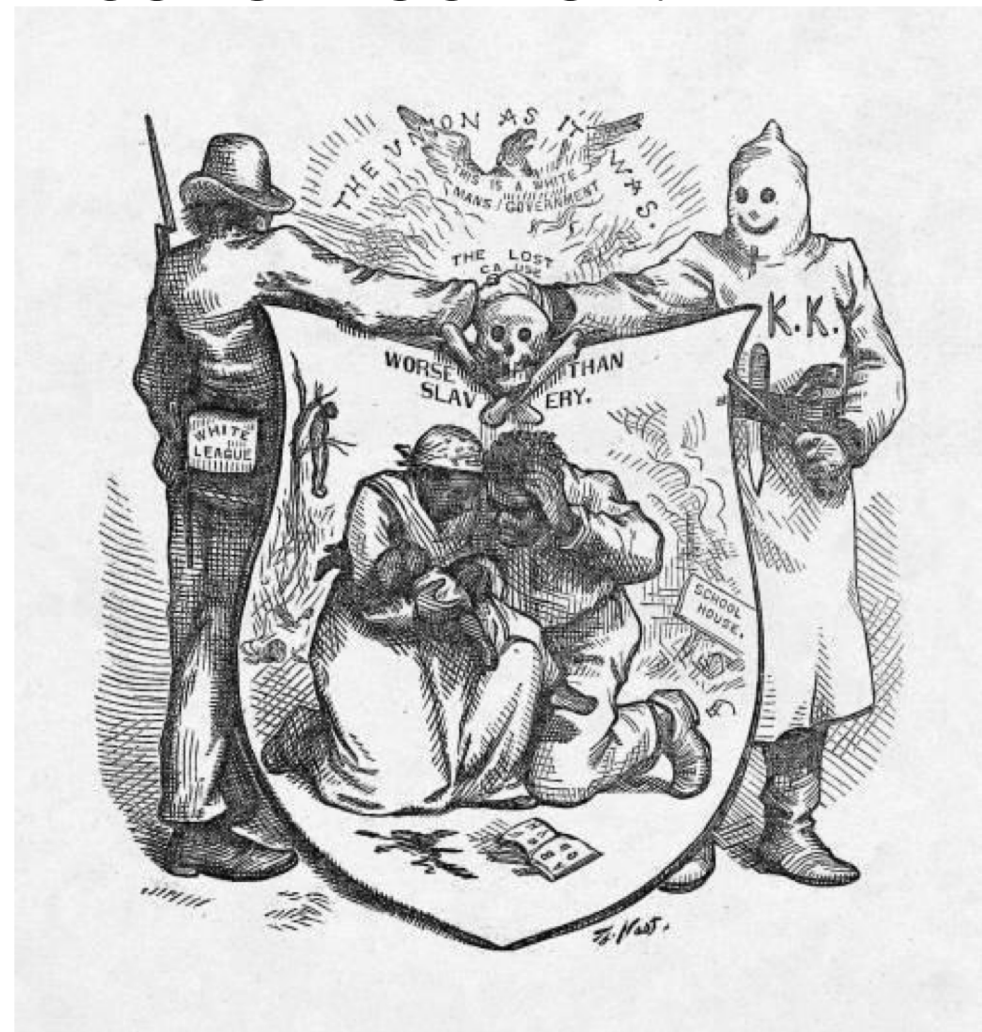
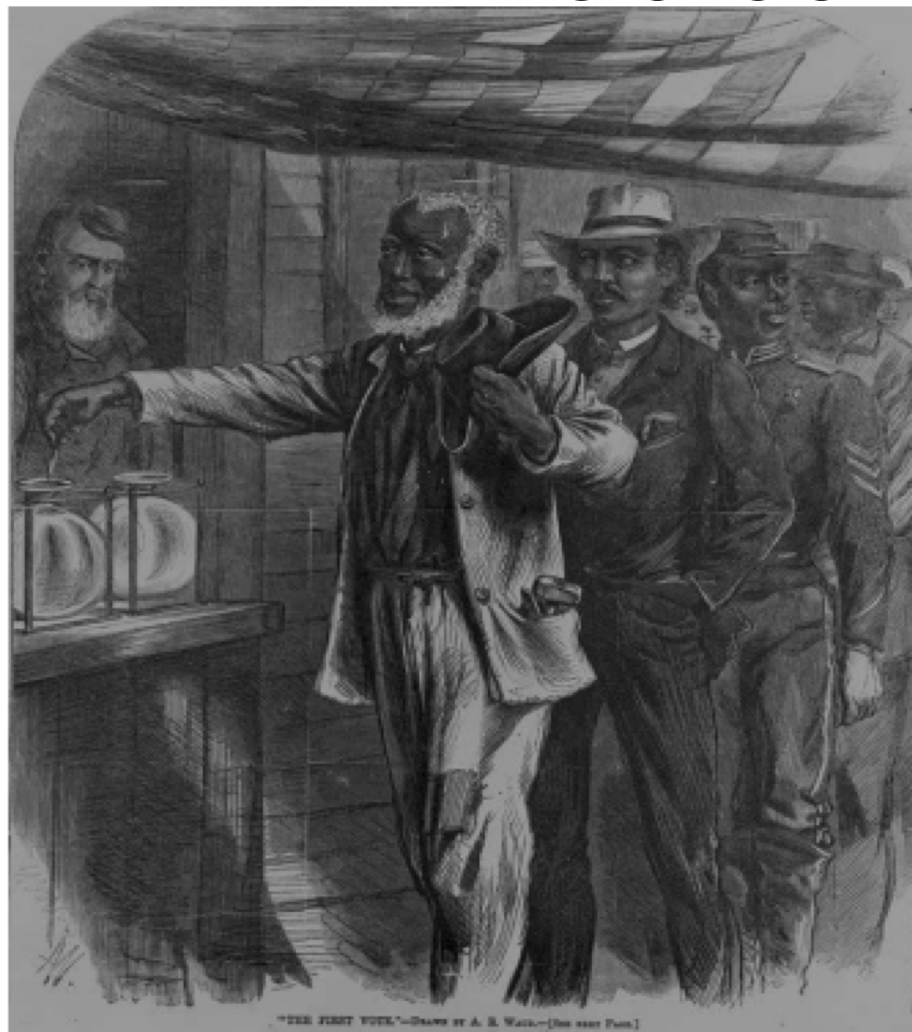
