

**Nina Silber, *This War Ain't Over: Fighting the Civil War in New Deal America* – Chapter 5**

1. What was the “Lost Cause” ideology? How did white southerners reinvigorate “Lost Cause” sentiments during the 1930s? Why did some white southerners want to distance themselves from the “Lost Cause” ideology?
2. How did the economic crisis of the Great Depression “compel an even stronger historical consciousness” about the South’s Civil War and Reconstruction past?
3. Why did Margaret Mitchell’s novel *Gone With The Wind* and the subsequent film resonate with many white southerners living through the Great Depression?
4. Who did white southerners blame for their economic problems? How did they try to create the impression that both southern whites and African Americans were victims of outside forces?
5. How did the South react to the New Deal programs and policies? To what extent did whites and blacks react differently? Why, for example, was the federal anti-lynching bill so staunchly opposed by most white southerners?
6. How did the white South’s anticommunism of the 1930s resemble its anti-abolitionism of the 1850s?
7. How did President Roosevelt address white southerners’ fears and concerns, and how did they respond? How did FDR navigate white southerners’ continuing devotion to the “Lost Cause”?
8. Was Margaret Mitchell’s purpose to evoke Lost Cause sentiments or to romanticize the pre-Civil War “Old South”? Where did she stand on the issue of the “Lost Cause”?
9. How did Margaret Mitchell address negative feelings about women of the time? Why were her depictions of African Americans controversial?
10. What were some of the obstacles filmmakers faced if they wanted to depict life in the Antebellum South, life during Reconstruction, and portrayals of southern men and women? How did *Gone With The Wind* tackle those obstacles?