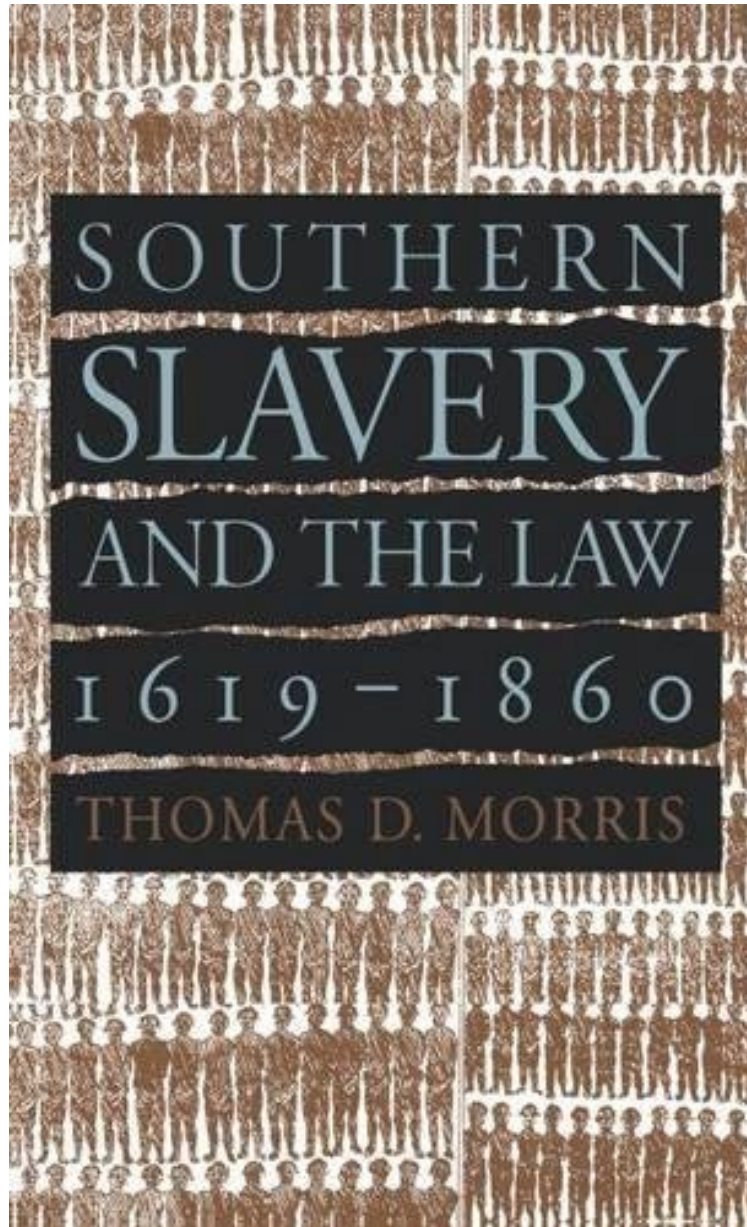


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Southern Slavery and the Law, 1619-1860 (Studies in Legal History)

Thomas D. Morris

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Thomas D. Morris : Southern Slavery and the Law, 1619-1860 (Studies in Legal History) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Southern Slavery and the Law, 1619-1860 (Studies in Legal History):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Loving "Southern slavery and the Law" By lamarr Brown Absolutely wonderful and informative about the slave trade in the South and how 'special laws' were implemented only against the African slaves and in an inhumane manner. 2 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Would have preferred a different layout of the material + there were some "vibes" to the authors style of writing I didn't like By Celestehmm it's okay, not really what I expected, but the info is pretty good in terms of digging out laws (haven't dug all the way into it though). I was looking more for a simple layout with just straight laws in chronological order, by state and type of law etc. It reads more like an essay, has a bit of a "there are good white people" vibe to it. Seems to subtly interweave "sympathy and understanding" in regards to White slave masters who he seems to think were "struggling." It also has a "not all enslavement sites were as bad" vibe to it. Just a vibe I get when coursing through some of the material. It doesn't surprise me, but it's irritating. "Interpretational sentiment" is certainly present, one of the reasons I don't always like reading books dealing with slavery by Whites. There's always a "sympathetic/excusable" bend to it. And always check their sources...always! It's one thing to want to shed light on regional differences within the system of slavery in this country, it's another to slyly excuse it/defend it because there was a lesser emphasis on certain kinds of labor. I also detest how many White authors liken "White indentured servants" to "Blacks who were enslaved", racial oppression is not the same as indentured servitude, just because there were similarities, the overall picture and experiences are not the same, never have been and never will be. This is a simple attempt to lift some of the culpability; this is very common amongst Whites when they talk about slavery. Also, the idea surrounding "societies with slaves" vs 'Slave societies" while it's logical/makes sense on a technical point, it's another way to lessen the impact of slavery and shake off guilt. While the categorization of "societies with slaves" doesn't depend on the institution of slavery to control that region, its power, or resources etc, whatever central role slavery does play within a particular field has had an overall impact on the WHOLE of the White American society and contributed to the foundation of White American capitalism and White American societal/racial domination. There would be no capitalism, no America, and in truth no modern world without the exploitation of African resources, African labor and the exploitation and oppression of its people. Take for instance, Ironwork, while not a commodity that held massive structural control of a region like Pennsylvania (Northeastern state), iron was a major player in developing the iron industry of America. So while ironwork did not shape the whole of Pennsylvania and other areas, it d**n sure shaped the iron industry and America as a whole/its makeup. By 1775 American colonies were THIRD in producing iron on an international scale!! For Black people, I recommend, just be careful when reading anything written by Whites, I'm just being real. I do recommend another book as well, written by someone White, but he too engages in some of the tactics, but it's a little more objective imo. Be careful as he starts a chapter off with "Atlantic Creoles" aka Mixed Blacks or biracial Blacks (whom I have no issues with so long as you are TRUE), where he's almost a bit deceiving in how he writes it because what you're not being told is that many of these "Atlantic Creoles" or Mixed Blacks/Biracial Blacks were actually the "slave catchers and sellers", seeds of African women who were raped by White men who then trained these children as buffers to maintain oppression against their own, soooo just be aware. I STRONGLY suggest as someone new waking up to this information to engage yourself/immerse yourself in AFRICAN SCHOLARSHIP FIRST regarding our history. Understand the complex nature of African societies first because if you don't you'll end up falling for White authorship that tries to equate African societies to Eurasian based concepts of society, which includes the practice of slavery, the word slavery itself and the connotation of slavery. You have to begin to look at our history from our perspectives first and then you can see the tactics they use. Here are a few books I recommend: I recommend all of Dr. John Henrik Clarke's books. As you check these books out, other recommendations will pop up Christopher Columbus and the Afrikan Holocaust: Slavery and the Rise of European Capitalism Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race from 4500 B.C. to 2000 A.D. Kebuka! Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of Slavery in North America 0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Tammy Wolfe Very good information!

