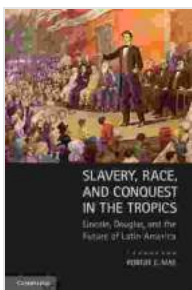


# Lincoln, Douglas, and the Future of Latin America: A Historical Exploration into the Roots of Interventionism

The United States' relationship with Latin America has been marked by a long history of interventionism. From the Monroe Doctrine to the Spanish-American War, the US has often sought to exert its influence over the region. This article explores the historical roots of American interventionism in Latin America through the lens of the Lincoln-Douglas debates.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates were a series of seven debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas in 1858. The debates were held in Illinois, and they covered a wide range of issues, including slavery, popular sovereignty, and the future of the United States. Lincoln and Douglas had very different views on these issues, and their debates helped to crystallize the differences between the two candidates.



## Slavery, Race, and Conquest in the Tropics: Lincoln, Douglas, and the Future of Latin America by Robert E. May

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 6068 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 312 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



Lincoln believed that slavery was a moral evil, and he opposed its expansion into new territories. Douglas, on the other hand, believed that slavery was a necessary evil, and he supported the principle of popular sovereignty, which allowed each state to decide whether or not to allow slavery within its bFree Downloads.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates had a significant impact on American politics. They helped to shape public opinion on the issue of slavery, and they contributed to the growing tension between the North and the South. The debates also helped to establish Lincoln as a leading figure in the Republican Party.

In addition to their impact on American politics, the Lincoln-Douglas debates also shed light on the US's relationship with Latin America. Lincoln and Douglas both expressed their views on the future of Latin America, and their debates helped to shape American attitudes towards the region.

Lincoln believed that the US had a moral obligation to help Latin America achieve its independence from European powers. He also believed that the US should promote democracy and human rights in the region. Douglas, on the other hand, was more skeptical of US intervention in Latin America. He believed that the US should only intervene in the region to protect its own interests.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates provide a valuable window into the historical roots of American interventionism in Latin America. Lincoln and Douglas's views on the region helped to shape American attitudes towards Latin America, and their debates continue to inform discussions about US foreign policy in the region today.

## **Manifest Destiny**

One of the key factors that shaped American attitudes towards Latin America was the concept of Manifest Destiny. Manifest Destiny was the belief that the United States was destined to expand across the North American continent and into Latin America. This belief was based on a number of factors, including the desire for land, the need for resources, and the belief that the US was a superior civilization to the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

Manifest Destiny had a significant impact on US foreign policy towards Latin America. The US often sought to justify its interventions in the region by claiming that it was acting in accordance with Manifest Destiny. For example, the US justified its annexation of Texas in 1845 by arguing that it was fulfilling its destiny to expand across the continent.

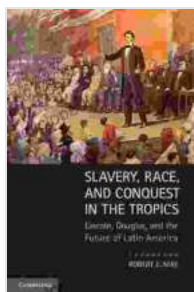
Lincoln and Douglas both expressed their views on Manifest Destiny during the Lincoln-Douglas debates. Lincoln was critical of Manifest Destiny, arguing that it was a justification for imperialism and expansionism. Douglas, on the other hand, was more supportive of Manifest Destiny, arguing that it was a natural and inevitable process.

## **Slavery**

Another key factor that shaped US attitudes towards Latin America was the issue of slavery. The United States was a slave society, and the issue of slavery was a major source of tension between the North and the South. The US often sought to expand slavery into new territories, and this led to conflicts with the indigenous peoples of the Americas and with European powers.

The issue of slavery also had a significant impact on US foreign policy towards Latin America. The US often sought to support pro-slavery regimes in Latin America, and it opposed the abolition of slavery in the region. For example, the US supported the Confederacy during the American Civil War, and it opposed the abolition of slavery in Cuba.

Lincoln and Douglas both expressed their views on slavery during the Lincoln-Douglas debates. Lincoln was a staunch opponent of slavery, and he argued that it was a moral evil. Douglas, on the other hand, was more



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