

**Title of Session:** Social Studies Forum - Slavery In America

**Moderator:** Michael Hutchison

**Guest Speaker:** Donna Hendry

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Room: After School Online Room

**JeffreyTh:** Michael, can you give me an idea as to what the topic will be for this evening?

**MichaelH:** Donna just got back from a four day trip to Washington DC...

**MichaelH:** she's been working on an extensive project for US History.

**MichaelH:** something that PBS will be airing in about two weeks

**DonnaH:** Slavery in America.

**DonnaH:** Airing Feb. 9th:)

**JeffreyTh:** have you been to National Underground Railroad Museum in Cincy?

**MichaelH** has not

**MichaelH:** Welcome to tonight's Social Studies Forum

**MichaelH:** tonight we have a "special" guest, who has been a regular in TAPPED IN events for many, many years, but who has an interesting resource to discuss with us

**MichaelH:** and, it even deals with Social Studies

**DonnaH:** resourceS

**DonnaH:** \*grin\*

**MichaelH:** We'll get to that in a second, but let's start out with introductions...

**MichaelH:** would everyone like to say "Hi", who you are, and where you teach?

**DonnaH:** Donna Hendry...Session leader here...LA and Tech; I work as an educational consultant in CT

**JeffreyTh:** I am an 8th grade American history teacher in Dayton, OH

**MichaelH** is a technology consultant in southwestern Indiana

**DavidWe:** I'm David Weksler. Occasionally I travel and find out new stuff, but most of the time I help math and science teachers learn more about technology, the Internet and other cool stuff. Jeff is going to let me lead the math discussion next week.

**MichaelH:** Donna, I'll let you have the floor to tell about your trip

**DonnaH:** Well, as Michael explained...I just returned from a (lovely) conference down in DC.

**DonnaH:** We met with the writers and scholars of PBS's upcoming Slavery: the making of America

**DonnaH:** The title of the conference was "New approaches to Teaching Slavery"

**DonnaH:** which was rather apropos.

**DonnaH:** How did you learn about slavery?

**DonnaH:** (asks the room)

**MichaelH:** Roots?

**DonnaH:** (you personally, dear)

**DonnaH:** Roots was past your learning time.

**DonnaH:** I know my daughter; (3rd grade) is currently studying the underground railroad, Tubman, etc.

**JeffreyTh:** From tv (Roots) and school

**MichaelH:** well, not really, because I was still in college, and I think it opened a lot of eyes, even those of older people

**DonnaH:** very shallow,

**DonnaH:** Or from textbooks.

**MichaelH:** or from what teachers told us?

**DonnaH:** And what really came out of the conference was that with the advent of the internet...(amongst other things) there is a huge amount of primary resources that we can use to teach students about slavery...in a way that makes them more able to empathize and make it real for them.

**DonnaH:** Let me give you an example:

**MichaelH:** I've seen some previews, the show looks excellent

**DonnaH:** While I'm looking for it, I'll share something else...

**DonnaH:** New York Life sponsored the entire show...and also had us put up an educational website that is not in link with PBS...

**DavidWe** waits with anticipation

**DonnaH:** <http://www.slaveryinamerica.org>

**DonnaH:** which I'd been working on for...nearly 2 years.

**DonnaH:** feel free to wander, ask me questions, while I try to refind what I just flubbed up:(

**MichaelH:** You all might remember a companion site that ran a few years ago called the "Rise and Fall of Jim Crow".

**MichaelH:** this sort of programming is related to Civil War, as well as other programming that PBS has backed in the past few years

**DonnaH:** Yes, same group did both sites.

**DonnaH:** It really isn't related to the civil war, Michael, as most of it discusses how slavery came to be...

**DonnaH:** a lot of the information shared is new, and does away with original generalities.

**DonnaH:** When we think of slavery, we think of how it existed just prior to the civil war.

**DonnaH:** But Slavery grew from indentured servitude

**DonnaH:** and it changed very slowly.

**DonnaH:** And how many here think of the south when they think of slavery?

**JeffreyTh:** typically, I believe most people do

**MichaelH:** probably most do, Donna

**DonnaH:** exactly.

**DonnaH:** But are you aware that NYC had the second largest slave population

**JeffreyTh:** most Americans associate slavery with Africa but fail to realize that slavery has existed for thousands of years on all continents

**DonnaH:** second only to that of Charleston?

**DonnaH:** That is another big thing.

**DonnaH:** how many students do you figure think slavery was 'defeated forever' with the ending of the civil war?

**JeffreyTh:** most of my students do but I don't think they really understand slavery and its ramifications for them.

**DonnaH:** Which is why you can also compare it to current bouts of slavery.

**DonnaH:** it may be slightly different; the demographics may have changed...but it still exists.

**DonnaH:** and another thing to consider...only 6% of Africans shipped to the 'new world' were brought to the US...

**MichaelH:** Donna, is there an NARA site you'd like me to search for while you continue the discussion?

**DonnaH:** think how small a number that is...where do you think most of them went?

**JeffreyTh:** died en route?

**DonnaH:** Brazil.

**DonnaH:** which was also the last country in this hemisphere to outlaw slavery.

**DonnaH:** What is hugely interesting to scholars, is how we look at the primary documents of the time...

**DonnaH:** the problem is, Brazil was rather ashamed of their role, and so, when they outlawed slavery, they BURNED all the slavery documents.

