

What is the lasting legacy of slavery in the U.S.?

Unit by Friendship Public Charter School,

part of the 2021 cohort of *The 1619 Project* Education Network

In "[Municipal Bonds](#)," from *The 1619 Project*, Professor Tiya Miles writes about how slavery literally and figuratively built Wall Street. Sample questions:

1. Have you ever heard of Wall Street before? If so, what comes to mind?
2. Do you think most people associate Wall Street with the institution of slavery? Why?
3. 'Avail' means to benefit from or to take advantage of. What are some of the ways that Tiya Miles claims groups of Northern colonists *availed* themselves of slave labor?
4. According to historian Leslie Harris, what percentage of New York households held enslaved people in the early 1700s?
5. When slavery was still legal in New York what were some of the things enslaved persons physically built?
6. Even after slavery was outlawed in the state, New York businessmen and others made huge profits off the institution of slavery and the free labor of enslaved persons. How? Describe at least two ways.