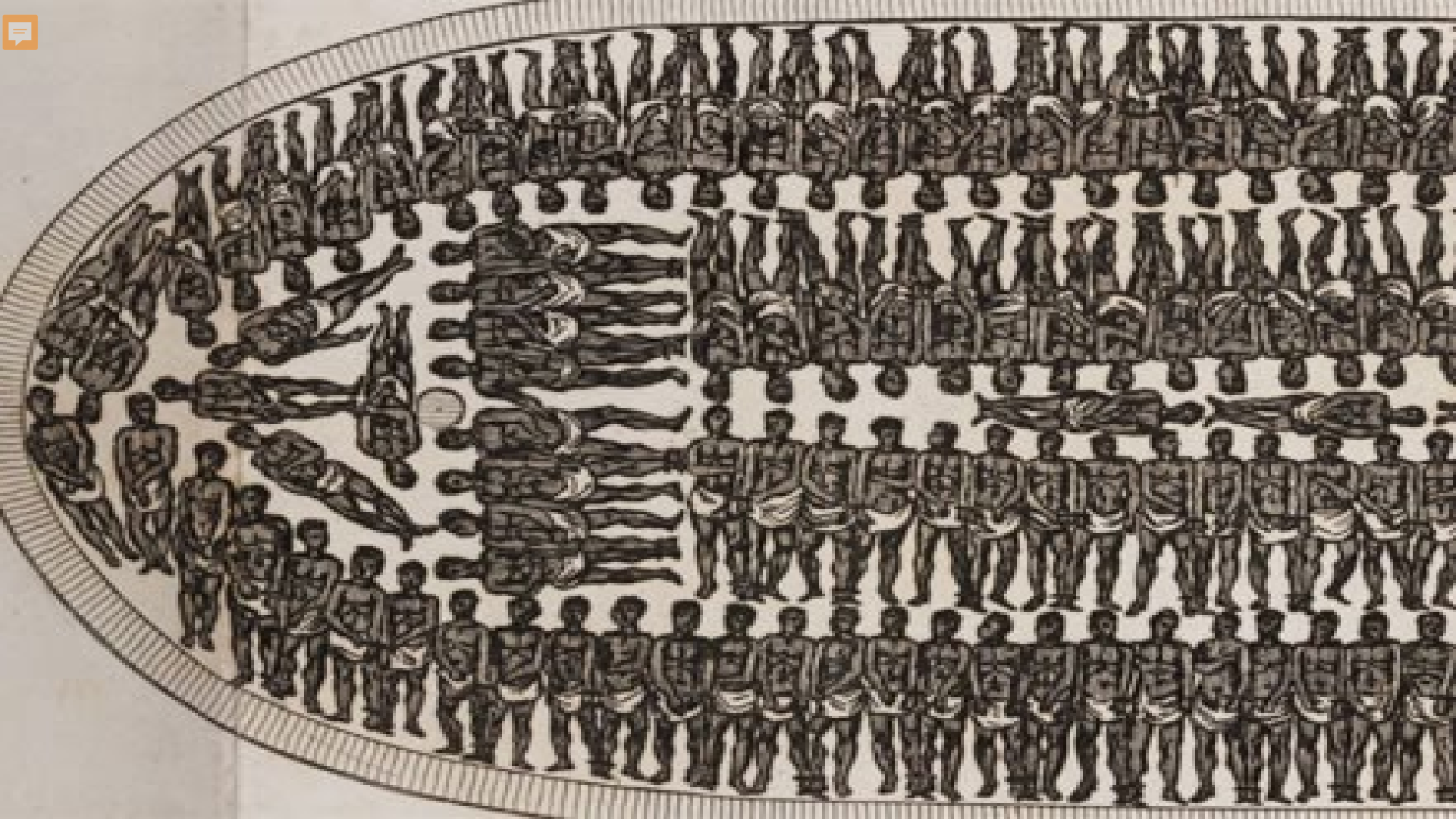




# African American Genealogy

Locating Enslaved Ancestors  
Presented by Kellie Farrish, Genealogist





# Five Generations of Enslaved African Americans

From Professor Ira Berlin's Book  
*Generations of Captivity: A History  
of African-American Slaves*

1. The Charter Generations of Africans: Early 1600 to late 1600s. Colonial America before the emergence of the Plantation System, the enslaved work closely with Europeans, integrating into society. One in five enslaved persons are freed during this period.

2. The Plantation Generations: Late 1600 to early 1800s. The Plantation system developed and America became dependent on slave labor. Slaves worked harder and died younger.

3. The Revolutionary Generations: Late 1700s to early 1800s. The North abandons slavery, slave rebellions become more frequent and violent, emergence of a larger free black population, Free blacks form churches, schools, slave laws became more Draconian in the South as a response. The enslaved identify "Africa"(continent) as a place of origin not individual countries, regions or tribes within Africa.

4. The Migration Generations: Between 1810-1861 the Second Middle Passage took place with this generation moving deeper into newly formed southern states to work cotton and sugar plantations. Families were separated more during this period as the South became responsible for the majority of the nation's GDP.

5. Freedom Generations: 1861-1890 This is the generation that existed during and post-Civil War. The emergence of the African American citizen, Black men are included on the 1867 Voter Registration List, Sharecropping, Freedman's Bureau and Reconstruction define this generation.



<b>Gen Z</b>	1997 – 2012	10 – 25 3rd Great Grand-6th Great Grand
<b>Millennials</b>	1981 – 1996	26 – 41 2nd Great Grand-5th Great Grand
<b>Gen X</b>	1965 – 1980	42 – 57 Great Grand-4th Great Grand
<b>Boomers II*</b>	1955 – 1964	58 – 67 Grand-3rd Great Grand
<b>Boomers I*</b>	1946 – 1954	68 – 76 Grand-3rd Great Grand
<b>Post War</b>	1928 – 1945	77 – 94 Parent-2nd Great Grand
<b>WW II</b>	1922 – 1927	95 – 100 Parent-Great Grand



# Proving eligibility one of three ways

## **IDENTIFYING AN ENSLAVED ANCESTOR BY NAME**

**(An African American ancestor born in the South prior to 1865)**

## **IDENTIFYING AN ANCESTOR LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES PRIOR TO 1900**

**(African American ancestor can live anywhere in the United States  
prior to this date)**

## **IDENTIFYING AN ANCESTOR/FAMILY MEMBER LIVING IN THE SOUTH PRIOR TO THE GREAT MIGRATION OF 1940**

**(An African American ancestor living in the South prior to 1940)**

