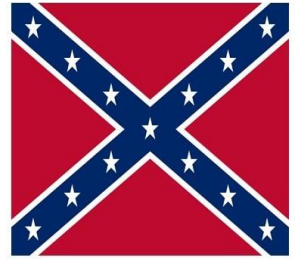


This is a continuation of the philosophy that was used by the South to justify establishing the Confederacy.

When the Confederate States of America was established in 1861 to succeed from the Union to protect its right to own slaves, Vice-President of the Confederacy, [Alexander H. Stephens](#), declared:

“The Confederacy's foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests upon the great truth, that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery subordination to the superior race is his natural and moral condition. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth.”



This was the general attitude of the legal profession during the Jim Crow era.

After the Oklahoma lynchings of Laura Nelson and her son L.D. Nelson on May 25, 1911, district Judge Caruthers convened a grand jury, but the killers were never identified. In his instructions to the jury, Caruthers said, "The people of the state have said by recently adopted constitutional provision that the race to which the unfortunate victims belonged should in large measure be divorced from participation in our political contests, because of their known racial inferiority and their dependent credulity, which very characteristic made them the mere tool of the designing and cunning. It is well known that I heartily concur in this constitutional provision of the people's will. The more then, does the duty devolve upon us of a superior race and of greater intelligence, to protect this weaker race from unjustifiable and lawless attacks."

