

## **Slavery and Immigration - Final Draft**

Slavery and indentured servitude are two pretty similar things, but were they a form of immigration? Indentured servitude began soon after the settlement of Jamestown in 1607. The goal of it was to have cheap labor for 4-7 years in exchange for a passage out of Europe. This was a form of immigration because it was done by a lot of people and they were doing it so they could move from Europe to what is now America. That is the main idea of immigration--to move from one country to another and become a citizen there. Historians believe that those who used indentured servitude as a way to come to America were better off than those who were slaves. It may have been an unfair exchange and it is slightly different from our current immigration policies, but it is still a form of immigration.

<https://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/feature/indentured-servants-in-the-us/>  
<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/i/indentured-servitude.asp>

Racialized chattel slavery was a bit different from indentured servitude. It was a way to get free labor. In the case of the colonies, the slaves were African. I believe that slavery was a form of forced immigration because the white people made the Africans leave their country and work in terrible conditions with no pay.

<https://www.restavekfreedom.org/2018/09/11/the-history-of-slavery>

Indentured servitude ended up leading to slavery. This happened because the indentured servant owners realized that they could take in more slaves from different countries and force them to work for free. Perhaps they thought that the African slaves did not understand what was going on so they took advantage of them. Indentured servitude is similar to slavery because they both caused immigration. Both groups of people ended up settling the new world. They also were created with the same goal of cheap labor, and they both lead to bigger issues that are still problems today. Slavery is different than indentured servitude because the slaves were not paid or promised anything. While the indentured servants were promised a passage out of Europe. It is

also different because the slaves were typically African, and the indentured servants were mainly white/European.

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/indentured\\_servitude\\_in\\_the\\_Americas](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/indentured_servitude_in_the_Americas)

The North and South were both settled by different groups of people. They had different beliefs from one another and ended up having a Civil War. The North was settled by pilgrims. The pilgrims immigrated to the new world for religious freedom and lots of determination to gain independence from England. They arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620. The South was also settled by pilgrims, but it was in Jamestown, Virginia in 1607 and they eventually brought in slaves in 1619. The Southernmost states had a very different climate from the Northern states. The South has a climate that works well for agriculture, and the North developed easier ways to farm while putting a bigger emphasis on religious freedom.

[www.thomaslegion.net/borderstatecivilwarhistory.html](http://www.thomaslegion.net/borderstatecivilwarhistory.html)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confederate\\_States\\_of\\_America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confederate_States_of_America)

[www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/\\_colonial\\_subj.htm](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/_colonial_subj.htm)

In both Virginia and Massachusetts, colonists thrived with some help from the Native Americans. Groups of abolitionist began to grow as well. A man named William Lloyd Garrison was one of them. He was born in the North and became a big advocate for ending slavery. He published his own newspaper called *The Liberator* to help build his reputation as an abolitionist. Unfortunately, he refused to participate in any political action (leading, public speaking, etc.) despite that, he worked with a former slave named Frederick Douglas and their abolition movement grew. After the civil war, him and other abolitionists were pleased to see the 13th amendment put in place.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abolitionism\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abolitionism_in_the_United_States)

<https://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h477.html>

<https://www.biography.com/writer/william-lloyd-garrison>

Over the summer, 2,700 children were separated from their families at the US/Mexico border. This is not the first time something like this has happened. Slaves were brought in on the James River in Virginia in 1619. When they were brought into

Jamestown, Virginia, they were immediately auctioned and sold. All throughout slavery, tons of families were separated similarly to how the children at the border were separated. Slaves would be individually sold and taken away from their families to a completely new area. They had no say in it, and they could never be sure that they would ever see their families again. This is similar to what is happening at the border because in both cases, families are being separated without having a say in it.

[www.encyclopediavirginia.org](http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org)

During slavery, the government may have found it too complicated to keep slaves with their families. It was also believed that the Africans were less than human, so that gave the white people the right to treat them horribly. The main reason they might do this is based on the “zero-tolerance” immigration policy that the Trump administration introduced. This policy makes it so that adult undocumented immigrants crossing the border were jailed and charged. Since the children of the immigrants could not be charged, they were taken away from their families to stay in tiny, cold shelters all alone.

[www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-44303556](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-44303556)

America has come a long way since 1619, but history clearly repeats itself sometimes and that needs to change. Even today, we struggle with having good leaders, racial equality, and a solid immigration system. Hopefully this country will continue to progress and become a better place.