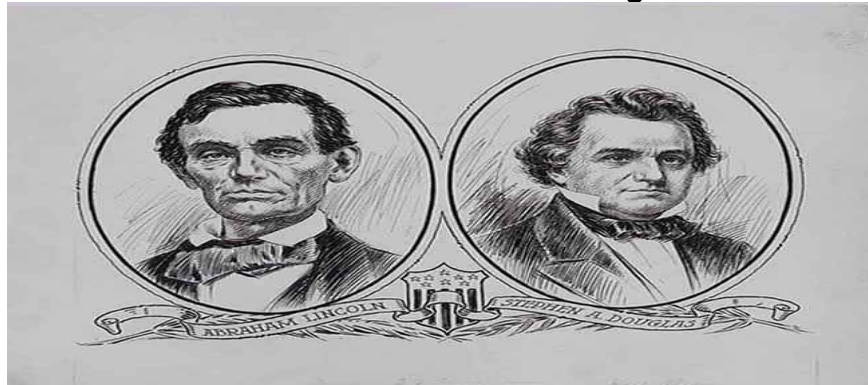


## Abraham Lincoln Actions as President: Annual Address to Congress



<http://www.tmsdebate.org/images/ld.jpg>

**Who:** Abraham Lincoln

**When:** June 16, 1858

**Where:** Illinois House of Representatives Republican Convention

**What happened:** Lincoln's words were like dynamite. He became noticed nationally by taking a stand and stating his position on slavery. He was debating with Stephen A. Douglas for the Republican U.S. Senate nomination. Lincoln lost the nomination, but he was brought to the attention of the entire nation with his words...

*"A House divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free.....It will become all one thing, or all the other."*

Tell what this statement means in your own words.

Do you agree or disagree with President Lincoln's statement? Why or Why not?

How did this action reflect his characteristic(s) as a leader?

Why do you think people still remember these words today?