

Transparency A-37

The Slavery Issue

Northern Views of Slavery

- Most white northerners viewed blacks as inferior.
- Northern states severely limited the rights of free African Americans and discouraged or prevented the migration of more.
- There was a minority of northerners called abolitionists who were vocal about ending slavery.
- Abolitionists believed slavery was morally wrong, some favored a gradual end to slavery, while others wanted to outlaw it all at once.
- Not all northerners wanted to end slavery, people who made a lot of money on southern crops were sympathetic to plantation owners; also workers in low-paying jobs worried that freed slaves would come north and compete with them for work.

Southern Views of Slavery

- Slavery was an integral part of southern life.
- Believed that God intended that black people should provide the labor for the white "civilized" society
- Many southern politicians, journalists, and economists began to argue that the northern free labor system harmed society more than slavery did.
- Southerners claimed that enslaved people were healthier and happier than northern wage workers.