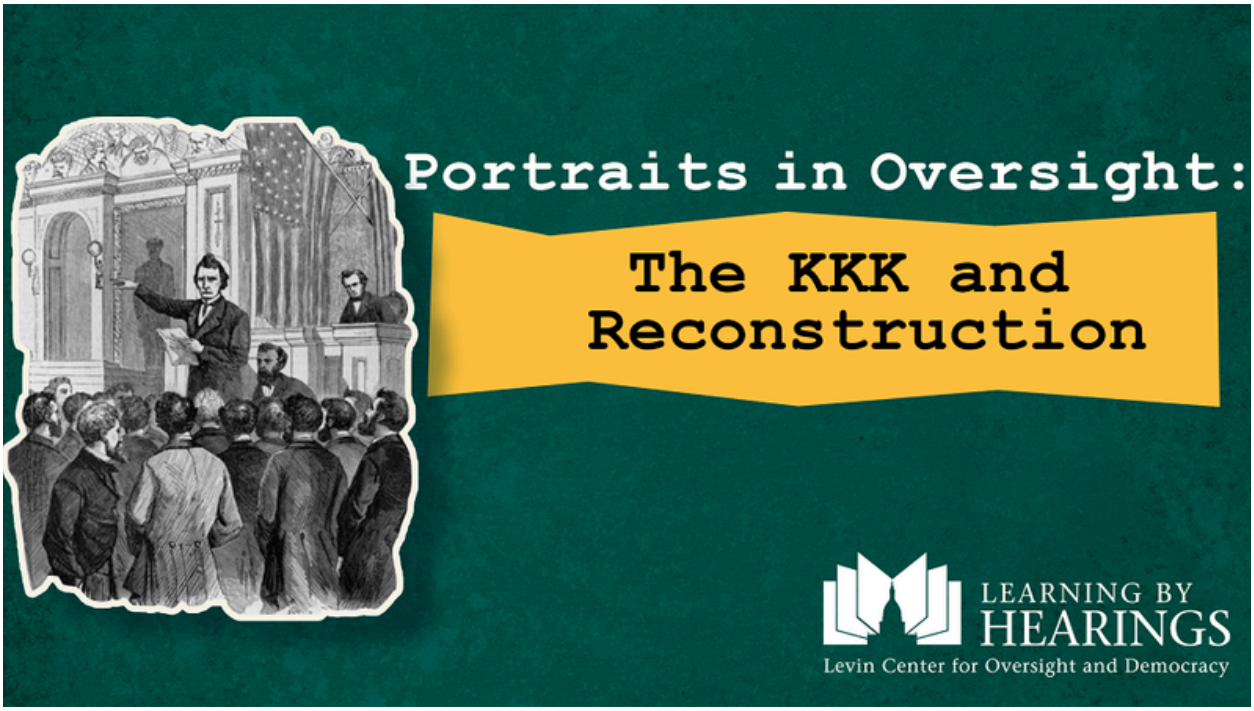
## The KKK and Reconstruction

bit.ly/LbHReconstruction  Runtime: 11:12




## Video Guides

**Guide A**: Best for checking understanding of key events and details. Includes answer key with video timestamps.

**Guide B**: Best for active note-taking and connecting evidence to the video's big ideas. Does not include answer key, as student responses will vary.

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# The KKK and Reconstruction

## Guide A: Comprehension and Discussion Questions

https://bit.ly/LbHReconstruction

### Comprehension Questions

1) Why did the Ku Klux Klan use violence and intimidation against African Americans and their allies during Reconstruction?

2) What steps did Congress take to investigate the KKK and protect African Americans' civil rights?

3) What evidence did the congressional committee collect, and what did its majority report conclude about the KKK?

4) How did publicizing the investigation's findings help protect civil rights?

### Discussion Questions

The takeaways from this investigation are:

1. The congressional investigation didn't shut down the KKK, however, it exposed the KKK's atrocities with detailed evidence and made it harder for the KKK to operate.
2. The congressional investigation helped justify new laws to protect African American rights, prompted the formation of the U.S. Department of Justice, and spurred prosecutions of individual KKK members.
3. This investigation shows that while Congress doesn't always immediately influence public opinion, its oversight investigations can compile important facts that, over time, help produce a more accurate view of American history.

Which of these is the most important or lasting, and why? Do any of them still impact our lives today?

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# The KKK and Reconstruction ANSWER KEY

## Guide A: Comprehension and Discussion Questions

https://bit.ly/LbHReconstruction

### Comprehension Questions

1) Why did the Ku Klux Klan use violence and intimidation against African Americans and their allies during Reconstruction?

*The KKK used violence and intimidation to prevent African Americans from exercising their newly established civil and political rights, including voting. It also sought to undermine federal authority and preserve white supremacy in the South. (2:51)*

2) What steps did Congress take to investigate the KKK and protect African Americans' civil rights?

*Congress passed Enforcement Acts to protect civil rights and give federal authorities greater power to address KKK violence. It also established investigative committees to gather evidence and examine the attacks. (4:24)*

3) What evidence did the congressional committee collect, and what did its majority report conclude about the KKK?

*The committee heard testimony from nearly 600 witnesses and collected thousands of pages of documents. Its majority report concluded that the KKK was a widespread white supremacist organization responsible for violence and terror intended to suppress African Americans' rights. (6:59)*

4) How did publicizing the investigation's findings help protect civil rights?

*Publishing the committee's findings helped expose KKK violence to the public and made it harder for officials to ignore the attacks. It also led the Department of Justice to prosecute KKK members and protect African Americans' voting rights. (9:27)*

### Discussion Questions

The takeaways from this investigation are:

1. The congressional investigation didn't shut down the KKK, however, it exposed the KKK's atrocities with detailed evidence and made it harder for the KKK to operate.
2. The congressional investigation helped justify new laws to protect African American rights, prompted the formation of the U.S. Department of Justice, and spurred prosecutions of individual KKK members.
3. This investigation shows that while Congress doesn't always immediately influence public opinion, its oversight investigations can compile important facts that, over time, help produce a more accurate view of American history.

Which of these is the most important or lasting, and why? Do any of them still impact our lives today?

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# The KKK and Reconstruction

## Guide B: Evidence Graphic Organizer

**Directions**: As you watch the video, record facts, examples, or statements that support each takeaway.

https://bit.ly/LbHReconstruction

| Takeaway | Fact, example, or statement to support it |
|---|---|
| The congressional investigation didn't shut down the KKK, however, it exposed the KKK's atrocities with detailed evidence and made it harder for the KKK to operate. | |
| The congressional investigation helped justify new laws to protect African American rights, prompted the formation of the U.S. Department of Justice, and spurred prosecutions of individual KKK members. | |
| This investigation shows that while Congress doesn't always immediately influence public opinion, its oversight investigations can compile important facts that, over time, help produce a more accurate view of American history. | |

Which takeaway was most compelling or convincing? Circle or highlight your answer. How does this investigation (and its consequences) still impact our lives today?

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