

... Reconstruction Review

Lincoln's 10% Plan; Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction 1863	Johnson's Plan; Amnesty Proclamation 1865	Congressional Plan; Wade-Davis Bill, 1864; Radical Republicans' Plan 1865
<p>Rationale for President having power to regulate reconstruction: states had just been in military <u>rebellion</u>...not actual secession; Union was "Constitutionally indestructible."</p> <p>Rationale: <u>Restore</u> <i>not</i> Reconstruct... re-unite and move forward as quickly as possible</p> <p>How did it work? states could organize new governments after <u>10% of 1860 voters took loyalty oath and accepted emancipation</u>; each state would hold constitutional convention, elect new reps to Congress; <u>general amnesty</u> to all except high ranking Confederate officers</p> <p>Provisions for freed slaves: <u>None</u>; Lincoln felt states would have to work out transitions on their own rather than having the federal government dictate... However he worked with Congress on the creation of the <u>Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau)</u> which did address needs (Lincoln compromising with Congress)</p> <p>Results: <u>3 states re-join</u> (Louisiana and Arkansas recognized in 1864, Tennessee in 1865); <u>Freemen's Bureau</u> established (assisted freed slaves in getting clothing, provisions, and fuel to relieve "destitute and suffering refugees and freemen and their wives and children." Schools were built, teachers hired, courts set up to allow colored people to file suit against whites); Congress passed <u>Wade-Davis Bill</u> to increase oath to 50% ...white, male citizens take ironclad oath (that they never voluntarily bore arms against the Union), only those taking ironclad oath could vote or vote in constitutional convention, new state constitutions must abolish slavery but Lincoln pocket-vetoed... which led to the <u>Wade-Davis "Manifesto"</u> (Congress refusing to seat new delegates from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tenn.)</p>	<p>Rationale for President having power to regulate reconstruction: states were in <u>rebellion</u>...Congress had no authority to act, because they were conquered lands</p> <p>Rationale: <u>Restore</u> <i>not</i> Reconstruct...continue Lincoln's plan and re-unite country ASAP... with a little Confederate gravel thrown in for fun (he resented Confederates & wanted to shift power from Planter elite to small farmers)</p> <p>How did it work? Fully implemented while Congress out of session; Appointed <u>provisional governor</u> for each state (except LA, AR, TN), instructed governors to hold <u>constitutional convention</u>, must <u>revoke ordinances of secession</u>, must <u>repudiate the Confederate debt</u> (meant North would not pay Southern debt), must <u>ratify the 13th amendment</u>, <u>amnesty and pardon with property restored</u> to almost all southerners who took loyalty oath (except leaders and wealthy planters, but they could ask for pardon... gravel)</p> <p>Provisions for freed slaves: <u>None</u>; didn't support rights for blacks, saying, "This is a country for white men, and by God, as long as I am President it shall be a government for white men." (Johnson unwilling to compromise with Congress like Lincoln did)</p> <p>Results: <u>All states back in by December, 13th ratified</u>; at first Radicals supported it but changed their minds after they realized the rebels were returning to power and restoring their way of life before the war.... <u>Congress refused to seat new delegates</u>; <u>Black Codes</u> passed, (South Carolina's Edmund Rhett, "the general interest both of the white man and of the negroes requires that he should be kept as near to the condition of slavery as possible, and as far from the condition of the white man as is practicable.") Codes varied state to state, but all were designed to disenfranchise (examples: -labor contracts necessary for blacks to leave the Plantation, could be charged with vagrancy; punishment included involuntary servitude (slavery) which was still legal in spite of 13th amendment, laws prevented land ownership, serving on juries, and inter-racial marriage); <u>Joint Committee of Fifteen on Reconstruction</u> to investigate (dominated by Radicals) held-public hearings revealing violence against freed slaves; <u>riot in Memphis</u> (mob led by police and firemen...5 black women raped, 48 killed (2 whites), hundreds of homes, churches, and schools burnt); <u>riot in New Orleans</u> (mob led by police killed 34 blacks and 3 white radicals after the governor tried to remove Confederates from office and enfranchise blacks)</p>	<p>Rationale for Congress having power to regulate reconstruction: States had broken constitutional ties and were "<u>conquered provinces</u>" subject to their authority.</p> <p>Rationale: <u>Reconstruct</u> <i>not</i> Restore (Stevens said the North must "revolutionize Southern institutions, habits, and manners... or all our blood and treasure have been spent in vain." They wanted to confiscate southern plantations and redistribute the land to freed slaves and white southerners who had been loyal to the Union.)</p> <p>How did it work? <u>Wade-Davis Bill</u> (see column #1) January 1866- <u>Freedmen's Bureau extended</u> and enlarged – <u>Johnson vetoed</u>... Congress then passed another extension... vetoed again...but Congress successfully overrode veto (following news of riots); February 1866, <u>Civil Rights Bill</u> to extend federal courts to blacks, Johnson vetoed but <u>Congress overrode veto</u> ...By overriding two vetoes... Congress took control of Reconstruction in 1866; <u>14th Amendment</u> and <u>15th Amendment</u> (14th -protected blacks by defining citizenship, "all persons born or naturalized in the United States" were "citizens" and were guaranteed "equal protection" and "due process" under the law; tried to force southerners to treat blacks fairly; asserted federal power; weakened states rights/power; didn't enfranchise blacks -- was a compromise between radicals and moderates, also had provision in it so if any state keeping men from voting would have their representation reduced (white south faced with losing power... or giving blacks the vote which would give power to Republicans... either way they lost), had provision preventing Confederate leaders from running for office... but Congress could make exceptions (again... compromising)</p> <p>Provisions for freed slaves: Johnson said blacks didn't need federal protection... Radicals believed otherwise... <u>First Reconstruction Act</u> guaranteed black male suffrage, & <u>tried</u> to confiscate lands and give every black , adult male 40 acres and force rebels to pay for black schools; <u>1866 Homestead Act</u> provided cheap lands to freemen and loyal whites (but few could afford it); extended <u>Freedmen's Bureau</u></p> <p>Results: Fall 1866, 14th Amendment was campaign issue in Congressional elections; Johnson denounced them and urged southern states not to ratify (3/4 states needed to ratify amendment) → "<u>swing around the circle</u>" campaign tour to speak out against it, tried to turn public opinion against radical republicans, backfired...<u>Republicans won 3-1 majority</u>... this begins Radical Reconstruction... go to next page. ☺</p>