


Abolitionists: Those Who Said NO to SLAVERY!

Objective: We will understand and retell the contributions of famous African Americans and abolitionists to fighting slavery before the Civil War

Your Assignment:

You will create 7 ACCs, or **Abolitionist Collectable Cards**, using the information below and your creativity! ACCs are valuable, so put great care into making and keeping your cards. Like other sports cards and collectables, the value of these cards can increase over time with completeness and correctness!

Abolitionist Collectable Card Example:

Abolitionist Collective Card	
	<p><u>Name:</u> Harriet Tubman</p> <p><u>Born in the state of Maryland in the year 1820</u></p> <p><u>Status:</u> Slave, escaped to Philadelphia in 1849</p> <p><u>How did she fight slavery?</u> Harriet Tubman helped 300 slaves escape to freedom using the Underground Railroad. She was also a nurse in the Civil War and helped poor African Americans after the War.</p>
	<p><u>Harriet Tubman's Story...</u></p> <p><u>Harriet Tubman was born as a slave in Maryland. When she was 28 years old, she ran away 90 miles to the North to freedom. She then decided to go back to the South and help other slaves escape to freedom. She became a famous "conductor," or leader, on the Underground Railroad. During the Civil War, she helped the North, and after the War, she raised money for black schools in New York and helped poor and elderly African Americans. Harriet Tubman was truly a great abolitionist!</u></p>

Rubric

In order to increase in value, your ACCs MUST have the following on EACH card:

Side with NO LINES:

- Picture showing abolitionist or contribution (20 points)
- Name of abolitionist (10 points)
- State and year of birth (10 points)
- Status (slave, escaped slave, white abolitionist, etc) (10 points)
- How did he or she fight or go against slavery? (30 points)

Side WITH LINES:

- Story of abolitionists IN YOUR OWN WORDS (at least 5 sentences) (30 points)

1. William Lloyd Garrison

William Lloyd Garrison was a white abolitionist who published an anti-slavery newspaper called *The Liberator* for 35 years. He was born in the state of Massachusetts in 1805.

William Lloyd Garrison was born into a family of a poor sailing merchant. As a child, Garrison had to sell homemade molasses candy and deliver wood in order to help his family make money. In his 20s, he began to work for a newspaper called the Newburyport Herald and he joined the Abolition Movement. William Lloyd Garrison began to speak out against slavery. He believed that African Americans had the same rights as white Americans, and that all slaves needed to be freed right away.

In 1831, William Lloyd Garrison began writing his own newspaper. He called his newspaper *The Liberator*, coming from "liberty." People who were pro-slavery attacked Garrison's printing press and set his house on fire! However, these actions did not stop Garrison from writing articles against slavery. In total, Garrison published 1,802 newspaper issues in his lifetime against slavery.

2. Harriet Beecher Stowe

Harriet Beecher Stowe was the 6th out of 11 children in her family. She was born in the year 1811 in the state of Connecticut into a well-educated family of preachers. She was a white abolitionist who was most famous for writing a book called *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in 1851. This book exposed the cruelties of slavery and described slave owners as evil people who abused and tortured their slaves.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, became a bestseller right after it was published. The book *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was translated into 60 different languages. Book sellers sold 300,000 copies of the book in the United States in the first year alone, and 1.5 million copies were sold in Great Britain!

Abolitionists loved Harriet Beecher Stowe's book, and many people who did not know about the horrible lives of slaves became abolitionists after reading this book. Southerners, however, were angered by Stowe's book. They felt attacked by Stowe's descriptions of slavery.

Harriet Beecher Stowe later became a professor and continued to speak out against slavery for the rest of her life.

3. Dred Scott

Dred Scott was a slave born in the state of Virginia around the year 1800. He travelled with his owner, Peter Blow, to the free state of Illinois and the free territory of Wisconsin. Later, he went to court to demand his freedom since he lived in a free state for some time. After ten years in court battles, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that any African American, whether they are free or slave, could not go to court and ask for their freedom because they were not considered citizens of the United States.

Dred Scott travelled with his owner from Virginia to Alabama to Missouri (all slaves states), and then he went to Illinois and Wisconsin, which were free. In Wisconsin, Dred Scott married another slave named Harriet Robinson. Dred Scott was "lucky" compared to other slaves. His owner was not cruel and let him marry, but after Peter Blow died, Dred Scott wanted to be free. His owner's wife did not agree to free him

for \$300, so Dred Scott went to court to get his freedom. He sued his owner's wife. He ended up in court for 10 years trying to win his case, but in the end, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against him and said he could not sue because he was not a citizen.

