

Political, Social, and Economic Effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction

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Below are listed some of the results of the Civil War and the Reconstruction period. Decide what lasting effects: Political, Economic and/or Social these results might have created. Put a check in the column that correctly describes the area of life affected by each result. It is possible for an event, result or action to have influence in more than one area.

	Political effects	Econ effects	Social effects
Results of the Civil War in Texas			
1. Texas was part of the Confederacy, which lost the war. As the loser, they were put under martial law in the Fifth Military District.			
2. On Juneteenth (June 19, 1865) the Emancipation Proclamation freed the 182,500 slaves in Texas			
3. The plantation system on which the Southern economy was based was destroyed.			
4. 30,000 (of 90,000) Texas soldiers were killed while fighting for the Confederacy.			
5. Politics was in an upheaval and state legislatures were dysfunctional.			
6. Most men of voting age (white males) were not allowed to vote according to Radical Reconstruction.			
7. Carpetbaggers (northerners who came south to profit from the aftermath of the war), former Northern sympathizers dominated politics and economic life.			
Results of the Civil War in the United States			
8. The death of over 618,000 American men (more Americans than the combined totals of American deaths in all wars since then – Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Gulf War.			
9. Lasting hatred that developed between the North and the South and groups within the South (racial prejudice)			
10. The United States survived the crisis as “one nation indivisible”.			
11. Growth in the economy after the Civil War included a movement of population westward and technological advancements like the Intercontinental Railroad linking the east and west coasts			
12. The United States as a united country began to become an economic and political “superpower” that moved it into a leadership position in the 20 th century.			

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Results of the Reconstruction in Texas and the in the United States			
13. Black Codes – laws passed to limit Freedmen and their rights.			
14. 13 th Amendment – ended slavery – in the South, sharecropping became a “legal” way to continue to economically “enslave” poor former slaves and whites.			
15. 14 th Amendment - extending basic civil rights and due process – in Texas the concept of “segregation – separate but equal” was a “legal” way around the provisions of the 14 th Amendment.			
16. 15 th Amendment - allowing Black males to vote (women of any ethnicity were not allowed to vote until the 19 th Amendment in 1919) – restrictions like Poll Tax, Literacy tests, and the Grandfather Clause limited the rights of minority males to vote.			
17. Freedman’s Bureau - an organization set up to help educate freed slaves and provide them with a new start – there was no on-going funding by the Federal government for this program.			
18. Public Education - free public schools were established in Texas for all children – these continue until the present.			
19. Hatred and animosity that turned into prejudice lasted for the next 100 years. After 1876, many segregation laws were passed that were not changed until “Second Reconstruction” - the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960’s. – the effects of segregation were felt strongly in Texas.			
20. The KKK rose in power illustrating the degree of racism following the Civil War – this organization still exists in parts of Texas and the United States as a symbol of racism.			
21. Restrictions on government as evidenced by the Texas Constitution of 1876 (our current Constitution) – the Texas Constitution limits the powers of the governor and other high state officials, judges in Texas are all elected (not common in other states), and the Texas Legislature only meets once every two years.			

Based on your categorization, which area *Political, Economic, or Social* do you feel had the greatest impact on life after the Civil War?