

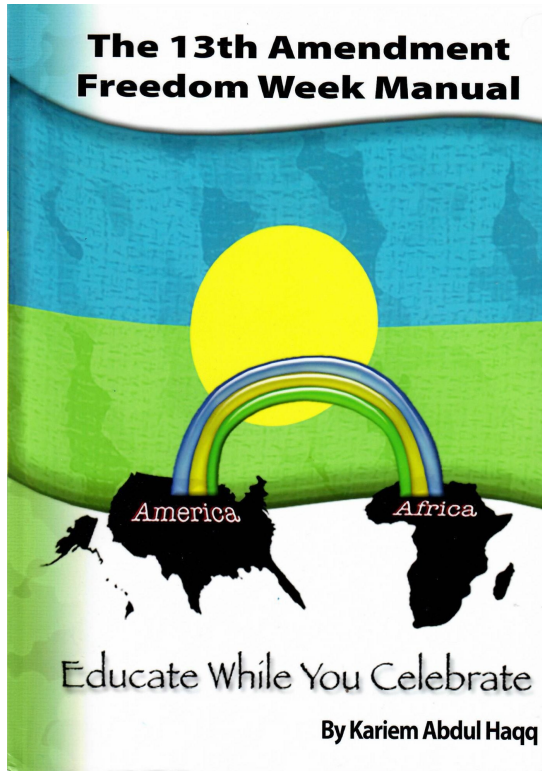
Celebrate Thirteen!

The 13th Amendment Freedom Week Movement

Website: 13thamendmentfreedomweek.com

Facebook: [13thAmndfreedomweek](https://www.facebook.com/13thAmndfreedomweek)

Founded: 2009 by Kariem Haqq



The 13th Amendment Freedom Week Manual

The Goal:
To Celebrate the
Abolition of Slavery
in the U. S.
Constitution

To Teach the History
of Racial Slavery in
America and
Commemorate Its
Official End

Remembering those
who suffered under
slavery and those
who died to end it,
"... that this nation,
under God, shall
have a new birth of
freedom;"
--Abraham Lincoln,
November 19, 1863
Gettysburg, PA

What is the Thirteenth Amendment?

"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."
[Proposed 1865 January 31, Ratified 1865 December 6]

These words are found in Thomas Jefferson's draft (1784) for the later Northwest Ordinance (1787), prohibiting slavery north of the Ohio River, and in The Missouri Compromise (1820), prohibiting slavery northwest of Missouri's southern border

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Why the Thirteenth?

The Most Important Amendment in American History WHY?



In 1865 the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution officially abolished slavery. There is **no greater impact from any other amendment** and **no greater need for an amendment** given the 1787 original flaw (in Article IV) that required fugitive slaves be returned.

Why aren't these other amendments more important?

- The Bill of Rights (1791)
These are important principles of limited government, but with little impact at that time
- The Fourteenth (or Fifteenth) Amendments (1868,1870)
For decades the fifteenth was routinely violated, whereas the judiciary eventually made the fourteenth a “catch-all”
- The Nineteenth Amendment (1920, Voting for Women)
Fairly considered the second most impactful amendment, yet it is unarguably worse to enslave people than to deny them a vote

Why not celebrate instead?

The Emancipation Proclamation [Juneteenth Celebrations] (1862-5)
The war for Union became a promise to end slavery in 1862.
As Union armies advanced, slaves in rebel states were freed; with Lee's surrender (April 1865) the remaining slaves were freed (the last by June); and yet it is crucial to understand that the proclamation freed no slaves in Missouri, Kentucky, or Maryland.

The Thirteenth Amendment was necessary to fulfill that national promise and to ensure there would be no going back.

To learn more:

13th Amendment Freedom Week Manual, written by Kariem Abdul Haqq
500+ pages including 35 important source documents
Scholarly, well-researched, and encyclopedic

Flyer written by Lloyd Sloan, 2023 November

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