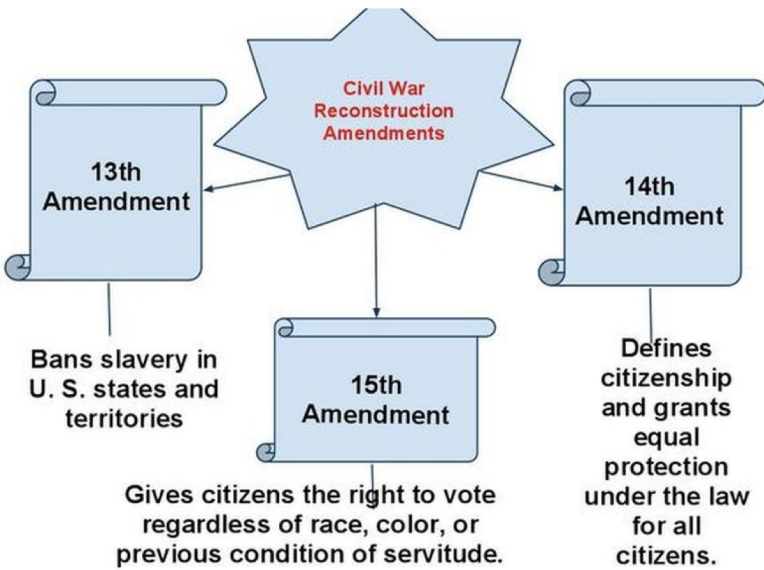


