

Election of 1860



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This is a picture of Abraham Lincoln giving his first presidential speech on March 4, 1861. In his Inaugural address he states, “Apprehension seems to exist among the people in the southern states, that by having a Republican president, their property, peace, and personal security are to be endangered.”

Why do you think the South may have these feelings?

In 1842 Lincoln said “Slavery and Oppression must stop or American Liberty/Freedom will perish/die.” However in his Inaugural Address he states, “I have no purpose, directly or indirectly to interfere with the institution of slavery in states where it already exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so.”

Why do you think Lincoln said he would not ban slavery in the South if he was so opposed to it?

What do you think these statements made by Lincoln say about his beliefs and values?