

HST 202: History of United States W19 (Escobar)

[Home](#) / [My courses](#) / [HST 202 W19 \(Escobar Meta 30767 30768\)](#) / [Week 8](#) / [Forum 3](#) / [Legacy of Reconstruction](#)



Search forums

Forum 3

Legacy of Reconstruction

 [Subscribe](#)

[◀ Legacy of Reconstruction](#) [Reconstruction Cartoons ▶](#)

Display replies in nested form

Move this discussion to ...

Move

Pin



Legacy of Reconstruction
by [Joe Escobar](#) - Friday, February 22, 2019, 10:25 PM

This thread is for discussions on the Legacy of Reconstruction topic.

To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post, something that describes the specific claim (1-4) you are addressing. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Legacy of Reconstruction

Sum of ratings: [_-](#) [Permalink](#) | [Edit](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Ethnic vs Civic Nationalism.
by [Michael Krobatsch](#) - Monday, February 25, 2019, 8:42 PM

I found this video very informative and I like how the speaker ties in modern-day issues with the issues way back in history. He also showed the significance of the reconstruction and how a lot of people do not know much about it. He starts off the video by giving an introduction of what the reconstruction was. He goes on and talks about Ethnic vs Civic Nationalism. Foner explains that the United States is a civic nationalism and places like Germany represent ethnic nationalism. Ethnic nationalism is based on language, culture, and ancestry. The U.S. and its civic nationalism are based that anyone can become an American citizen, which was not always the case. The United States used to be an ethnic nationalism but the civil war changed that. In addition, we are still seeing the effects of what the civil war did to this country and what the issues we see still today.

Sum of ratings: [2 \(1\)](#) [Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Legacy of Reconstruction
by [Mitchell Bell](#) - Thursday, February 28, 2019, 2:43 PM

I will be discussing the very controversial topic of birth right citizenship. So we all know if a illegal immigrant comes to America and has a kid that child is a American citizen and has every right of any other citizen. This topic is a very tough one to be discussed because back in in the reconstruction years of America people were saying well what are the freed slaves citizens not? Well they ended up deciding that well they will be citizens which was then and still is a very odd thing birth right citizenship. Many countries do not have it no personally I disagree as many of us know we have an illegal immigration problem with Mexico right now the birth right citizen ship is a huge reason in the problem people are thinking well all I have to to sagest across the border and have a kid and just like that making the child a citizen and therefore the mother cannot be liked out of the country either. To many other countries that rule is insane they couldn't imagine having that rule. Personally in most cases I disagree with it.

Sum of ratings:

1(1)

1

[Permalink](#)

|

[Show parent](#)

|

[Edit](#)

|

[Split](#)

|

[Delete](#)

|

[Reply](#)



Racial/Civic Nationalism

by [Tiffanie Chapman](#) - Thursday, February 28, 2019, 8:43 PM

Foner defines racial nationalism or what he calls "ethnic nationalism" as a place where your nationality is defined by your race. He states before the Civil war our country was "grounded in the racial boundaries of slavery" (Foner). Due to the civil war and the reconstruction period we now define our country as having civic nationality. Civic nationality is defined as anyone can become a citizen. Reconstruction after the war was not easy but by fighting against the "white nationalism" that was happening during this time, we are now able to allow anyone to become a citizen and that is why reconstruction was so significant for our country.

Sum of ratings:

1(1)

1

[Permalink](#)

|

[Show parent](#)

|

[Edit](#)

|

[Split](#)

|

[Delete](#)

|

[Reply](#)



Progress is not Linear

by [Amanda Francis](#) - Friday, March 1, 2019, 1:49 PM

Oops, I posted this originally in the cartoon part of the forum.

The Reconstruction time period after the Civil War was a difficult and confusing time for Americans particularly for the South which had suffered the most devastation. Lincoln's vision of how to reconstruct the country had been destroyed by his assassination, and the United States was now being run by Andrew Johnson, a former slave owning Democrat, with very different ideas of unification proving that "progress and freedom in U.S. History does not move forward in a positive and upward trajectory."

One major issue in post-Civil War America was "to define the rights for million former slaves". Southern state governments enacted what became known as "Black Codes" in order to restrict freedom from newly freed slaves (textbook p.566). Our textbook states that these codes would include not allowing black people to vote, serve on a jury, marry interracialy, and to be punished more severely than white people for crimes which the North called "quasi-slavery." Eventually the 14th and 15th amendments will come into effect along with the rise of the Ku Klux Klan further proving that history moves in a zig zag and not always a "positive and upward trajectory."

