

## Questions related to White Status and Southern Secession

1. Do the two paragraphs from South Carolina's "Declaration of the Immediate Causes" leave any doubt that South Carolina seceded over the issue of slavery? In the lead-up to secession, what was the last straw as far as South Carolina was concerned?
2. Southern leaders were concerned about whether secession had enough support. Why?
3. In your own words, what is the gist of the argument that Townsend and DeBow are making? Quote them both to reinforce your response.
4. Discuss the reasonableness of such an argument.
5. Townsend and DeBow seem to imply a necessary link between slavery and white privilege, but do you think white privilege needed slavery to survive? Explain.
6. Townsend and DeBow give the impression that non-slaveholding white southerners were largely poor. Do you think the poverty of non-slaveholding whites added fuel to their racism, and how do you think they felt about black slaveholding? Explain.