

Reading “The Land of Dred Scott: Scenes from our racist history”
by William H. Freivogel

Freivogel’s article states: “The nation’s fight about the meaning of America’s great promises of freedom and equality played out at St. Louis’ Old Courthouse in 1850 and before huge crowds in the seven Illinois towns during the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858. It took the death of 750,000 men to settle the issue.”

Use this table to track evidence he provides for this claim by citing examples of America’s promises of freedom and equality (on the left) and examples of America reneging on them to preserve racism, segregation, and slavery (on the right).

America’s promises of freedom and equality	Actions taken to preserve racism, segregation, and slavery