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1/12/13

HST 209

Assignment #1:

Battle Cry of Freedom Reviews

Based on all of the reviews that I have read from different sources on McPherson's "Battle Cry of Freedom", I concluded the vast majority of people who read it agree that it is very informative, and gives a very insightful look at many aspects of the Civil War, including important political and social events that take place even before the war began. In reading some of the lower reviews of the book, it sounded like its biggest downfall was that it focused on the political facet of the era a lot more than the actual war itself.

opposite from
blogger

I would say the way in which I intend to go about approaching the reading without having very much prior knowledge about the Civil War, is to take notes down as I am going along, that way I can remember certain key points that are brought up. When it comes to reading and being able to concentrate and retain important things, I do not do as well as I would like to, but I am hoping that taking notes as I go will prove to be advantageous to me.

run on

glad you'll take it slow & seriously

The issues related to the historical accuracy that would concern me the most are probably that of what method the author used in detailing the events of the war. In other words, was it written based upon McPherson's opinion of things? Some of the more negative reviews that I can recount from Amazon seemed to believe that he wrote in a "biased" manner. He didn't focus enough on both the Confederacy and Union sides, but rather on a solitary one more frequently than the other.

- vague - specifics needed here

I don't know as if there is one review that I trust more than another. The New York Times review was a little harder for me to follow than the others. I think the reviews from Amazon were maybe a little easier to understand in terms of how people were judging the content. I believe this will be a good source of information on the Civil War. From reading the reviews on the book, it seems to have been a very informative and insightful source of information for most. I am looking forward to broadening my knowledge of the subject through reading this story and taking this class.

why? (

paper lacked
the depth of analysis
of the 3 sources
I asked students to read.

more details were needed