

US1.9b

The South feared that the North would take control of Congress, and Southerners began to proclaim states rights as a means of self protection.

The North believed that the nation was a union and could not be divided. While the Civil War did not begin as a war to abolish slavery, issues surrounding slavery deeply divided the nation.

Issues that divided the nation

An important issue separating the country related to the power of the Federal government. Southerners believed that they had the power to declare any national law illegal. Northerners believed that the national government's power was supreme over that of the states.

Southerners felt that the abolition of slavery would destroy their region's economy. Northerners believed that slavery should be abolished for moral reasons.

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the causes and results of the Civil War by
b) Explaining how the issues of states rights and slavery increased sectional tensions.