

# Chapter 15, section 3

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- Election of 1856
- Dred Scott v. Sanford
- 1858 Illinois Senate Election
- Harper's Ferry, VA

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- In 1854, additional anti-slavery Whigs and Democrats joined forces with the Free-soilers to form the **Republican Party**.

- 2. ELECTION OF 1856:

- Parties Candidate

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Democratic              | James Buchanan       |
| 2. Republican              | John Charles Fremont |
| 3. American (Know-Nothing) | Millard Fillmore     |

- Who Won? Democrat (Buchanan).

- Why was he able to win? He was a Northerner sympathetic to the South— got votes from both the North and the South. He also had an impressive professional background

### 3. DRED SCOTT V. SANFORD

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- What is the background? Dred Scott was the Negro slave of an army captain. He was taken to a free territory where he was sold and brought back to a slave state. He eventually became the property of a group of N.Y. abolitionists, one of whom was Sanford. Sanford agreed to be sued to get a test case. Abolitionists felt they should not have had to buy Scott— he should have already have been freed.



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## Questions the Supreme Court was supposed to settle in the case, and the decision:

- If a slave is taken to a “free” territory or state, is he free?
  - No, it doesn’t matter what he was in the free territory, when back in Missouri, he was still a slave
- Does Congress have the Constitutional power to decide slavery in a territory?
  - No, Congress has no power to outlaw slavery in any territory b/c it would be depriving a group of people their property. (5<sup>th</sup> Amendment – Due Process)



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- Does a Black have the right to sue in federal court?

- No, he's not a citizen of the country (doctrine of dual citizenship says that just because you're the citizen of a state, you're not necessarily the citizen of the country- figure that one out!)

- Why?

- 5 justices and Roger Taney (Chief Justice) were from the South and knew how Buchanan wanted the case decided. Northerners: 1 wrote off on tangent, 1 was friend of Buchanan, 1 abstained



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□ Results:

- North was furious
- Supposed to end the anti-slavery movement
- Supposed to end the Republican Party
- Supposed to end the career of Stephen Douglas

## 4. 1858 Illinois Senate Election:

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- Democrat- Stephen Douglas
  - Position on slavery: Let the people decide (popular sovereignty)
- Republican- Abraham Lincoln
  - Position on slavery: do not let slavery expand to the territories



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□ Debates:

- Main topic- expanding slavery into the territories
- Freeport Doctrine- Douglas: Can exclude slavery by refusing to pass laws protecting slaveholders' rights
- “House Divided” speech- Lincoln: A house divided against itself cannot stand. (U.S. will be either all slave or all free)
- Who won? Stephen Douglas
- Importance: Lincoln made his reputation for clear, logical, forceful thinking which put him in the running for the presidency in 1860.

## 5. Harper's Ferry, VA (1859)

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- Who? John Brown
- Goal? To arm slaves who would revolt and kill/overthrow their masters/ set up a state for slaves in Virginia
- How did he plan to accomplish his goal? Attack the U.S. arsenal at Harper's Ferry and seize the arms
- What happened in the raid? They didn't cut the telegraph quickly enough and word got out. The U.S. marines (under Robert E. Lee) came in and surrounded Brown and his followers in the "engine" house. They killed many of Brown's raiders and captured John Brown.

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- ❑ Northern reactions: He shouldn't have done it, BUT wasn't he brave?
  - ❑ Southern reactions: The North is trying to put down both slavery and the South.
  - ❑ What happened to Brown? He was tried for murder and treason, found guilty, and hung
  - ❑ Importance: It happened right before the 1860 Presidential election— had a huge effect.