**Why Did We Fight?**

**Union Soldiers**

**Reason for Fighting?**

2. Northerners believe the South broke the law in seceding, and they believed the rebellion had to be stopped.

3. Northerners wanted to keep the idea of “America”, set forth by the Founders alive.

4. Many people joined to fight because other people joined to fight; they likely felt like they “had” to join.

5. People joined because they saw it as exciting, fun, and adventurous. Too, they saw it as their “duty.”

**Black Soldiers in the Union**

**Reason for Fighting?**

1. Former slaves joined the Union to gain their freedom, to support the ending of slavery.

2. Former slaves joined to prove themselves and earn the respect they deserved.

**Confederate Soldiers**

**Reason for Fighting?**

1. Southerners fought because they believed they had a right to secede from the Union.

2. Southerners fought to keep their way of life intact, to maintain the freedom of the states to act as they pleased.

3. Southerners joined due to other people joining; they felt like they “had” to join.

4. Southerners wanted to protect their land from invasion.

5. Southerners felt the Founding Fathers justified their view, fighting for liberty and freedom of the states.

**Black Soldiers in the Confederacy**

**Reason for Fighting?**

1. Blacks in the Confederacy wanted to maintain their way of life too – they wanted to keep their property (slaves) and supported the right of their land to do as they wish.

2. CROSS OFF THIS BOX

**Women Soldiers**

**Reason for Fighting?**

1. Women enlisted because of rough home lives, because of the money offered, because of their hatred of slavery, and because of the same pressures of men (peer pressure, desire to protect land). Others sought adventure.