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[Name]

[Institution]

[Title]

The American Civil War was fought between the Confederacy of the United States and the Union on the issue of implementing slavery laws into the newly integrated territories. The conflict was furthered by the implementation of increased taxes on imports and exports. The three important events that contributed to the onset of the Civil War were the ending of the Mexican Civil War, the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act, and the publication of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. In addition, women and freed and enslaved black individuals contributed to the war efforts by providing their labor and participating in the war efforts.

One of the tensions that gave rise to the Civil War was based on the issue of slavery. The states that had declared the enslaved people free and those that had not both aimed at gaining control of the national government over the task of prohibiting slavery in the regions that had not achieved that status of states. When Abraham Lincoln became the president of the United States in the year 1860, he promised to prevent the institution of slavery from taking hold in the new territories. However, seven states established the Confederate States of America to oppose the efforts to abolish slavery in the Southern regions of the United States. The administrative body of Abraham Lincoln was backed by most of the Northern states, who were all fixated on declaring the new secession illegitimate. Such acts threatened the legitimacy of democratic values and weakened the foundations of the united nature of the states of America.

Another source of tension that paved the way for the Civil War was the economic conflict between the Northern and the Southern states that arose because of the implementation of increased taxes on the import and export of commodities. The northern states largely benefitted from the increased tariffs on the imports and exports of commodities (Montoya, Belmonte, Guarneri, Hackel, & Hartigan-O'Connor, 2016). On the other hand, such policies were

detrimental to the economic conditions of the southern states. The tensions between the southern and the northern states over the issue of slavery escalated when the economic conditions entered the equation. The primary source of revenue generation for the southern states was the export of cotton to the European countries. In contrast, the northern states were more industrialized and generated more revenue from inter-state trading than inter-country trading. Therefore, when increased taxes were imposed on the import and export of products, this primarily impacted the southern states, leading to increased discontentment.

Three events were of primary importance in bringing about the Civil War. The first of these was the ending of the Mexican Civil War. After this war ended, concerns arose about implementing laws in the newly integrated territories. On the one hand, these territories could be subjected to the laws that prohibited slavery, or they could be subjected to the ones that allowed slavery. The second important event was the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act, which dictated that a federal official was to arrest individuals seeking freedom; otherwise, the federal official would be subjected to a fine. The law prompted black activists to increase their efforts against slavery. The third important event was the publication of the book *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which expressively elucidated the experiences of slavery, providing insights into the conditions of slavery to the white northerners.

Women and freed and enslaved black individuals played significant roles in the Civil War efforts. Women participated in the efforts made by the Union, thus contributing to the cause. In addition, freed black individuals participated in military action while the southern state utilized enslaved people for labor.

In conclusion, the Civil War started because of the conflict between the southern and northern states on implementing slavery laws in the newly integrated territories. The conflict was

furthered by the increased taxes on imports and exports. The ending of the Mexican Civil War, the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act, and the publication of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* were important events that contributed to the Civil War. By providing labor and military services, women and enslaved and freed black people participated in the war efforts.

References

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