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Antebellum Period

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Antebellum Period

During the Antebellum period, the North and South presented several differences and similarities. The similarities presented between the two areas created uniformity, which was important in streamlining the economic status of each region. However, the differences contributed towards increased hostility between the two regions leading to the civil war. The differences between the two regions ranged from those in political systems to technological advancements with the North experiencing a higher rate of industrialization when compared to the South. The seriousness of the conflicts between the two regions divided the country into two rivaling parts thereby promoting the onslaught of the civil war.

The first notable similarity between the two regions was the rapid growth in population attributed to the high number of immigrants moving into the regions. The Antebellum period refers to the early 19th century during which America experienced an influx of immigrants. Consequently, the movement of immigrants promoted increased population in the two regions. In addition, the rapid growth in population resulted from the increased demand for labor in the two regions with the leaders of the regions outsourcing for labor in other countries. The outsourcing process contributed to the fast growth of the regions' economic status.

Secondly, the two regions also presented a significant similarity in terms of the policies implemented to guarantee safety and health issues for the people living in the regions. The high number of immigrants, mainly German and Irish, presented a significant security risk to the people and businesses in the North, which prompted the development of adequate security measures to protect people. In addition, the two also presented a similarity in terms of their booming economic statuses, whereby the North and the South experienced a high rate of

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economic stability due to the availability of labor and policies that governed the revolution of the regions.

The first social difference between the North and the South was the use of slaves for labor. The policies implemented by the Congress in the South allowed increasing slave trade, which created a platform for using slave for labor purposes. In addition, the systems also allowed large farm owners in the South to own slaves as part of their property. However, the North implemented “free labor” policies that did not favor the use of slaves for labor. The conflict arising from the implementation of policies contributed towards fuelling the hostilities between the two regions, which promoted the occurrence of the civil war.

Secondly, the two regions also presented major differences in terms of their technological advancements with the North experiencing a higher rate of innovation leading to the development of the mass printing press industry. The development of this industry allowed the individuals in the north to pass on information readily and quickly, which was an essential aspect during the civil war. The South relied wholly on agriculture due to the presence of huge pieces of land and policies allowing the slave trade. So, the difference in terms of innovations for the two regions contributed towards a major difference in terms of social improvements.

The differences created major hostilities between the two regions, which was the main factor that contributed towards the civil war. The differences, which included social, political, and technological differences, could have been reconciled to prevent the civil war. The main factor indicating that the differences were reconcilable is that most of the policies between the two regions were similar indicating that there were only minor differences. The leaders of the regions had an obligation to ensure effective reconciliation of the differences, which would have prevented the civil war while promoting economic development within the two regions.