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McPherson Assignment
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The book *Battle Cry of Freedom*, was written by James McPherson a Pulitzer prize-winning historian and Professor of US History at Princeton. It is apparent that he is one of the foremost authoritarians on the subject of the Civil War. One thing to take into consideration is that in order to write an account of history about a topic with the magnitude of the Civil War, they would first have to wade countless writings from an earlier time period. These accounts would surely be biased to some extent on behalf of the author. To think that Professor McPherson hasn't formulated some of his own opinions based on his research would be naive; and to think those viewpoints wouldn't effect his work to some degree even more preposterous. I am sure people could shoot a few holes through it and they did.

A few of the arguments posed some interesting concerns but as for me, they were too minuscule to really matter. As I think about my approach going forward I will respectfully consider the opinions of others and at the same time treat it like a good stew... "Chew up the meat and spit out the bones!" What matters to me most is getting the facts right. The names, dates and and the basic story are vital. I think this will be an excellent resource for this class, despite the controversy over the names of chapters 7 and 8 etc. The author states it perfectly, and I quote: "Disagreements on points of emphasis do not deserve much emphasis themselves." I am looking forward to a fresh look at the events surrounding this time period and am exited to draw some of my own conclusions along the way. Who knows? I may find myself agreeing with the critics on a few points here and there, but at this stage in the game I agree with the majority that it should be an excellent main text.

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