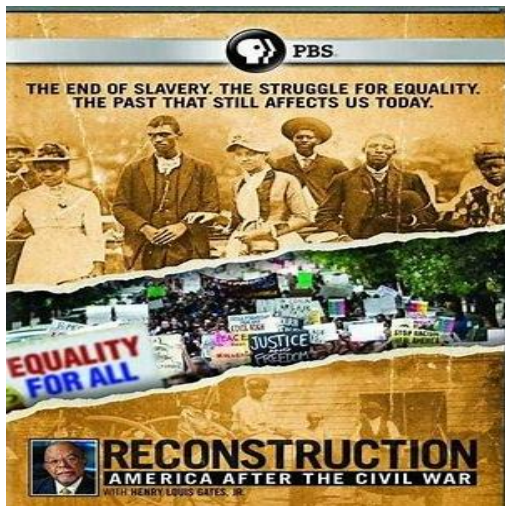



 EXPLORING & CONFRONTING
OUR RACISM

1 of 4



The Reconstruction Era was the period after the American Civil War from 1865-1877, when the United States was faced with the challenges of reuniting the Union and states that had seceded along with determining the status for African Americans.

Season 3 - Film #2 - Reconstruction - America After the Civil War (Episodes 1-3)

Study Guide Questions for November 28, 2022. Be prepared to discuss #1,2,3,6, and 7

1. Prior to watching these documentaries, what was your understanding of Reconstruction?

2. April 9, 1865 Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant which led to the end of the Civil War and the end of slavery. What did Southern white states lose when slavery ended?

3. What did African Americans do once they were informed of their free status? What were some of the hopes and expectations of African Americans? Where were African Americans going to live?



2 of 4

4. What rights and opportunities did African Americans experience during Reconstruction? Highlight specific people, events or groups.

Politics	
Education	
Land Ownership	
African American Businesses	
Employment	
African American Organizations/Churches	
Other	



--	--

5. Why was it so difficult for people to see African Americans as citizens of America and grant them equal rights? Describe tactics used to control African Americans and support White superiority.

Black Codes 1865/Vagrancy Laws	
Ku Klux Klan Tennessee 1866	
Riots in Memphis in 1866	
Anti Black, racist propaganda (1870s)	
Civil Rights Act of 1875	
Sharecropping (1860s)	
Convict Leasing	
Denial of the right to Vote	



Lynching	
----------	--

6. Historical Facts - Highlight the role the following people had during Reconstruction:

Ida B. Wells	
Frederick Douglass	
Booker T. Washington	

7. What was *Plessy vs. Ferguson* 1896 and how did it affect African Americans? It has been 145 years since Reconstruction ended. What are Africans Americans hoping for now?

Challenge Actions for our meeting November 28, 2022

What will you do now to learn more, teach or confront Racism? Spend time talking to someone about what you have learned about Reconstruction “Slaves went free, stood for a brief moment in the sun, then moved back toward slavery.” Discuss what you think America needs to do to complete the work of Reconstructing America.

Reminder - There are upcoming opportunities to participate in Option A. If you leave nearby the convent - just show up at 1520 Grand Ave (The Gathering Space). These lecture discussions are in person only. For more information go to [Dominican Sisters of San Rafael website](#)

- Black Americans and Reconstruction on Wednesday, November 30. 2022 at 10:30



5 of 4

- Jim Crow Era in American History 1890-1960s on Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 10:30