

# ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

---

## Civil War Widows

By **Angela Esco Elder**, University of Georgia

### Resources

#### If you can read only one book

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
Faust, Drew Gilpin	<i>This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War</i> . New York: Random House, Inc., 2008.

### Books

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
Brimmer, Brandi Clay	“All Her Rights and Privileges: African-American Women and the Politics of Civil War Widows’ Pensions,” Ph.D. dissertation., University of California (2006)
Cashin, Joan E.	“Widow in a Swamp: Gender, Unionism, and Literacy in the Occupied South during the Civil War,” in <i>Occupied Women: Gender, Military Occupation, and the American Civil War</i> , eds. LeeAnn Whites and Alecia P. Long. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2009.
Gross, Jennifer Lynn	“‘Good Angels’: Confederate Widowhood in Virginia,” in <i>Southern Families at War: Loyalty and Conflict in the Civil War South</i> , ed. Catherine Clinton. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.
Gross, Jennifer Lynn	“‘And for the Widow and the Orphan’: Confederate Widows, Poverty, and Public Assistance,” in <i>Inside the Confederate Nation: Essays in Honor of Emory M.</i>

	<i>Thomas</i> , eds. Lesley J. Gordon and John C. Inscoe. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2005.
Gross, Jennifer Lynn	“The United Daughters of the Confederacy, Confederate Widows, and the Lost Cause: ‘We Must Not Forget or Neglect the Widows,’” in <i>Women on Their Own: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Being Single</i> , eds. Rudolph M. Bell and Virginia Yans. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2008.
Holmes, Amy E.	“‘Such is the Price We Pay’: American Widows and the Civil War Pension System,” in <i>Toward a Social History of the American Civil War: Exploratory Essays</i> , ed. Maris A. Vinovskis. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
Kenzer, Robert	“The Uncertainty of Life: A Profile of Virginia’s Civil War Widows,” in <i>The War Was You and Me: Civilians in the American Civil War</i> , ed. Joan E. Cashin. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002.
McClintock, Megan J.	“Civil War Pensions and the Reconstruction of Union Families,” <i>Journal of American History</i> 83, No. 2 (September 1996)
Miller, Richard F.	“For His Wife, His Widow, and His Orphan: Massachusetts and Family Aid during the Civil War,” <i>Massachusetts Historical Review</i> , 6 (2004)
Wood, Kirsten E.	<i>Masterful Women: Slaveholding Widows from the American Revolution through the Civil War</i> . Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004.

**Organizations**

**Web Resources**

URL	Name and description
<a href="http://www.essential.civilwar.vt.edu/1107.html">http://www.essential.civilwar.vt.edu/1107.html</a>	An Essential Civil War Curriculum Essay by Kathleen L. Gorman which provides a detailed discussion of Civil War Pensions and includes valuable information on the

	financial aspects of post-war widowhood.
<a href="http://www.essential.civilwar.vt.edu/1139.html">http://www.essential.civilwar.vt.edu/1139.html</a>	An Essential Civil War Curriculum Essay by Jacqueline G. Campbell which analyzes how the Civil War changed traditional women's roles and attitudes. Since widows were, in fact, women, this essay provides interesting context for the experience.

## Other Sources

### Scholars

Name	Email
Angela Esco Elder	angelaescoelder@gmail.com

\*\*\*\*