

Jessica Hillis

Mr. Gillard

AP US History

11 November 2006

Essay 11: Slavery and the South

From the period of 1840 to 1860 the South was ruled by the fact that every state was a "slave" state. Slavery became a part of everything that the South wanted. Validity can be found in political and intellectual aspects.

Politically speaking, many slaveholders in the South wanted the newly gained territory of Texas to be brought into the Union as a slave state, giving the slave states a "leg up" on the free states in the north. The free states were worried that the slave states would ultimately take over and eventually control Congress. The southern states, however wanted every single new territory to become a slave state, to keep the free states from taking control of congress and outlawing slavery. The south also wanted to bring the new states in as slave states because they also wanted to expand; slaves took up most of the population in the south. In the House, each state ruled depending on how large the population of the state was. The more power in the House that the South had, the power they had to pass laws for slavery and it also helped to prevent outlawing of slavery by the North.

Economically the south depended on slavery greatly. The South also believed that