

2. Discuss the Causes of the Civil War.

The Civil War was started over many issues. Many historians believe that the Civil War was caused by treaties such as the Missouri Compromise and the fact that all good leaders were replaced with awful ones. However, considering the vast differences between the North and the South, the growing conflict of slavery, and the election of Lincoln, these considerations were the major causes of the Civil War.

To begin, the North and the South had vast differences made the Civil War inevitable. With its geography way of income, the North had no need for trade with England. With this in mind, the North decided that as a way of income, they would put a large tax on imported goods. The South, however, relied heavily on trade with England. When the North introduced this idea, the South was angered because it meant England would not want to trade anymore due to the large tax. This created a conflict. In addition to this tax problem, the expansion of railroads and canals was largely debated upon between the North and South. The North, who traded within itself, did not agree with the South on the issue. The South, who produced cash crops for England's use did not want all of their tax money to be paid for the use of building railroads and such. They had no use for it. The South had big rivers with large boats that came by for cash crops for trade with England and that was all they needed. The North, however, had small towns spread far apart from each other. In contrast to the Southern plantations, the North traded between cities. In order for trade, they needed transportation. So the North wanted the railroads built from their tax money. This created a massive conflict between the North and South. With the dispute on taxes and what tax money should be used for, the North and South's differences caused the Civil War.

In addition to the vast difference between the North and the South, the growing conflict over slavery played a huge role in causing the Civil War. Slavery had become a part of the South; their economy depended on it. However, the North did not agree with slavery at all. They deemed it as unethical and unnecessary. While Northern abolitionists worked to destroy slavery, the Southern states protested. Along with this conflict, the conflict over which states are considered "slave states" and which are "free" plagued the country. Throughout the years, the "slave" and "free" states continued to be equal. However, when Texas and Missouri wanted to become states, both at different times, a problem of whether they should be free or not arose. When Missouri became a state, the Mason-Dixon line could no longer be of use because states below it wanted to be free and Missouri was to become a slave state. So, in the Missouri Compromise, the line was set at the Missouri state line and all those below it were "slave" and above were "free." In addition to the conflict, one book could be considered a

cause all by itself. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* created a problem so big, the nation sprung into a Civil War shortly after its release.

Not only did differences and slavery cause the Civil War, but Lincoln's election played a major role as well. With Lincoln's election, the South was upset with the growing domination of non-slave patriotism. South Carolina decided that if Lincoln was elected as president, they would leave the union. Sure enough, when Lincoln was elected as president, South Carolina left. This created a domino effect. When South Carolina left, Georgia, Florida, and eventually all fifteen of the Southern states left as well and formed the Confederacy. Lincoln, of course, disapproved. Lincoln sent troops to go bring the Confederates back into the Union. However, when troops showed up at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, the Confederates shot at the Northern troops until they surrendered. Lincoln was livid. The South had created the final cause of the Civil War, and now, the war was inevitable. Lincoln's election, which brought Southern anger, caused the Civil War.

In conclusion, many things cause the Civil War. Though many historians believe awful leaders and idiotic treaties caused the war, the Civil War was primarily caused by the North and South's differences, the growing conflict of slavery, and Lincoln's election.