

Perspectives on Freedom & Slavery

1. Defining Creole and Atlantic Creoles
 - a. **Creole**- a person born and raised in the Americas beginning in the 16th century
 - i. ethnicity and race didn't matter
 - ii. cultural expressions were based on where they grew up in
 - b. **Atlantic Creoles**- those who by experience or choice, as well as birth, become part of a new culture that emerged along the Atlantic coasts of Africa, Europe and the Americas beginning in the 16th century
 - i. multiple linguistics skills
 - ii. diplomacy skills
 - iii. could also be captured and sold into slavery
 - iv. ability to communicate with various slaves
 - v. equally useful in the urban areas rather than plantation areas
 - c. Equiano
 - i. born in 1745 in Southwest Nigeria enslaved at the age of 11
 - ii. taken to Virginia and sold
 - iii. bought by a British naval officer Michael
 - iv. pressed into service into the Caribbean
 - v. traded commodities to various ports and purchased his own freedom in 1766
 - vi. goes everywhere but return to London and gains spiritual enlightenment and becomes Christian
 - vii. begins to write
 - viii. major voice in the abolition movement
 - ix. published "Interesting Life of Equiano" in 1789
 - x. wealthiest in the English speaking world back then and work is recognized today
 - xi. not fully African, British, or American
 - xii. sailor, traveler, writer, and trader
2. **Free People of Color**
 - a. **Free Women of Color, Brazil**
 - i. midwives, nurses, seamstress...
 - b. **Free Man of Color, Haiti**
 - i. cooks, porters, coachmen, day-laborers, carpenters, shoemakers
 - c. **majority live in the urban areas (more jobs)**
 - d. **serving in the military service**
 - i. porters in Brazil

- ii. west India regiment, British Army
 - iii. Candy Seller in Cuba
 - iv. gave them right to military weapons, pensions...
- e. Paths of Freedom
- i. Manumission- slaves freed by their owners
 - ii. Self- Manumission - slave buys their own freedom
 - iii. Free Born - children of African descent born to a mother who was not a slave