



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Monday, October 9, 2006

**CONTACT:** Lynn Whitehouse  
619-236-5821

### **Library to Screen the Film “Abolition, Broken Promises” on Oct. 23** *Event is Part of the Program “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation”*

**SAN DIEGO** – The City of San Diego Public Library will host a film showing and discussion of “Abolition, Broken Promises” on Monday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m. This free event will be held in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

For most African-Americans, the end of slavery did little to improve their lives. Turn of the century Dixie, it seems, was a land where white supremacists reigned, both before and after the abolition of slavery. Northerners refused to accept blacks as equals, and in many cases looked the other way while black rights were regularly abused both in the North and South.

“Abolition, Broken Promises” presents a grim picture of the black experience after slavery through the eyes of those who experienced it and their progeny. Topics include the Fugitive Slave Law and the Dred Scott decision; Northern political abandonment of blacks; the Ku Klux Klan; failure of the post-war land-distribution act; the role of industry; the deliberately cultivated image of black males as criminals and rapists; and the perpetuation of Jim Crow well into the 1950s.

An open discussion about the film will be conducted right after the presentation.

The film screening is part of the program “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation,” which includes a major exhibit and a series of special events at the Central Library from Oct. 11 through Nov. 24. For more information, visit the Library web site at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

###

*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

“Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation” has been organized by the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, in cooperation with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. This exhibition was made possible by major grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, promoting excellence in the humanities, and the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, created by Congress and charged with planning the national celebration of Lincoln’s 200<sup>th</sup> birthday.