

Prompt: Cohabitation Record for Colored Persons, 1866

Assignment: Short essay

Source: Register of Colored Persons of Floyd County, State of Virginia, Cohabiting Together as Husband and Wife, 27 February 1866. Library of Virginia. Excerpts distributed in last class on August 29th.

Length: 250 words

Due Date: Wednesday, September 7th. Submit using Journal function in BlackBoard

Questions to address:

1. Briefly describe the information provided in the cohabitation register and its historical significance.
2. What insight can be gained from a document like this? What does it reveal about African American family life under the institution of slavery? What changed after emancipation?
3. How does this document support or change what you understand about this period in history?