SSUSH10: IDENTIFY LEGAL, POLITICAL, AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF RECONSTRUCTION.

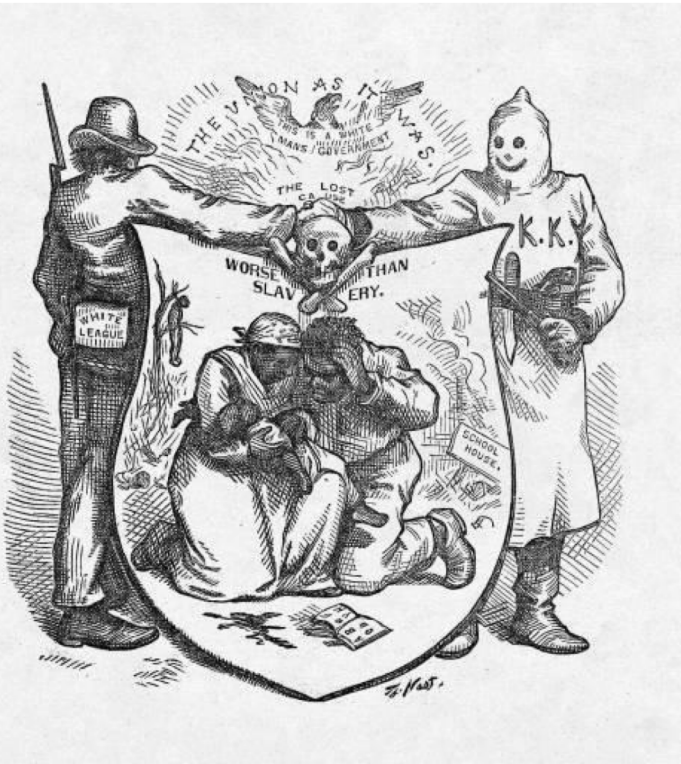


ELEMENT C: Describe the significance of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments.

Overview



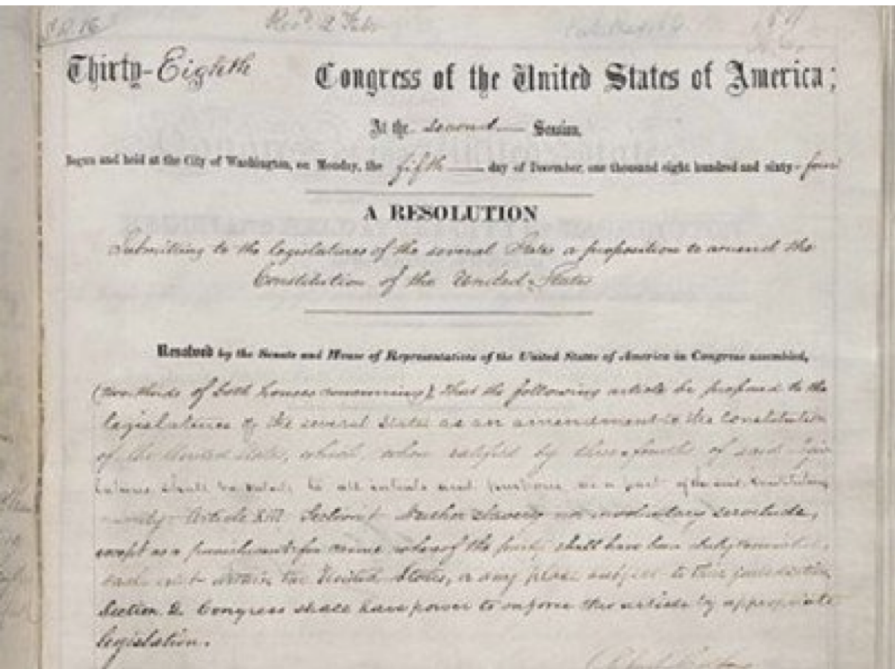
- The Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments are collectively referred to as the Reconstruction Amendments.
 - They effectively ended slavery, extended citizenship, and allowed voting rights for former (male) slaves.
 - These amendments are significant because they establish a federal mandate concerning the end of slavery in the United States.
 - Even with these amendments to the United States Constitution, many states in the South passed Black Codes, or Jim Crow Laws, that restricted Blacks and denied them true equality.