This volume is the first comprehensive history of the evolving relationship between American slavery and the law from colonial times to the Civil War. As Thomas Morris clearly shows, racial slavery came to the English colonies as an institution without strict legal definitions or guidelines. Specifically, he demonstrates that there was no coherent body of law that dealt solely with slaves. Instead, more general legal rules concerning inheritance, mortgages, and transfers of property coexisted with laws pertaining only to slaves. According to Morris, southern lawmakers and judges struggled to reconcile a social order based on slavery with existing English common law (or, in Louisiana, with continental civil law.) Because much was left to local interpretation, laws varied between and even within states. In addition, legal doctrine often differed from local practice. And, as Morris reveals, in the decades leading up to the Civil War, tensions mounted between the legal culture of racial slavery and the competing demands of capitalism and evangelical Christianity.

One of the most significant works on Southern slave law. "Law and Politics Book "The fullest and most probing explication to date of the policies and practices of the 'laws' of slavery." Historian "One of the most impressive and

thoughtful volumes on slavery in the last twenty years. "History: s of New Books" This fine book is now the standard work concerning the legal history of slavery in the United States." Journal of Southern History "Brimming with knowledge and insight about a horrific aspect of our legal culture that continues to affect us." Washington Post Book World " This book is a tour de force. We have nothing as comprehensive and valuable in the literature of slavery and the law in the United States.--American Historical Until now, we have lacked a broad-sweeping portrait of this most wretched piece of our legal past. Thomas D. Morris . . . fills the gap admirably. . . . This encyclopedic work belongs in the library of any scholar of southern slavery or American legal history. Not only does it provide abundant information about American slave law; it also provokes thought about the function of social change in forming the law and, conversely, the role of law in shaping society.--Journal of American History Professor Morris offers a comprehensive guide to the profound difficulty faced by southern legislators and judges in composing the laws of slavery during the entire tenure of that institution. Original and welcome, this guide rests on a selection of previously unedited local records.--Georgia Historical Quarterly A valuable contribution to the historiography of southern law and to the historiography of the institution of slavery.--Journal of the Early Republic Morris's comprehensive investigation ranges from 17th-century Chesapeake to late antebellum Texas in considering sources of slave law, the role of race in its development, and relationships among slavery, capitalism, and the law. . . . Historians of slavery will find perceptive observations on violence by and against slaves, manumission, hiring out, and flight.--Choice One of the most significant works on Southern slave law.--Law and Politics Book Brimming with knowledge and insight about a horrific aspect of our legal culture that continues to affect us.--Washington Post Book World One of the most impressive and thoughtful volumes on slavery in the last twenty years.--History: s of New Books Supports and takes exception to many of the traditional views regarding Southern slavery. By overlaying American slavery with Southern law, Morris provides us with valuable insight and analysis. This book will long be considered a classic for understanding Southern slavery and the social system in which it existed.--Our State This is the most thorough and comprehensive book yet written on the law of slavery in the United States. It is an impressive and enormously useful contribution to our understanding of both American law and American slavery. Morris's knowledge of the field is breathtaking while his analysis is on the mark. This is a scholarly tour de force.--Paul Finkelman, University of Miami The fullest and most probing explication to date of the policies and practices of the 'laws' of slavery.--Historian This fine book is now the standard work concerning the legal history of slavery in the United States.--Journal of Southern History Based upon extensive research in legal archives, much of it unpublished county court records from dozens of selected counties across the South, upon state statutes, and on hundreds of volumes of published appellate decisions not individually listed in a bibliography, which, as it is, takes up thirty-six pages, it is now required reading for any serious student of slavery in the American South.--Civil War History From the Inside Flap A comprehensive history of the evolving relationship between American slavery and the law from colonial times to the Civil War.