Nine months before he died, Dred Scott was freed by his owner's sons.

4. John Brown

John Brown was born to an abolitionist family in the state of Connecticut in the year 1800. John Brown was a white abolitionist who believed in fighting slavery physically, not just with words. In October 1859, John Brown led a group of abolitionists to attack a federal arsenal in Virginia.

John Brown was never really rich, but he strongly believed in fighting against slavery. He had 20 children, and on top of that, his wife and he agreed to raise an African American child as one of their own children. He lived in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York and Kansas. He worked as a farmer, wool merchant, and tanner, but he was poor.

Even though he did not have much money, John Brown gave land to fugitive slaves and lived by other African American families.

In 1855, John Brown moved to Kansas with his 5 sons where he fought pro-slavery groups after the Nebraska-Kansas Act. Then, In October of 1859, John Brown attacked a federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry in Virginia with 21 other men, 5 black and 16 white. (A federal arsenal is a place where weapons are stored). On December 2, 1859, John Brown was hanged for treason.

5. Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman was born in the state of Maryland in 1820 as a slave. As a teenager, Harriet Tubman suffered from a serious head injury while helping another slave escape. After this injury, Harriet Tubman had a scar and bad headaches for the rest of her life. She also had to sleep at odd times and could not control her sleep.

When she was 28 years old, she travelled 90 miles north on the Underground Railroad to freedom in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During the 1850s, Tubman returned to the South 19 times to help over 300 other slaves escape to freedom. Harriet Tubman was one of the most famous "conductors," or leaders, of the Underground Railroad.

During the Civil War, Harriet Tubman worked as a nurse, scout and spy for the North (or Union) army. After the war, she raised money for black schools in New York. Harriet Tubman also established a home in New York for elderly and poor African Americans. Harriet Tubman was indeed a brave and hard working abolitionist! She once said, "I never ran my train off the track, and I never lost a passenger."

6. Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was born in the year 1818 in the state of Maryland. He was the son of a slave woman and a white man. He never knew his father. He spent his early years with his grandparents and with an aunt, and he only got to see his mother four or five times before her death when he was seven. Frederick Douglass later escaped to freedom in New York City and spent the rest of his life speaking and writing against slavery.

When Frederick Douglass was eight years old, he was sent to Baltimore to live with a ship carpenter, or builder, named Hugh Auld. There he learned to read and first heard the words abolition and abolitionists. Douglass spent seven relatively comfortable years in Baltimore before being sent back to the country, where he was hired out to a farm run by a brutal "slavebreaker" named Edward Covey. At his new owner's plantation, Douglass was whipped daily and barely fed. He was "broken in body, soul, and spirit."

On January 1, 1836, Douglass made a resolution that he would be free by the end of the year. He planned an escape. But early in April he was jailed after his plan was discovered. Two years later, while living in Baltimore and working at a shipyard, Douglass would finally realize his dream: he fled the city on September 3, 1838. He travelled by train, then steamboat, then train, and he finally arrived in New York City the following day. Several weeks later he had settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts, living with his newlywed bride.

Always striving to educate himself, Douglass continued his reading. He joined many organizations in New Bedford, including a black church. He attended Abolitionist meetings. He read William Lloyd Garrison's weekly journal, the *Liberator*. In 1841, Douglass gave a moving speech at the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society. His speech was so powerful, that the Society asked Douglass to become an anti-slavery speaker for 3 years.

Later, Douglass published his autobiography, or life story. He called it *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written By Himself*. He also published his own newspaper, called the *North Star*.

7. Sojourner Truth

Sojourner Truth was born as a slave in the state of New York in 1797. Her original name was Isabella Baumfree. In 1827, she ran away from her master and took refuge with an abolitionist family. She became free under a New York law that banned slavery.

In 1843, Sojourner Truth experienced what she thought was a command from God to preach. She took the name Sojourner Truth and began to lecture on the abolition of slavery. In 1864, Sojourner Truth visited President Abraham Lincoln in the White House. She stayed in Washington, D.C., and helped find jobs and homes for slaves who had escaped from the South.