



Objectives

1. Explain how opposition to the war caused problems for both sides.
2. Identify the reasons that both sides passed draft laws.
3. Describe the economic hardships the war caused in the North and the South.
4. Describe the contributions of women to the war efforts.

Main Idea

On both sides, pursuit of the war was hampered by disagreements among the people.

Prepare to Read

Reading Skill

Explain How Events Are Related in Time As soldiers were fighting the Civil War on the battlefield, Americans in both the North and the South were facing other wartime challenges. You will have a better understanding of the Civil War Era if you can relate events on the battlefield to events in civilian life.

Vocabulary Builder

High-Use Words

levy, p. 531
currency, p. 531

Key Terms

habeas corpus, p. 529
draft, p. 530
income tax, p. 531
inflation, p. 531

Background Knowledge The Emancipation Proclamation ended the South's hope for help from Britain and France. It also encouraged African Americans to fight for the Union. However, it also increased tensions in both the North and the South. In this section, you will learn about the changes and strains the Civil War caused in American life.

Divisions Over the War

The Civil War not only divided the nation. It also caused divisions *within* the North and the South. Not all northerners supported a war to end slavery or even to restore the Union. Not all white southerners supported a war to defend slavery or secession.

Division in the South In the South, opposition to the war was strongest in Georgia and North Carolina. Barely half of Georgians supported secession. There were nearly 100 peace protests in North Carolina in 1863 alone. Yet only Virginia provided more troops to Confederate armies than did North Carolina. Generally, regions with large slaveholding plantations supported the war more strongly than poor backcountry regions, where there were fewer enslaved people.

Strong support for states' rights created other divisions. For example, South Carolina's governor objected to officers from other states leading South Carolina troops. And the governors of Georgia and North Carolina did not want the Confederate government to force men from their states to do military service.

Division in the North Northerners were also divided over the war. Many opposed the Emancipation Proclamation. Others believed that the South had a right to secede. Some northern Democrats blamed Lincoln and the Republicans for forcing the South into a war. Northern Democrats who opposed the war were called Copperheads, after the poisonous snake. Copperheads were strongest in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. They criticized the war and called for peace with the Confederacy.

Dealing With Disruptions Some people on both sides tried to disrupt the war effort. A common tactic was to encourage soldiers to desert. Some northerners helped Confederate prisoners of war to escape. In the South, peace groups tried to end the war by working against the Confederacy. They tried to prevent men from volunteering for military service and urged Confederate soldiers to desert.

To deal with such problems, both Lincoln and Confederate President Jefferson Davis suspended the right of habeas corpus in some places during the war. *Habeas corpus is a constitutional protection against unlawful imprisonment.* It empowers judges to order that imprisoned persons be brought into court to determine if they are being legally held. In the North, more than 13,000 people were arrested and jailed without trials.



Explain How Events Are Related in Time

As the Civil War

progressed on the battlefield, what was happening at home? Include information about both North and South in your answer.

Checkpoint How did the Civil War divide both North and South?

Copperheads



The Union at war

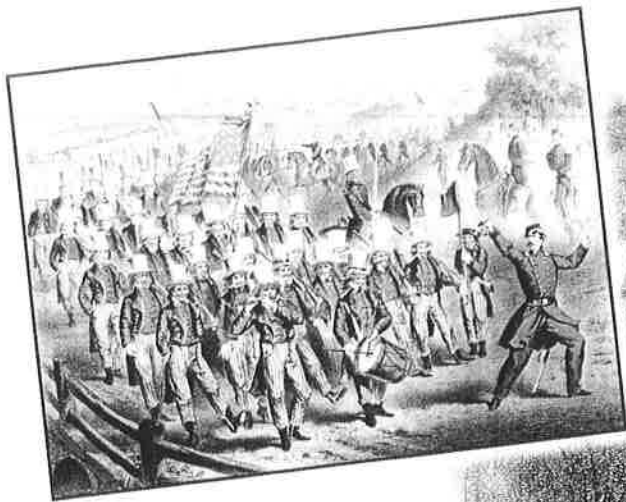
Copperheads, northern Democrats who oppose the war

Reading Political Cartoons

Skills Activity

Republicans in the North fiercely resented Democrats who favored a negotiated peace with the South. This cartoon takes a stand on the issue of war and peace.

- (a) **Detect Points of View** Is the cartoonist more likely to be a Republican or a Democrat? Do you think the cartoonist is against the war? Explain.
- (b) **Draw Conclusions** What is the cartoonist's opinion of Copperheads?



Join or Be Drafted

Volunteers rushed to enlist at first, but antiwar feeling soon grew. During the New York draft riots of 1863, a mob set fire to a home for African American orphans.

Critical Thinking: Detect Points of View What motivated the people who rioted against the draft?



Main Idea

Both sides found it necessary to draft men into military service.

The Draft Laws

Desertion was a problem for both sides. Between 300,000 and 550,000 Union and Confederate soldiers left their units and went home. About half returned after their crops were planted or harvested. However, at times, from one third to one half of an army's soldiers were away from their units without permission.

To meet the need for troops, each side established a *draft*, a system of required military service. The South, with its smaller population, was first to act. In April 1862, the Confederacy passed a law requiring white men between ages 18 and 35 to serve in the military for three years. Later, the age range expanded to cover men from 17 to 50. The North adopted a similar draft law in 1863, for men ages 20 to 45.