**DonnaH:** Brazil also had a habit of working their slaves to death; as it was cheaper to do so and ship new ones over, than it was to actually take a modicum of care

**MichaelH:** hey, Donna, maybe these guys would like to see some of the lessons on the site they can use?

**DonnaH:** Sure thing!

**MichaelH:** Sounds good to me, too

**MichaelH:** Pick one you like

**BernieGst7** joined the room.

**DonnaH:** <http://slaveryinamerica.org/scripts/sia/gallery.cgi?collection=gilbert>

**BJB2:** Welcome, Bernie

**BernieGst7:** hi guys

**MichaelH** waves to Bernie

**DonnaH:** this is an art gallery of work from Johnny Mae Gilbert...

**BernieGst7:** waves back

**DonnaH:** each piece is based on a slave narrative.

**DonnaH:** (the link is to the gallery itself)

**DonnaH:** not the lesson...but it does have a lesson with it...the link I believe is at the bottom.

**MichaelH:** Donna, what grade level does this fit?

**DonnaH:** [http://slaveryinamerica.org/history/hs\\_lp\\_gilbert\\_artlesson.htm](http://slaveryinamerica.org/history/hs_lp_gilbert_artlesson.htm)

**JeffreyTh:** the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Oh is wonderful. you'll see a lot of his work there

**DonnaH:** if you were to use ALL the images? definitely high school

**DonnaH:** if you were selective? you could go as low as 5th.

**MichaelH:** ok

**MichaelH:** Donna, how about some other lessons?

**DonnaH:** another thing overlooked:

**DonnaH:** [http://slaveryinamerica.org/history/hs\\_lp\\_seminole.htm](http://slaveryinamerica.org/history/hs_lp_seminole.htm)

**MichaelH:** Anyone have any questions or comments about the site or the resources?

**JeffreyTh:** not at this time

**MichaelH:** well, we're about at the end of our hour together...

**DonnaH:** We spent one day of the conference at the National Archives...

**DavidWe:** Oh, cool

**DonnaH:** And they shared this photograph with us.

**DonnaH:** And some really interesting ways to use it.

**DonnaH:** Without looking at the sign, what sort of building would you say this is?

**HelenK:** have to go - thanks for the session, great resources!

**DonnaH:** As we discussed, we said how it looked like a store front, looks like it could have been a grocery store, or some such.

**DonnaH:** If you were to block out the sign, you could use this for shock value (since it really does look like it, doesn't it?) let them read the sign...

**DonnaH:** and point out, that is exactly what slaves were...they were a COMMODITY

**DavidWe** nods sadly

**DonnaH:** (in case you can't read the sign, it says 'dealers in slaves')

**DonnaH:** Well, we got curious, so as a group, we googled.

**DonnaH:** because of course, you'll get the one who will comment that it was a rare thing

**DonnaH:** Price and Birch were the south's single largest purveyors of slaves.

**DonnaH:** and, the building still stands and is a national historic site, in Alexandria, VA

**DonnaH:** The last useful bit is that this is a Mathew Brady photograph.

**MichaelH:**

[http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/digital\\_detail.jsp?&pg=2&rn=2&tn=530387&st=b&rp=de tails&nh=3](http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/digital_detail.jsp?&pg=2&rn=2&tn=530387&st=b&rp=de tails&nh=3)

**MichaelH:** I just did a search on NARA for Price and Birch

**MichaelH:** just use the "time out" page and click on the search function

**MichaelH:** Hey, guys, BJ has another session coming in, so I suggest we call it a rest and watch West Wing

**JeffreyTh:** thanks for your time. see you around (so to speak)

**DavidWe:** Here's a picture that will work:

**DavidWe:** <http://oha.ci.alexandria.va.us/bhrc/images/bh-d-full.jpg>

**MichaelH:** We can pick this up in a future session!

**MichaelH:** wow! Never saw that picture before, David

**MichaelH** waves good night for now... have a conference I have to prepare for... really, have done nothing, and have to present on Friday

**MichaelH** waves

**DonnaH:** you are amazing:)

**DavidWe:** Night, Michael

**DavidWe:** Thanks, Donna