



The Civil War in the United States

By Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels

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The American Civil War so profoundly shaped Marx and Engels's understanding of social revolution and international politics that it marks a watershed in the history of communism as much as it does in the history of the United States. A complete revision of the 1937 edition of the Civil War writings of Marx and Engels, this volume incorporates new texts by Marx and Engels, as well as by US authors including Communist Union Army officer Joseph Weydemeyer and African American scholar and activist W.E.B. Du Bois. Careful editorial guidance throughout the volume allows readers with little prior knowledge to gain a good understanding of both Marxism and the Civil War as they encounter a range of fascinating and insightful letters, newspaper articles, and philosophic expositions. Experts will discover new perspectives opened by the unique insights of Marx, Engels, and others into the US Civil War, as well as the history of slavery and freedom, race and class, communism and capitalism that defined this era and continue to define our own.

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Editorial Review

Review

The publication of this volume is especially timely, as the American left now faces many of the same issues Marx grappled with in the 1860s. The 2016 election seems like another round in a fight that stretches back to the Civil War and Reconstruction. Then as now, the relationship between race and class has come to the fore... Marx's writings on the Civil War give us some valuable tools with which to take up these issues.

-- Kevin Anderson, *Jacobin*

Andrew Zimmerman has done all of us the great favor of re-issuing these works... Zimmerman's edition adds new selections from *Capital*, his own translations of some of Weydemeyer's writings, and concludes with a short summation by W.E.B. DuBois of Marx's approach to slavery and the Civil War. This new material, plus expert introductions to each section, give us a richer picture of Marx and Engels' work on the subject.-- Alexander Gourevitch, *Civil War Book Review*

From the Back Cover

"Andrew Zimmerman has given us an extremely important book, one that will be of great interest to students of the Civil War, of slavery and capitalism, and of nineteenth-century Euro-American radicalism. Introduced by Zimmerman with great range and insight, this collection of Marx and Engels's writings on the American Civil War -- their correspondence and newspaper articles in the American, German, and British Press -- reveals how they simultaneously developed shrewd understandings of the political and social dynamics of the American struggle (with prescient forecasts) and began to reshape their own ideas of capitalism and revolution." -- **Steven Hahn, University of Pennsylvania**

"Karl Marx's revolutionary optimism spilled across the Atlantic to the United States. He followed the Civil War closely, hoping that it would trigger a social revolution. Many of his observations are prescient and useful. Andrew Zimmerman has done a great service by bringing them into one volume. It shows the elaboration of Marx's thoughts not only on the United States but also on the idea of popular unrest, civil war and revolution. An indispensable volume." -- **Vijay Prashad, author of *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South***

About the Author

Andrew Zimmerman is professor of history at George Washington University.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eddie Nelson:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book might be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the publication untitled The Civil War in the United States can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Robert Monson:

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Paul Avila:

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