

Emancipation: What Came Before, How It Worked, and What Followed

The Third Wepner Symposium on the Lincoln Legacy and Contemporary Scholarship

Department of Political Science at the University of Illinois Springfield

October 19-20, 2012

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Wepner Symposium is offered to link concepts, issues, and techniques of contemporary political science to "the legacy of Abraham Lincoln." This can be interpreted broadly and can be related to any field of political science. That means that proposals are welcome from (a) any field of political science and any of the forty-odd organized sections of the American Political Science Association; (b) from colleagues who study politics from the conceptual terrain of anthropology, economics, history, psychology, sociology, law, and the humanities, including American Studies and Afro-American studies.

Since 2012 is the sesquicentennial year of President Lincoln's announcement of his intention to issue an emancipation proclamation in 1863, the politics and legacy of emancipation are the focus of this year's symposium.

The Wepner Chair would particularly encourage papers by scholars in all the disciplines mentioned, on:

- (a) the concept of emancipation in states and systems earlier than that of the United States (e. g. Rome);
- (b) doctrines and practices of emancipation in the United States prior to the Civil War;
- (c) Catholic Emancipation in the 19th century and West India emancipation;
- (d) how emancipation became a Presidential option during the Civil War, since it obviously was not so at the beginning;
- (e) the roles of political figures who opposed emancipation, of those who equivocally supported emancipation and those (e. g. African American spokespersons, notably Frederick Douglass and some white abolitionists) who were unequivocal supporters;
- (f) counter-attack from 1863 to the end of the 19th century by those who stood to lose by emancipation, and activities of those who sought to fulfill their possibilities post-emancipation;
- (g) emancipation in the inter-national relations, naval strategy, trade or domestic politics of the Atlantic quadrangle (Britain and Europe, Africa, North America, and South America);
- (h) consequences of success and failure of 19th century emancipation for strengthening of weakening racial inequality in 20th century America;
- (i) doctrines, struggles, and relationships regarding the emancipation of women and the inclusion of women in the body politic;
- (j) political theories implicit or explicit in American historical writing on Lincoln, the Lincoln Administration, and emancipation (such as the predominant historical writing of the past three decades and the controversial writing of the journalist Lerone Bennett).

Proposals must be received by email or hard copy not later than **March 21, 2012**. Acceptances will be made by **April 18, 2012**. Papers will be due by **August 10, 2012**, also in electronic form or hard copy. Responses may be submitted at our web site (<http://www.uis.edu/wepner/symposium/submit.html>), sent to wepner@uis.edu or mailed to WEPNER SYMPOSIUM, Political Science Department, University of Illinois at Springfield, MS PAC 350, One University Plaza, Springfield, IL 62703, USA. **Electronic responses preferred.**