

House Divided Speech (Excerpt)

By Abraham Lincoln

... We are now far into the fifth year, since a policy was initiated, with the avowed object, and confident promise, of putting an end to slavery agitation.



Under the operation of that policy, that agitation has not only, not ceased, but has constantly augmented.



In my opinion, it will not cease, until a crisis shall have been reached, and passed.

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SAMPLE



First Inaugural Address (Excerpt)

Abraham Lincoln

March 4, 1861

Fellow-Citizens of the United
States:

In compliance with a custom as
old as the Government itself, I
appear before you to address
you briefly and to take in your
presence the oath prescribed by
the Constitution of the United
States to be taken by the
President before he enters on the
execution of this office.



... Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that—



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