

## 14-3 – Political Divisions- Pages- 450-454

**Essential Question:** *In what ways did the split over the issue of slavery intensify due to political division and judicial decisions?*

### **Main Idea 1:**

**Political parties in the United States underwent change due to the movement to expand slavery.**

- ★ Some Whigs, **Democrats**, Free-Soilers, and **abolitionists** joined in **1854** to form the **Republican Party**.
  - United **against** spread of **slavery** in the **West**
  - Nominated explorer **John C. Frémont**, who stood **against** spread of **slavery**
- Democrats were in **trouble**. Those who **supported** the **Kansas-Nebraska** debate were not **re-elected**.
  - Nominated **James Buchanan**, Polk's secretary of state, who had not been **involved** in **Kansas-Nebraska** debate
- **Buchanan** was elected by **winning** 14 of 15 **slave** states.

### **Main Idea 2:**

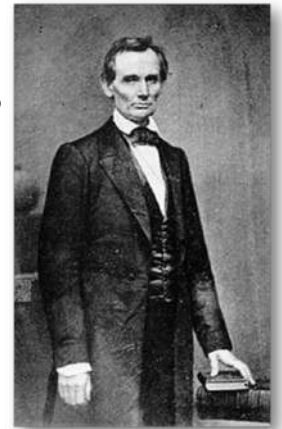
**The Dred Scott decision created further division over the issue of slavery.**

- **Dred Scott** was **slave** of Missouri physician
- Had been **taken** to **free** territory by **owner**
- Sued for **freedom** in 1846 after owner **died**, arguing he had become **free** when he lived in **free territory**
- **Case** reached **Supreme Court** in 1857



### ***Dred Scott v. Sandford***

- Chief Justice **Roger B. Taney** wrote **majority** opinion
- Supreme Court's **decision** in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* included **all** of the following rulings:
  - ★ **African Americans**, whether free or **slave**, were not **citizens** and had no right to **sue** in federal court
  - ★ Slaves were considered **property** and could not be **taken** from their **owners**
  - ★ Ruled the **Missouri Compromise** restriction on **slavery** was **unconstitutional**
- Most white **southerners** were **cheered** by the **decision**.
- Ruling **stunned** many **northerners**, including **Illinois** lawyer **Abraham Lincoln**, who **warned** about its **consequences**
- **Republicans** especially **angered** by the *Dred Scott v. Sandford* decision.
  - ★ Their 1856 **presidential** campaign was **based** on the fact that **Congress** had the **power** to **ban** slavery



### Main Idea 3:

The Lincoln-Douglas debates brought much attention to the conflict over slavery.

- Illinois **Republicans** nominated **Abraham Lincoln** for the U.S. **Senate** in 1858.
- His opponent was **Democrat** Stephen Douglas, who had been **senator** since 1847.
- **Lincoln** challenged **Douglas** to what became the historic **Lincoln-Douglas** debates.



“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**.”

--Abraham Lincoln, from his “House Divided” speech, 1858

- ★ Lincoln’s **speech** reveals his **thoughts** about the nation’s **future**.  
The **disputes** over **slavery** between the **North** and the **South** will be **resolved**.

### The Lincoln-Douglas Debates

- ★ Abraham Lincoln accused **Democrats** of wanting to spread **slavery** in the **West**.
  - Douglas **criticized** Lincoln for saying **nation** could not **remain** “half **slave** and half **free**”
  - **Douglas** put forth Freeport Doctrine: people had **right** to **introduce** or **exclude** slavery, and **police** would **enforce** their **decision** even if it **contradicted** the Supreme Court
- ★ The Freeport Doctrine **proposed** by Stephen Douglas stated that the **decision** to practice **slavery** in the **territories** belonged to the **people**
  - Freeport Doctrine helped **Douglas** win, but **Lincoln** became an important **Republican** Party leader and later **president**.

