

Students can follow up the reading by watching the 20-minute [video](#) “Slavery after freedom” from Vice that highlights the working of a genealogist in Louisiana who records ways that slavery continued after the Civil War and tracks down cases of modern slavery.

1. This video is titled “Slavery after Freedom.” Why does that phrase sound like a contradiction? At the same time, how was it accurate to describe the South that way for the approximately 100 years following the Civil War?
2. Why is Antoinette Harrell referred to as the “slavery detective of the South?”
3. What are some of the ways that Antoinette Harrell gets “leads” for her investigations?
4. How were the lives of Mae and Arthur Miller, as well as their family members, similar to those of Black people who were forced to live in enslavement *before* the Civil War? During what decades were they living in these conditions?
5. Why do you think Arthur Miller was “not really” aware of the Civil Rights Movement?
6. What are *reparations*? Was the Miller family granted *reparations*?
7. Why does Ms. Harrell suspect Donald Jeffrey, a man living on and doing odd jobs for Ballground Plantation today, is “holding back” things he’s willing to tell her?
8. How does Karsten Simrall (the current owner of Ballground Plantation who Donald refers to as “like a brother”) dismiss the abuses and slave-like conditions that Donald Jeffrey’s ancestors lived and worked in on Ballground Plantation?
9. Karsten Simrall and Donald Jeffrey are both connected to Ballground Plantation through their ancestors. Create a t-chart with Karsten on the left and Donald on the right and describe the ways that their lives today are affected by the history of Ballground Plantation.
10. What are some of the reasons why it is so difficult for Ms. Harrell to look up the history and records of people of African descent like Donald Jeffrey?
11. List all the reasons you can that explain why this system of *slavery after freedom* continued for so long. Include evidence included in the video, as well as those you can think of on your own.