
History 1302
U.S. From 1877

Unit 4 Lecture 4

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New Frontiers
Politics and Social Change
in the 1960s:
The Ordeal of Liberalism

Kennedy administration:

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 - Women
 - Cold War / Missile Gap
 - Nixon and Kennedy – young and promised action
 - Dynamic, strong and optimistic
 - Impact of TV debates
 - Black Voting made Kennedy victory
- New Frontier:
 - Congress dominated by Republicans and Conservative Democrats
 - Resistant to social reform (Med. Ed. Aid / Mass transit / help for housing / Migrant worker reforms ~ all died in Congress)
 - Increased spending with Tax Cut (deficit)
 - Keynesian economics of Gov't stimulous
 - Personality – “Peace Corps” / Camelot
- Assassination – November 22, 1963

LBJ's Administration:

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 - Committed to the ideal that Gov't should help ALL people and focus on those who need it most.
 - Liberalism – multiple groups sharing power for the good of society as a whole
 - Cooperation between Regulators and Regulated
 - Gov't and Big business to maintain growing economy
 - Foreign Policy for experts
 - “The Treatment” – push/pull politics
 - Took “New Frontier” farther with “Great Society”
 - Elected by landslide in 1964 61% of popular vote

Great Society:

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 - - January 64 – “War on Poverty” speech
 - May 64 “Great Society” speech
 - Better Schools, health, cities, highways, - The American Dream fulfilled
- Programs:
 - Funded through Revenue act of 1964 \$11B tax cut and deficit spending on Domestic programs
 - Housing Act of 1965
 - Housing allowance for poor rent
 - Low interest loans for developers
 - Coordinated locally.
 - 1965 Medicare – help for all elderly
 - Health Insurance – doctors charge gov't
 - Doctors could mix practice
 - 1966 Medicaid – health care for welfare and needy

Great Society : (P2)

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 - Community based actions and programs
 - Manpower Development and training Act
 - Job Corps / Vista / Head Start
 - \$750M in 65, \$1.5B in 66 (22% of America in poverty in 1959 while 15.4% in 1966)
- Fed Department of Housing and Urban Development - 1966:
 - Model Cities 1966 - \$1.2B to clear slums
- Education Acts of 1965
 - Fed aid to schools based on need
 - \$5B in 64 to \$12B in 67
 - Loans to students based on need
- Immigration act of 1965
 - Same limit, (170K) but no qualification of national origins
- Huge growth in gov't and gov't spending
 - "Permanent Deficit?" with Vietnam

Civil Rights:

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 - Sit-ins with over 100 cities involved
 - Freedom rides – TV violence
 - 1963 Birmingham MLK / Bull Connor – TV violence against children
 - August 1963 – March on Washington
200K hear "I have a dream"
 - 1964 the Civil Rights Act
 - Employment
 - Public Accommodations
 - Fed right to sue over school desegregation
 - Freedom Summer of 1964 – voting rights
 - 3 (whites) murdered – FBI takes case
 - March 1965 – Selma /TV violence / 2 whites murdered
 - Civil Rights Act of 1965 – Federal Crime to interfere with voting – end of poll tax:

Civil Rights: (P2)

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- All firms doing business with Federal Gov't
- No social advancement w/o economic
- Race Riots:
 - Black Power
 - Black Panthers / Nation of Islam
 - Rising expectations
 - Unemployment 2X white rate
 - 1964 Harlem
 - 1965 Watts – 34 people died
 - 1966 – 43 riots –
 - 1967 – 8 Major riots – Detroit called in US Army 43 people died
 - Special Commission on Civil Disorders – 1968 called for spending on special programs to improve employment and quality of life
 - Multi-Cultural – not integration but mixed

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Judicial Activism:

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- **Griswold v Connecticut 1964** – birth control legal
- **Cox V Louisiana 1964** – state couldn't use breach of peace laws to curb legal assembly and speech
- **Loving v Virginia** – struck down miscegenation laws
- **1963 Religion in schools** – not show the slightest preference for any particular religion
- **Jacobellis v Ohio 1966** – any form of sex material that has some redeemable quality or "artistic" was not obscene
- **Gideon v Wainwright 1963** – court appointed attorneys for all felonies
- **Miranda v Arizona 1964** – "You have the right ..."
- **Reynolds v Simms 1964** – one man, one vote negate multiple or leverage voting

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Flexible Response in the Cold War:

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 - Non-communist gov'ts of national liberation
 - Agency for International aid to coordinate US aid world-wide.
- Soviet Confrontation:
 - Aug 1961 Berlin Wall – symbol of tension
 - October 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis
 - Blockade, brinkmanship
 - 1963 Test Ban treaty (not France or China)
 - 1966 Invade Dominican Republic
 - Commitment to World Freedom made Asia as important as Europe.

Vietnam:

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 - ARVN was totally US support
 - “Friends of Vietnam” put \$1B into economy and 1500 advisers
 - Civic Action Program
- Losing Ground:
 - 1960 NLF begin to chip away at South Viet Nam (700 officials assassinated)
 - 1963 Buddhists begin to burn themselves as anti-Diem – TV
 - US overthrow Diems in Nov 1963
 - Long list of Coups
- Aug 1964 Gulf of Tonkin Resolution “take all necessary measures”
 - Feb 1965 NLF attack Americans at Pleiku
 - B52 Bombings start
 - 100K Americans there to fight

Vietnam: (P2)

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 - Pacification program – gave way to relocation
 - Drafted Army – 365 days in country
 - 1966 180K troops by June 436K troops
 - 1967 Search and Destroy "Body Counts"
 - War economics – US spent \$9.60 to do \$1 worth of damage.
 - 1967 Theiu / Ky got 35% of vote.
- 1968
 - As casualties mounted, more opposition
 - When over? / Who was winning?
 - 100 – 200 casualties a week
 - Who are we fighting for?
 - Young and Parents
 - Robert Kennedy by 1967
 - Robert McNamara out by 1968 – Clark Clifford in to get us out!

1968:

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 - NLF finished as fighting force
 - US won
 - Public support sank to new lows
- Politics in 1968
 - Johnson out / McCarthy and Kennedy in primary
 - April 1968 MLK assassinated
 - June 1968 RFK assassinated
 - Hubert Humphrey nominated
 - Richard Nixon wins
 - Conservative backlash
 - Social breakdown