

Student Essay on The American Revolution's Impact on Slavery and the Status of Women

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Essay

The American Revolution had an impact on both slavery and the status of women from 1775-1800. It gave the African American slaves opportunities to escape the bondage and join the army. It significantly affected the legal position of white women. Revolutions within the Revolution took place causing vivid changes in the aspects of women and slavery. It gave a new light to the women who had been looked down on and hope for slaves who helped fight the cause.

African American Slaves who had only the slightest chance to obtaining their own freedom had a new hope that the army would direct them to that path. Nevertheless there were no intentions of giving new privileges to these slaves in the army. They were to be nothing more than extra support against the British with little value. African-American slaves still had the same treatment as those who were in bondage. However, the slaves believed that since they were fighting for the white people they would be given more freedom. With a few exceptions this did not happen.

African-American soldiers did enjoy the few things white people took for granted but other than that they only continued to serve as a slave. Some slaves managed to escape during the confusion and chaos of the war and act as a freed slave without being caught and some went out to help others. Slavery continued after the war despite the efforts of African-American soldiers. Although slavery didn't undergo any major changes the aftermath of the war inspired many criticisms on slavery. A group called the "Quakers" formed to help free a small percentage of slaves.

Much like slavery, white women were affected by the revolution. They were beginning to proclaim a public role in society. They were given a wide range of roles to further their independence in the war. Women were able to help support the cause which they played an important role in. This affected the relations between man and woman to a more bonded level. A woman was not only a wife and a mother but a mutual companion. Both Slavery and the status of women were in the first stages of gaining independence and liberty.