

# The Atlantic Slave Trade

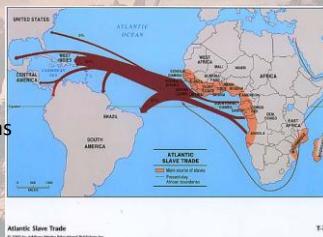
## Causes of African Slavery

- Slavery existed in Africa for centuries
- Europeans wanted to use Africans as a source of slave labor for their American colonies
  - » Immune to most European diseases
  - » Experienced farmers
  - » Less likely to run away
  - » Skin color separated them

## The Atlantic Slave Trade

By the 1500s, Spain and Portugal began importing slaves from Africa

- By 1870, nearly 10 million Africans were brought to the Americas



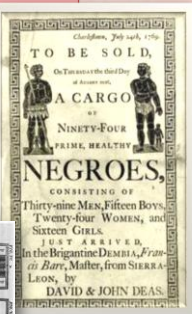
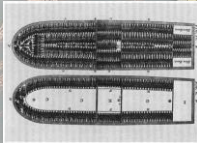
## The Triangular Trade

What items travelled along each leg of the Triangular Trade system?

Africa to the Americas:  
The Americas to Europe:  
Europe to Africa:

## The Middle Passage

- The middle leg of the Triangle Trade along which slaves traveled from Africa to the Caribbean.
- Slaves were crammed together and experienced inhumane conditions.



## Slave Resistance

- Slaves found many ways to resist their forced labor:
  - Breaking tools
  - Uprooting plants
  - Working slowly
  - Running away
  - Open rebellion



## Consequences of the Slave Trade

- Africa lost millions of young men and women; families were torn apart
- African labor kept the American colonies profitable
- African culture blended with European to form new cultural traditions