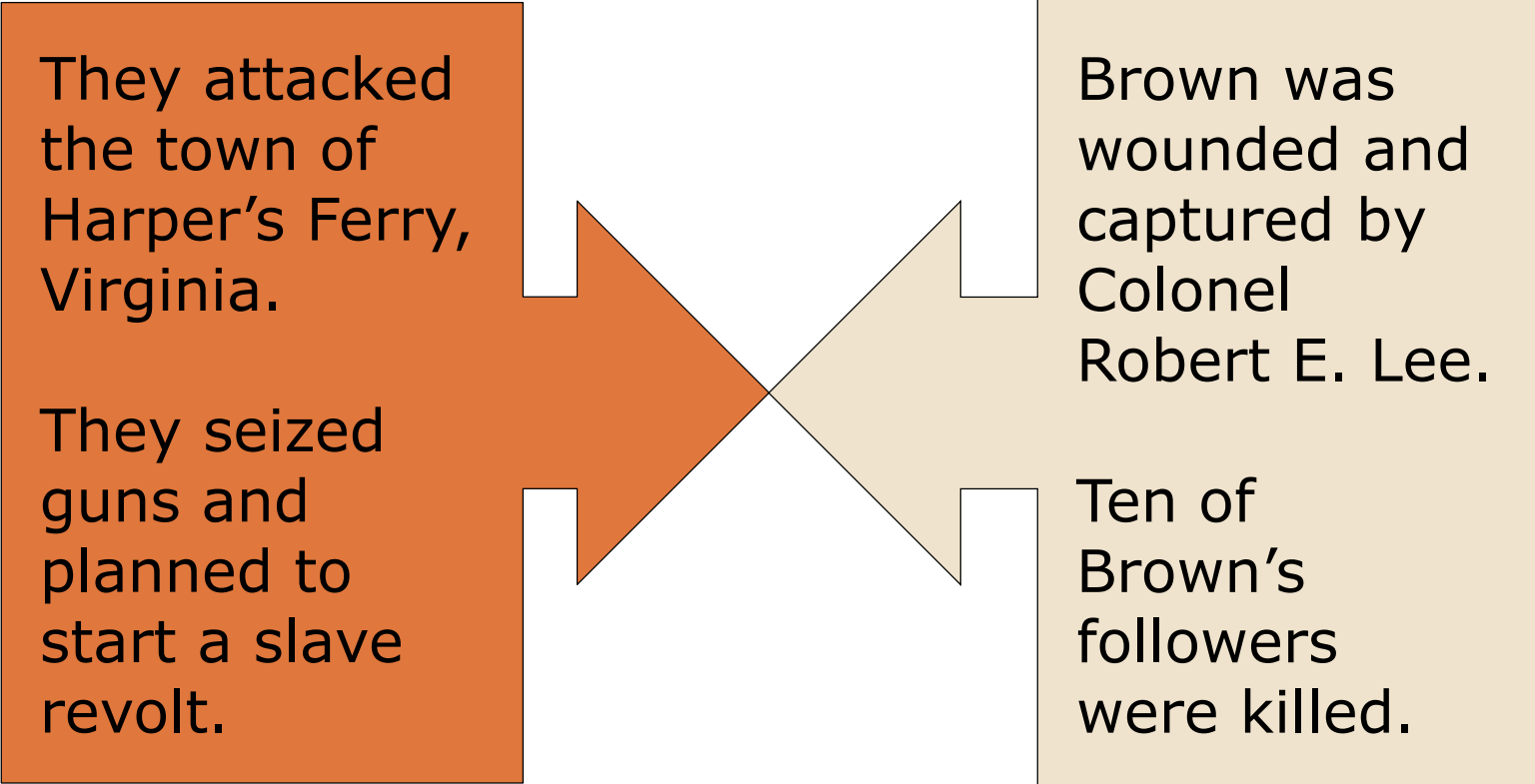
Douglas's view	Lincoln's view
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual states should decide whether or not to continue the practice of slavery.• Lincoln wants equality for African Americans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slavery is wrong and it should not spread to the western territories.• African Americans are entitled to the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Douglas won the Senate election.

- However, the debates helped Lincoln become a national figure.
- Two years later, the two men would be rivals for the presidency.



