

HANDOUT

1860 ELECTION



ABRAHAM LINCOLN
and Hannibal Hamlin

POPULAR VOTE: 1,865,593
ELECTORAL VOTE: 180

REPUBLICAN

Lincoln was a **lawyer** who **unsuccessfully** ran against Douglas for a seat in the **U.S. Senate** in 1858.

The **Civil War** loomed in 1860 and all candidates supported **preserving the Union**.

With the **Democrats divided** over slavery, Lincoln concentrated on winning the larger Northern vote.

A Lincoln victory seemed certain to lead to Southern **secession** and civil war.

All candidates supported the **transcontinental railroad**, as the nation grew westward.

Lincoln favored the **Homestead Act** giving free land to Western settlers.

Lincoln's **"rail splitter"** image appealed to voters in the Western frontier states.

The **Republicans** were a relatively new party formed in 1856 made up of many ex-Whigs like Lincoln.

Lincoln gained **national attention** during the Illinois Senate race in 1858 when he **debated** Stephen Douglas, which was covered by many newspapers.

"A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved; I do not expect the house to fall; but I do expect it will cease to be divided."

-Lincoln speaking at the 1858 convention that nominated him to be the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate seat in Illinois.



STEPHEN DOUGLAS
and Herschel Johnson

POPULAR VOTE: 1,382,713
ELECTORAL VOTE: 12

DEMOCRAT (NORTH)

Douglas was a **U.S. Senator** from Illinois.

There were intense **sectional divides** on the issue of slavery.

In 1854, Senator Douglas pushed through Congress a repeal of the **Missouri Compromise** as a nod to Southern Democrats. This led to the collapse of the Whig Party, divisions within the Democratic Party, and the creation of a Republican Party.

Douglas was criticized for **stumping** for votes through personal appearances at rallies.



Map of states and territories open to slavery or free, after the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, 1854

JOHN BRECKINRIDGE and Joseph Lane
DEMOCRAT (SOUTH)

POPULAR VOTE: 848,358
ELECTORAL VOTE: 72

Party loyalties were scattered as the **Democrats split** over the issue of **slavery**.

JOHN BELL and Edward Everett
CONSTITUTIONAL UNION

POPULAR VOTE: 592,906
ELECTORAL VOTE: 39

The **Constitutional Union Party**, made up of ex Whigs and Know Nothings, stood for preserving the Union.