



Age

Although both genders played a significant role in the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, the age of the enslaved was as equally important as their health. Many people assume that grown men and women were bought/sold most frequently, and they would be correct; however, there was an influx of voyages with young men and women aboard. Although this was rare, there could very well be an underlying explanation.

- Men prominently worked out in fields
 - other jobs required a man's strength: building or transporting materials.
- Women took on roles of teaching or being nannies.
- Housecleaning, tailoring, or sometimes even cooking allowed for a younger population to work.



With that being said, the random influxes of voyages with high percentages of children could be to fill positions that do not have a short life span. As sad as it is to say, the reality was that it was cheaper to buy the enslaved younger for these positions, so that they could perform for longer amounts of time- not to mention overall become proficient in their specialized area. Children filled major roles in the slave trade, and were therefore traded at much lower rates as to preserve them for greater production.

SHIP NAME	BOYS	GIRLS	MEN	WOMEN
Voidora	33.9	62.9	3.2	0
Susan	33.3	44.4	18.9	3.3
Prince Manzalli	50	21.3	19.4	9.3



Gender

One of the common misconceptions of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade is that only men were enslaved; However, men, women, and children all suffered the harsh reality of being enslaved. In fact, out of the fifteen million enslaved Africans shipped to the Americas, thirty percent of them were women. There were even ships that only had women aboard, such as the S Jose Diligente. Women faced the horrors of watching their husbands, children, and others repeatedly get beaten and even killed during the middle passage. Disease spread throughout and deplorable conditions aboard the ship contributed to countless deaths. Once in the Americas, women had their husbands and children ripped from them. Families were torn apart, no matter how old the children were. Women worked as field hands, raised slave owners' children, acted as maids, and were even raped.



Poster advertising the selling of plantation hands

Even through these unthinkable circumstances, enslaved women still found ways to persevere. Verbal battles, showing signs of disrespect of slave owners, acting spies, and physically fighting in rebellions were just a few of the ways women fought back.



Written record of a woman being sold into slavery for \$17



Western Powers

The travesty that was the Trans-Atlantic slave trade involved many European countries fighting for a new source of income. The main three competitors were Portugal, Great Britain, and France. These countries exported most of the enslaved people to Brazil and the Caribbean, forcing them to work on plantations. These enslaved people often did not live more than two years after the exposure and stress of their labor. The numbers of enslaved individuals rose sharply into the hundred-thousands by 1600 and did not stop growing until well after the mid-to-late 1800s. The beginning of the end of slavery was initiated when Charles James Fox asked the British parliament how they would feel if the French aristocrats began enslaving the democrats. Europeans had been "off limits" from slavery since the genesis of the Trans-Atlantic trade, so they already knew it was immoral.

