

Civil War and Reconstruction
History 3750
Writing Assignment # 1

For your first assignment, please read all of the following documents (available on the course) website:

The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions

Lincoln's First Inaugural Address

"All we ask is to be let alone": Jefferson Davis's Confederate Constitutional Address, 1861

Using all of these sources, plus The Civil War Constitution (also located on the website), write an essay explaining the basic legal arguments of the pro- and anti-states' rights positions. Which side has the better arguments? Why?

This essay should be typed and double-spaced. It must be a minimum of four and a maximum of five pages in length. It is due at the beginning of class on Monday 30 June.