While the slavery debate played out politically, some decided to take matters into their own hands. **In 1859, John Brown gathered a group of followers to help him free slaves in the South.**



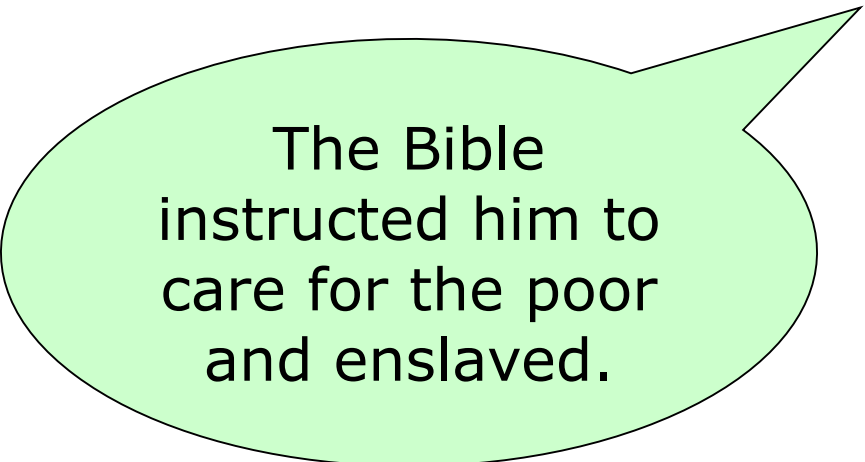
They attacked the town of Harper's Ferry, Virginia.

They seized guns and planned to start a slave revolt.

Brown was wounded and captured by Colonel Robert E. Lee.

Ten of Brown's followers were killed.

Before Brown was sentenced, he gave a passionate defense of his actions.



The Bible instructed him to care for the poor and enslaved.

He was willing to give up his life to follow those instructions.

Brown was found guilty of murder and treason, and he was hanged in 1859.

Northerners and Southerners reacted differently to Brown's sentence.



Northerners
praised Brown's
attempt to lead a
slave revolt.

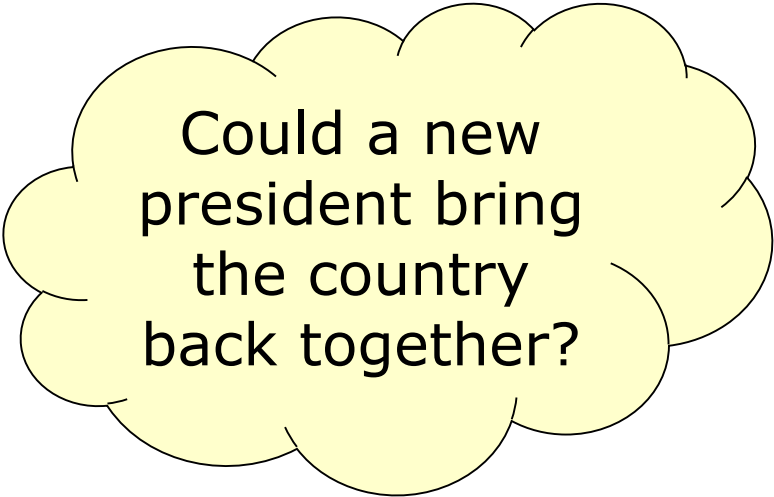
They mourned his
death.

Southerners saw Brown as proof that the North was out to destroy their way of life.



The continuing tensions over slavery drove the North and the South into talks of breaking up the United States.

The crisis over slavery deepened as the country approached the 1860 presidential election.



Could a new president bring the country back together?

Quiz

1. Chief Justice who wrote a controversial Supreme Court decision in 1857
 - a. James Buchanan
 - b. Roger B. Taney
 - c. Abraham Lincoln
 - d. John C. Frémont
 - e. Robert E. Lee
 - f. Dred Scott
2. Republican Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Illinois in 1858.
3. enslaved person who sued for his freedom
4. The goal of the new Federalist Party was to stop the spread of slavery into the western territories.
5. Stephen Douglas took a strong stand against slavery's expansion in the Lincoln-Douglas debates.
6. Roger B. Taney was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who wrote that Dred Scott was not a free man.
7. Northerners supported John Brown.
8. Northern reaction to John Brown's raid shocked and angered southern African Americans.
9. How did southerners react to John Brown?