Sum of ratings:

2(1)

2

[Permalink](#)

|

[Show parent](#)

|

[Edit](#)

|

[Split](#)

|

[Delete](#)

|

[Reply](#)



Re: Progress is not Linear

by [Amanda Francis](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 7:58 PM

The snow day lecture from Tuesday gives some statistics that further prove that times for black people post civil war wasn't strictly a time of progression. "In 1865, more than 2,000 black men, women, and children were reported murdered in Louisiana alone" (lecture video). The video explains more about the "Black Codes" that were established in Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Florida, and South Carolina passed laws that could go as far as "jail jobless black man and auction him off for labor" (video 2:29). The time of reconstruction after the civil war seems like almost a more devastating time for African Americans in the United States. They are literally called "freedmen" and are federally deemed "free", but the states have the ability to pass laws to keep them essentially living like slaves.

Sum of ratings:

2(1)

2

[Permalink](#)

|

[Show parent](#)

|

[Edit](#)

|

[Split](#)

|

[Delete](#)

|

[Reply](#)



Re: Progress is not Linear

by [Tiffanie Chapman](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 8:37 PM

Amanda,

I completely agree with your statements. To piggyback off of what you are saying about how progress is not linear in our country especially proven during our time of reconstruction... I believe people tend to fall back on familiar actions that they were once "comfortable" with when faced with major change. The South, after the war, returned to a broken home with no clear way of how to continue living. I know this doesn't excuse their actions and treatment towards freedmen (since those actions are what started the war in the first place) but I believe this is an example of why the South and our country took so many steps back before moving forward with progress. Even people who were for blacks rights were inconsistent with their actions. When President Johnson continuously proved to be a racist leader, there were Republicans who did nothing.

In our book the authors state, "Moderate Republicans believed that black men should participate to some degree...but in 1865 they were not prepared to break with the president. They regarded his policy as an "experiment" that would be modified as time went on (pg. 565). When they were aware that this president was a southern, slave owning, democrat who has proven to be against reconstruction multiple times. Even though this country and its progression is not linear, these events were used later on during the civil rights movement. Foner states, "the fact that it happened at all, laid the foundation for another generation, [for]a century later of black and white people." Hopefully as our country continues, we will learn from our past and not take a whole century to make things right for our people.

Sum of ratings:[2](#)(1)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Progress is not Linear
by [James Croxton](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 8:41 PM

"I believe people tend to fall back on familiar actions that they were once "comfortable" with when faced with major change."

The ol' "two steps forward, one step back" thing.

Unfortunately, this mentality is all too common in society. As soon as people are content, they back off an issue. If that issue were to turn against their favor, they wouldn't even know as they were no longer paying attention.

Sum of ratings:[1](#)(1)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



My Thoughts on Legacy of Reconstruction
by [Bailey Deverell](#) - Friday, March 1, 2019, 7:49 PM

In the video Foner puts forth that the legal basis for the civil rights movement that occurred some 100 years after Reconstruction was established during Reconstruction with the 14th Amendment and other civil rights legislation from that period. He goes on to say that it took many years for this legislation to be seriously enforced, and that is the portion of the video I would like to discuss.

I believe the reason why it took so long for civil rights to be enforced in the United States is because of the Supreme Court's actions in limiting the federal governments power to enforce equal rights during Reconstruction (pg. 587-589). According to our textbook Congress was willing to enforce the civil rights legislation that had been adopted even as early as the post-Civil War decade (pg. 591). It was a growing resentment from the American people at the federal government's use of its power to intervene in the "internal affairs of the state" that led to the Supreme Court stripping the government's abilities to "enforce certain provisions" of the 14th and 15th amendments and other civil rights legislation.

Sum of ratings:[2](#)(1)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Immigration
by [Michael Krobatsch](#) - Friday, March 1, 2019, 10:38 PM

Foner says that the reconstruction was the effort of the nation to come to terms with the effects the civil war had on American life. One of the more important effects was the destruction of slavery and what was there role going forward in there new life. Further on he starts talking about the immigration issue and explains about the twelve million illegal aliens. He asks the question why is the child of an illegal immigrant born in the US a citizen of the United States? He goes on to say that in other countries this is not true and does not work that way. Our concept is called the birth right citizenship. This concept did not come around until after the civil war. And before that, it was for white people only, which the supreme court ruled. Back then it was not by birth but by race, which is the exact opposite of what it is today.

