

Secession Extension Primary Source Cards

<p>Primary Source Excerpt A</p> <p>[Texas] was received as a commonwealth holding, maintaining and protecting the institution known as negro slavery—the servitude of the African to the white race within her limits—a relation that had existed from the first settlement of her wilderness by the white race, and which her people intended should continue to exist in a future time. Her institutions and geographical position established the strongest ties between her and the other slaveholding States of the Confederacy.</p>	<p>Translation 3</p> <p>When Texas joined the U.S., Texas joined as a slave state. The state had taken part in slavery since the first Anglos colonized the region. These colonists expected slavery to continue to exist in Texas. The people of Texas are closely connected to the rest of the South because of slavery.</p>
<p>Primary Source Excerpt B</p> <p>But what has been the course of the government of the United States, and of the people and authorities of the non-slaveholding States, since our connection with them? The controlling majority of the Federal Government, under various pretenses and disguises, has so administered the same as to exclude the citizens of the Southern States, unless under odious and unconstitutional restrictions, from all the immense territory owned in common by all the States, on the Pacific ocean, for the avowed purpose of acquiring sufficient power in the common government, to use it as a means of destroying the institutions of Texas and her sister slaveholding States.</p>	<p>Translation 2</p> <p>After Texas joined the U.S., the government and people in the North have tried to keep slave-holding Southerners from having access to new territory in the West. The only reason the North did this was to make sure they had all the power, and to try to hurt the Southern slave states.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Primary Source Excerpt C</p> <p>In all the non-slave-holding States, ... the people have formed themselves into a great sectional party, ... based upon the unnatural feeling of hostility to these Southern States and their beneficent and patriarchal system of African slavery, proclaiming the debasing doctrine of the equality of all men, irrespective of race or color.... They demand the abolition of negro slavery throughout the confederacy, the recognition of political equality between the white and the negro races, and avow their determination to press on their crusade against us...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Translation 1</p> <p>The people in the North have joined forces to oppose the South and slavery, which is a good and helpful system. The Northerners believe in wrong things like the idea that all men are equal and argue that slavery should be ended. They think whites and Blacks should be equal and they are going to force this belief on us.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Primary Source Excerpt D</p> <p>We hold as undeniable truths that the governments of the various States, and of the confederacy itself, were established exclusively by the white race, for themselves and their posterity; that the African race had no agency in their establishment; that they were rightfully held and regarded as an inferior and dependent race, and in that condition only could their existence in this country be rendered beneficial or tolerable ... the federal government is now passing under the control of our enemies, ... and realizing that our own State can no longer look for protection, but to God and her own sons--We the delegates of the people of Texas, in Convention assembled, have passed an ordinance dissolving all political connection with the government of the United States of America</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Translation 4</p> <p>It is clear to everyone that the Southern states were created and are run by white people, not by Black people. Black people are not equal to white people, and they can only stay in the South as slaves. The United States is now controlled by Northerners who are against us. We, in Texas, have to fight for ourselves. Because of all this, Texas is leaving the United States.</p>