**Presidential / Radical Reconstruction**

**Class Notes**

Terms & People

***Reconstruction impeachment Freedman’s Bureau***

***Fourteenth Amendment Fifteenth Amendment Thirteenth Amendment***

***Ku Klux Klan Radical Republicans de jure segregation***

***Black codes***

* Lincoln is assassinated by ***John Wilkes Booth***, a Confederate sympathizer on April 14th, 1865
* Lincoln’s Vice President, ***Andrew Johnson*** becomes President
* Andrew Johnson, a southerner, had differing views on southern reconstruction
* Johnson pardoned thousands of confederate leaders, pushed for the restoration of white supremacy in the south
* Congress immediately established the “Committee of Fifteen” to develop progressive new plans for Reconstruction (reaction to Johnson’s actions)
* Johnson actively blocked constitutional amendments and acts to help protect “Freedmen” and punish former Confederates

**Andrew Johnson’s Plan**

* Johnson developed a three point plan to stop congress from reforming the south
* Amnesty Proclamation: Pardoned former Confederate leaders and returned lands to former slaveholders. It allowed a white supremacist to take control/power of the state government
* Johnson vetoed all bills designed to grant and protect civil liberties for African Americans
* He used conservatives and reactionaries to stop the change of social order in the south

**Johnson’s Amnesty Plan**

* Johnson’s Amnesty plan resembled Lincoln’s plan, it required all southern states to Abolish slavery/approval of the thirteenth Amendment before they could re-join the union
* Johnson appoint native southerners who remained loyal to the union during the war as governors
* He allowed all Confederate states to write new constitution without having voter take the oath of loyalty
* ***Congress overrode the following vetoes by Johnson:***
* *Civil Rights Act of 1866 – granted citizenship to African Americans and safe guarded their civil rights*
* *14th Amendment – safeguarded African American citizenship rights and reduced congressional representation of states the denied black males voting rights*
* *The Freedmen’s Bureau Bill- extending the life of the agency and increased it authority to help freed peoples and poor whites*
* *Johnson had readmitted all 11 southern states into the Union by December 1865 and declared Reconstruction over*

**Race Riots and “Swing Around Circle”**

* Many white southerner responded angrily to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1866
* Riots erupted all over the south and hundreds of African Americans were murdered
* The North reacted with shock and blamed Johnson for the trouble in the south
* Johnson blamed the “radicals” in congress in his “Swing around the circle” speeches.
* Johnson also blamed the Republicans, Democrats, and African Americans especially those who challenged his authority.
* This speech caused my Northerner to vote for Republicans in the 1866 elections
* The Republicans were able to gain control over the congress.

(“Swing Around the Circle” is the route that Johnson traveled the country in 1866 trying to gain support among northern voters)