Sum of ratings:[1](#)(1)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Birthright citizenship
by [Tiffanie Chapman](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 6:57 PM

Whether you agree or disagree with birthright citizenship I believe that it was a necessary law during the time of reconstruction. Foner states that “birthright citizenship was made due to the civil war and slaves becoming citizens”. At the time you had 4 million freed slaves that were born in America and this was a way to define citizenship for them. The situation back then is very different as to how birthright citizenship is used today but due to reconstruction it is one of the foundations that is being used in our time of day. Whether people back then disagreed with this law it was a way for blacks to be recognized as American citizens in time where many southern whites were still fighting to return them to a form of slavery.

Sum of ratings:[1](#)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Birthright Citizenship Rare Everywhere Else

by [James Croxton](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 7:12 PM

(Yay, I have internet again)

It was honestly news to me earlier this term in a different class when I learned that birthright citizenship wasn't common. Not even close. In fact, we are one of the few countries in the world who has it.

That being said, it has it's origins in the Reconstruction which Foner says is "the least well known era of American History."

He explains that the way things work currently, a woman can come into the US illegally, give birth, and her child is given all of the Rights of an American citizen. That's a given.

It was really interesting to hear in his lecture that this was the product of the Reconstruction and a solution for what to do with all of the now-freed slaves who were now considered "illegal."

The difference between us and most other countries is that we have civic nationalism, where most everyone can eventually become a citizen. However, this was definitely not the case for the majority of our history. Instead, we had ethnic nationalism, where the nation was entirely defined on race.

Sum of ratings:[2](#)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Birthright Citizenship Rare Everywhere Else

by [Mitchell Bell](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 9:08 PM

I also agree that listening to the video describe the situation of these now freed slaves was very interesting in how the people handle and acted toward the freed slaves.

Sum of ratings:[0](#)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Re: Legacy of Reconstruction

by [Mitchell Bell](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 8:35 PM

As far of the legacy of reconstruction most all of the issues are discussing are about or in some ways linked to race. Which historically have always been a hot topic in the U.S for years the African American race was enslaved and immigrants were looked down upon so the legacy of reconstruction is dealing with race and becoming as a nation more open as far as race and equality.

Sum of ratings:[1](#)

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



Exercising and enforcing rights

by [Tiffanie Chapman](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 9:11 PM

Foner discusses passing laws or “having rights” and how it is not the same as enforcing the laws or exercising rights. Which I believe relates to how progress in our country is not as linear as it could be. Foner states “the 14th Amendment was ignored for many years and having rights on the book [were and] are not sufficient [enough for our country].” Actually enforcing laws would have been the best way for reconstruction to be a successful movement during that time, but unfortunately those rights wouldn’t be used until the civil rights movement. Foner interestingly

points out that the civil rights movement did not need a new constitution and there was not significant change in the constitution from the results of the civil rights movement. He continues with what they needed was the old constitution to be enforced. This is a prime example of how our country can take steps backwards before moving forwards by not exercising and enforcing our rights.

Sum of ratings:[2 \(1\)](#)

2

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)



One Step Forward, Two Steps Back -- Topic #4
by [Maximillian Prentice](#) - Monday, March 4, 2019, 10:23 PM

Progress in the united states is not linear. One thing that should be easy to agree on is the idea of social progress; it is better, for the most part, to be accepting of everyone. Equality, or at least taking steps towards it, was a cornerstone of reconstruction. While equality was at the forefront of reconstruction, African-Americans still did not receive a great increase in quality of life. Black codes were enacted “as a brazen attempt to reinstate a quasi-slavery” (Text Book, 566), as well as other things that held African-Americans back. While reconstruction should have been steps forward for the U.S., it was not always that way.

There are also modern examples of this. Many look at industry as progress and others look at industry as wasteful, but it is hard to argue that production is not good for the Earth. We pollute oceans, lakes, rivers, and pretty much any environment in the name of production of goods. Over the past decade, provisions have been put in place to help combat pollution and climate change. When the current administration took office, the United States was removed from the Paris Climate agreement, and many of the regulations to combat pollution were rolled back. Even after many years of steps forward, we still sometimes take a couple steps back.

Sum of ratings:[2 \(1\)](#)

2

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

[◀ Legacy of Reconstruction](#)

[Reconstruction Cartoons ▶](#)

[◀ Chapter 17 Quiz](#)

Jump to...

[CLICK HERE for Forum 3 Materials & Questions ▶](#)

Moodle Docs for this page

You are logged in as Joe Escobar (Log out)
HST 202 W19 (Escobar Meta 30767 30768)
[Get the mobile app](#)