

Abraham Lincoln: America's Greatest Leader

On March 4th 1861 the people of the United States made the greatest decision in its history when they elected Abraham Lincoln as their 16th president. I say this because this lawyer from a small town in Kentucky put the country on his back through its greatest internal crisis, The Civil War. In doing so he preserved the Union and stabilized a country that was falling into darkness.

One of the greatest things about Lincoln is that many historians believe that saving the country was not his greatest accomplishment. Most people believe that his fearless steps towards ending slavery, which eventually got him killed, is the mark that Abraham Lincoln left on this great nation. Lincoln went against the grain when he allowed blacks to fight for their freedom and went against his party lines when he selected a Democrat, Andrew Johnson, as his Vice President. In doing so he proved that his only interest was the well-being of his country.

After reading about Abraham Lincoln it is impossible to not be inspired. First, we can all learn from his selflessness, just think about how great this country could be if everyone put the well-being of their fellow countrymen ahead of their own personal affairs. Secondly, in such a hateful time in our country's history, where racism dominated the average American household, Abraham Lincoln was a beacon of light that shown through the darkness. He was fearless in taking the first great steps towards ending slavery. Lincoln gave his life for the equality of every man. In doing so, Lincoln cemented himself as the greatest president in the history of the United States of America.

Abraham Lincoln, through his actions during the most hectic time in our country's history, has influenced me to follow my dreams and become not only a better person, but a better American.