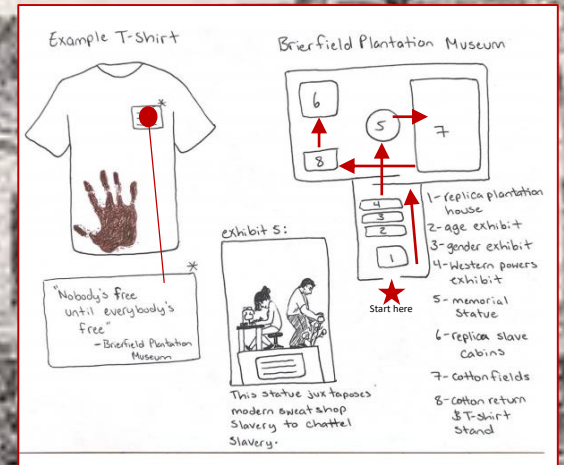
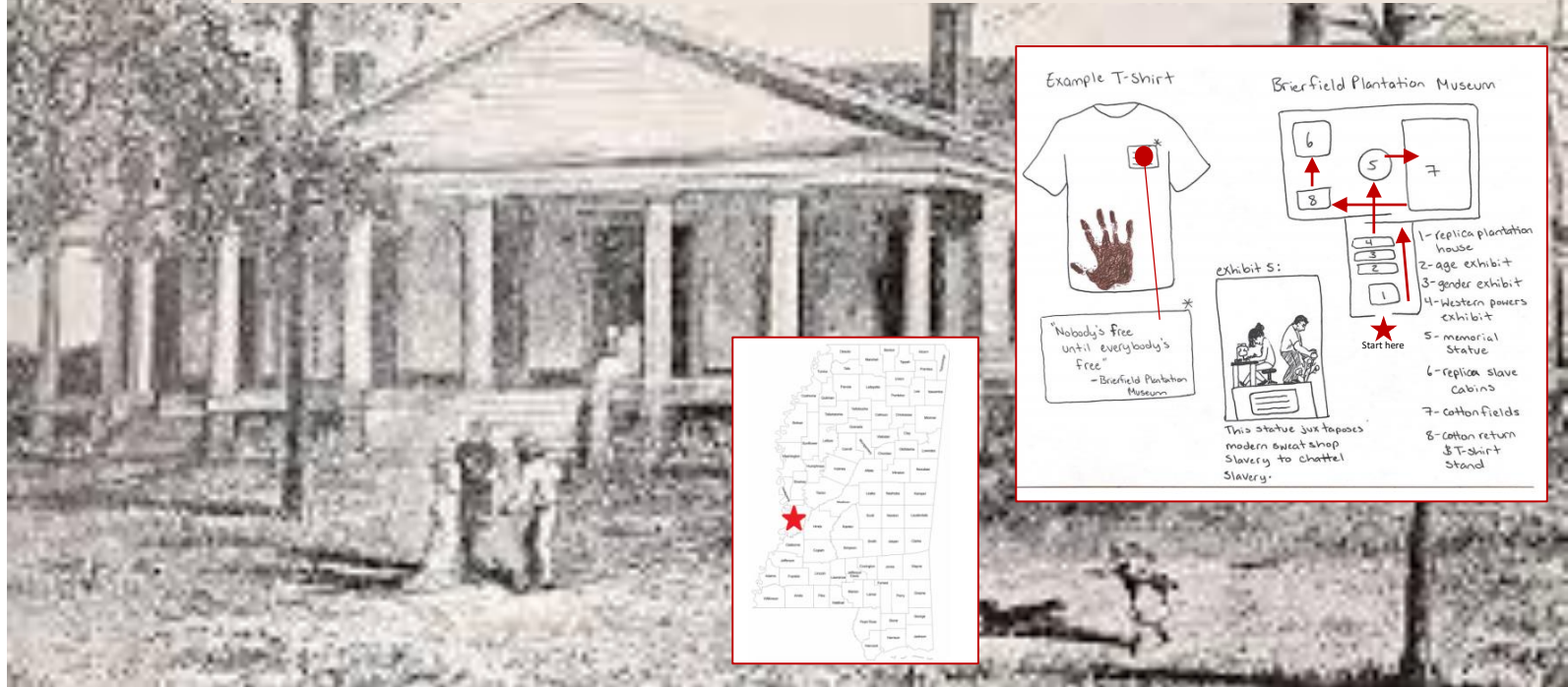


	Portugal/Brazil		Great Britain		France	
	Embarked	Disembarked	Embarked	Disembarked	Embarked	Disembarked
1501-1600	33,404	28,173	0	0	0	0
1601-1700	876,414	756,551	397,830	303,983	35,146	26,755
1701-1800	2,205,954	1,985,196	2,143,205	1,816,573	1,094,639	924,657
1801-1900	2,375,894	2,061,687	204,430	182,526	98,272	84,819
Totals	5,491,666	4,831,607	2,745,465	2,303,084	1,228,057	1,036,231

The Danes were the first to abolish the slave trade in 1802, followed by Great Britain and the United States in 1807. By 1810, the British navy started detaining ships that had captives on them. None of this legislation really made a difference until the late 1840s-50s when the Brazilian and Cuban governments outlawed the trade in their countries.

The Brierfield Plantation Museum

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For our project, we decided to memorialize the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in the form of a museum. Our museum is going to be a replica of the Brierfield Plantation owned by Jefferson Davis, the only president of the Confederacy. This location is important because it was once one of the most profitable cotton plantations in the south. Cotton has been an essential crop for hundreds of years; today, it is found in almost every piece of clothing. Most people in developed countries don't realize that their consumerism comes at a cost, that people thousands of miles away are being forced to work in horrible conditions to create the brand names they so desperately desire. With our museum, we intend to juxtapose the exploitation of labor during chattel slavery to modern-day sweatshop slavery in order to raise awareness about this global issue. Those who visit the museum will be forced to pick their own cotton in order to receive a t-shirt to commemorate their experience.

* "Davis Island: A Confederate Shrine, Submerged." *Edge Effects*, 6 June 2019, <https://edgeeffects.net/davis-island-a-confederate-shrine-submerged/>.

* Diouf, Sylviane. "Remembering the Women of Slavery." *The New York Public Library*, The New York Public Library, 2 Oct. 2015, www.nypl.org/blog/2015/03/27/remembering-women-slavery.

* "NMAAHC Collections Search." *National Museum of African American History and Culture*, nmaahc.si.edu/explore/collection/search?edan_q=%2A%3A%2A&edan_local=1&edan_fq%5B%5D=topic%3A%22Slavery%22.

* Nwokeji, G. Ugo, and David Eltis. "Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade." *Slave Voyages*, 5 Dec. 2008, <https://www.slavevoyages.org/assessment/estimates>.