Exceptions existed, however. Wealthy people had many ways of escaping fighting. In the South, a man who held at least 20 enslaved people did not have to serve. Both sides allowed draftees to hire substitutes to serve in their place. Northerners could avoid the draft by paying the government \$300. For many workers, however, this was about a year's pay.

People on both sides complained that the draft made the war "a poor man's fight." Anger against the draft led to violent riots in the North in July 1863. The worst took place in New York City. Mobs of factory workers and laborers rioted for several days, destroying property and attacking African Americans and wealthy white men.

Checkpoint Why was the Civil War sometimes called a poor man's fight?

The War and Economic Strains

Northern industries boomed as they turned out goods the Union needed in the war. Plenty of jobs were available. But the draft drained away workers so there was a constant shortage.

To pay the costs of fighting the war, Congress levied the first income tax in American history in August 1861. An income tax is a tax on the money people receive. The Union also printed \$400 million of paper money to help pay its expenses. This was the first federal paper money, or currency. Putting this additional money into circulation led to inflation, or a general rise in prices. In the North, the prices of goods increased an average of 80 percent during the war.

The South was less able than the North to sustain a war. The Union blockade prevented the South from raising money by selling cotton overseas. Shortages made goods more expensive. This led to much greater inflation than in the North. A pair of shoes that had cost \$18 dollars in 1862 cost up to \$800 in the South in 1864. The price of a pound of beef soared from 12 cents in 1862 to \$8 in 1865.

Southern food production fell as invading Union armies destroyed farmland and crops. Shortages of food led to riots in some southern cities. In Richmond, more than 1,000 women looted shops for food, cloth, and shoes in 1863. A woman in North Carolina complained:

“A crowd of we poor women went to Greensboro yesterday for something to eat as we do not have a mouthful of bread nor meat. . . . I have 6 little children and my husband in the army and what am I to do?”

—farm woman in North Carolina, April 1863

Enslaved people also suffered from wartime shortages. What little they did have was often seized by Confederate soldiers.

Checkpoint What strains did the war put on people?

Women in the Civil War

Women in both the North and the South contributed to the war in many ways. At least 400 women disguised themselves as men and joined the Union or Confederate armies. Others became spies behind enemy lines. Many women took over businesses, farms, and plantations while their fathers, brothers, and husbands served on the battlefields.

In both North and South, women ran farms and plantations. Some southern women worked in the fields to help meet the needs of the Confederacy. They continued to work despite fighting that destroyed their crops and killed their livestock.

Women also ran many northern farms. “I saw more women driving teams [of horses] on the road and saw more at work in the fields than men,” a traveler in Iowa reported in 1862.

Main Idea

The war strained the finances of governments and individuals.

Vocabulary Builder

levy (LEHV ee) v. to impose by law

Vocabulary Builder

currency (KER rehn see) n. money used to make purchases

Main Idea

The war opened many new opportunities for women, who contributed greatly to the war effort.

Biography Quest



Clara Barton
1821–1912

Before the Civil War, Clara Barton was a clerk in the U.S. Patent Office. When hostilities began, she became a nurse. Her work under dangerous conditions earned her the nickname Angel of the Battlefield from her Union and Confederate patients.

After the war, Barton worked for a time with the International Red Cross. Returning to the United States, Barton helped set up an American branch of the Red Cross.

Biography Quest online

How did Barton become involved in a European war?

For: The answer to the question about Barton

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Women on both sides did factory work. Some performed dangerous jobs, such as making ammunition. Others took government jobs. For example, the Confederate government employed dozens of women to sign and number Confederate currency.

The war created many new opportunities for women. Some women became teachers. About 10,000 northern women became nurses. Men had dominated these professions before the war.

Barriers to women especially fell in the field of nursing. Elizabeth Blackwell, America's first female physician, trained nurses for the Union army. Social reformer Dorothea Dix became the head of Union army nurses. Harriet Tubman, who continued to lead enslaved people to freedom during the war, also served as a Union nurse. Clara Barton cared for wounded soldiers on the battlefield. Although nursing was not considered a "proper" job for respectable southern women, some volunteered anyway.

Checkpoint How did the war affect women?

 **Looking Back and Ahead** Both sides suffered political and economic hardships during the war. Draft laws affected every family, while new jobs opened up for women. In the next section, you will read how the war finally ended in the defeat of the Confederacy.

Section 4 | Check Your Progress

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Comprehension and Critical Thinking

- (a) Identify** What were two reasons some northerners opposed the war? What were two reasons some southerners opposed the war?

(b) Explain Problems Why did the military draft lead some people to describe the war as a poor man's fight?
- (a) Describe** Explain the changing role for women during the Civil War.

(b) Identify Costs What effects did the Civil War have on the economies of the North and of the South?

Reading Skill

- 3. Explain How Events Are Related in Time** What was happening to the American economy as the Civil War raged on?

Vocabulary Builder

- 4.** Draw a table with four rows and three columns. In the first column, list the key terms from this section: *habeas corpus*, *draft*, *income tax*, *inflation*. In the next column, write the definition of each term. In the last column, make a small illustration that shows the meaning of the term.

Writing

- 5.** Reread the text under the heading "Women in the Civil War." Then, write a short paragraph about the role that women played in the Civil War. Include material directly quoted from this section. Be sure to copy the quotation exactly, to punctuate it correctly, and to identify the source.