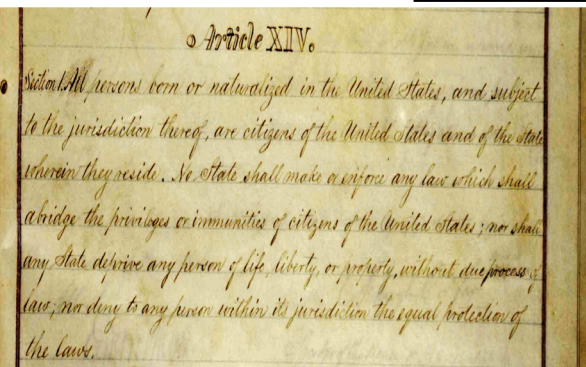
The Thirteenth Amendment

❑ The Thirteenth Amendment was adopted in 1865 and is very direct concerning the end of slavery in the United States.

- The amendment reads, "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for a crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."
- Because the amendment ended slavery, it made null the provisions for slavery within the original Constitution.
 - The overturned policies included a fugitive slave clause requiring runaway slaves to be returned to their owners and the 3/5 Compromise concerning the count of slaves as part of a state's population for representation in the Congress.

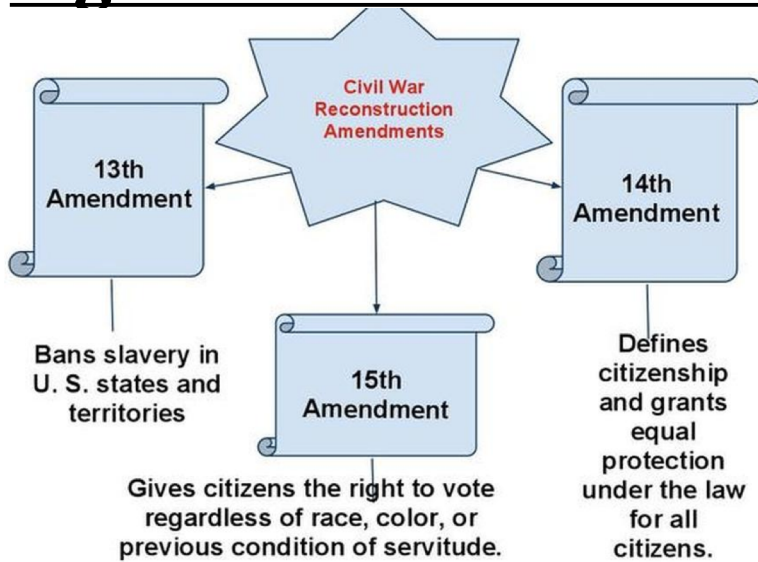


The Fourteenth Amendment



- ❑ The Fourteenth Amendment was adopted in 1868 and is a little more complex than the Thirteenth amendment, which banned slavery.
 - There are two main provisions in the amendment.
 1. First, it declares that all people born or naturalized to the United States are citizens.
 - As a Reconstruction Amendment, this provision meant that former slaves were indeed citizens of the United States.
 2. The second provision of the Fourteenth Amendment requires that states protect the rights of all United States citizens.
 - States are expected to provide “equal protection of the laws” and “due process of law.”
 - This particular amendment is still often used by civil rights activists to defend against discrimination.
- ❑ It was not until the 1950s and 1960s that Black Codes were struck down by Supreme Court rulings and Congressional legislation.
 - An example of legislation that struck down discriminatory state policies was the Voting Rights Act of 1965 passed by the United States Congress.

Significance of the Reconstruction Amendments (13-15th)



- ❑ The Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments are together known as the Reconstruction amendments.
 - They were intended to establish policy at the national level regarding the end of slavery and the process for ensuring a protection of rights for former slaves.
 - Even with the power of these amendments, the Black population of the United States did not experience true equality until almost 100 years later with the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court ruling in 1954.

