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**History 1302**  
**U.S. From 1877**

Unit 4 Lecture 5

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**The Crisis of Authority**

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1968:

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  - Personal Liberation
- Counter-culture
  - Anti-materialism
  - Free Love
  - Personal fulfillment by rejecting Middle-class culture
  - Woodstock / Altamont - both sides of story
- New Left:
  - SDS – University liberal / radicalism
  - 1964 Free Speech Movement at Berkley – spawned campus turmoil
  - 1968 – War / Issue disturbances
    - Weathermen – campus bombings
  - Draft resistance – as deferments tapered down and casualties grew, more people resisted

## 1968: (P2)

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  - “New America – 50% <30 yo / 8M in college (8X 1950) 50% between 18 - 25
- Mobilization of Minorities: Challenge to the Melting Pot
  - Native Americans
    - End of Terminations / Treaty Rights
    - Life expectancy 46 (US average 69!)
    - 1968 Indian Rights Act – Federal Civil rights and recognition of Tribal Laws – outside State Laws
  - Latinos
    - Cubans, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans
    - Caesar Chavez
  - Gay Rights:
    - 1969 NYC riot – Gay Liberation Front
    - Mobilization of political action strength
    - Equal Rights laws

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## Minority Liberation

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  - Birth Control Pill - 1970 / Abortion - 1973
- 1963 Equal Pay Act
- 1967 Exec. Order to end gender discrim.
- 1964 – Title Seven – Women become protected class
- Affirmative action” in 1971
- 1966 – NOW – affluent women’s rebellion
- 1972 ERA but failed in 1982
- Women’s issues – child care, domestic violence, rape
- Environment
  - 1962 Rachel Carson – Silent Spring
  - “Ecology” invented – inter-relationship between people and environment
  - Legal battles to protect the environment / wilderness

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Nixon:

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  - 1970 Clean Air Act
  - 1972 – Clean Water Act
- Nixon & Kissinger & Viet Nam
  - 1969 – Vietnamization of forces and war
    - ARVN / Thieu gov't didn't hold support
  - 1969 – Bombing Cambodia / Laos
  - 1970 – US invasion of Cambodia / Laos
    - Kent State killings / Congress backlash
  - 1971 – Pentagon Papers – Gov't lies and deceptions / My Lai / Use of FBI, CIA and White House to discredit anti-war activists
  - 1972 – Easter NVA offensive – stopped but high cost and only with US help
  - 1972 Election – Peace with Honor
    - Talks in Paris – Kissinger “Peace is at hand” / 1972 – only 60K soldiers left
  - 1973 – Agreement for end – US out

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Nixon's administration:

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  - Nixon goes to China 1971 - 1972
    - Began recognition
    - Sold American food products
    - Forced Soviets to negotiate
  - SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty) 1971
    - Froze ICBM levels
  - Nixon Doctrine – participate in defense of allies and friends
    - 1970 – US participated in over-throwing leftist Chile gov't
    - Imposed settlement against Israel in Yom Kippur war of 1973

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### Nixon Domestic Policy:

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- - Forced Northern communities to face the change.
  - Slowed down enforcement
- Affirmative action expanded
  - Economic strategy to cure racial issues
- EPA
- Forced into moderate court
  - Warren Burger – Conservative replacing Earl Warren
  - Haynsworth / Carswell – rejected Blackmun / Powell in
  - School Busing upheld
  - Overturned Capital Punishment
  - Roe V Wade 1973

### Nixon amuck:

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  - - Dirty Tricks
    - Espionage
- Economy disaster
  - OPEC – oil from \$3 to \$15 and higher
  - Competition - Western Europe & Japan
  - End of high wage – high employment
  - Nixon raised taxes and cut spending & controlled the currency
    - Cost of living rose 15% in two years
    - 1971 90 day wage and price freeze
    - Oil price raise cut into any recovery
- Watergate:
  - June 1972 - 5 arrested for break-in to the Democratic National HQ
  - Washington Post – Woodward and Bernstein tied the burglars to the Committee to Reelect the President – paid by the Committee & White House staff

## Watergate

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- Nixon's aides left during scandal but President maintained innocence
- John Dean – President's attorney admitted to tape system for all conversations
- Nixon refuses to give up tapes on Executive Privilege
- Special Prosecutor appointed to investigate scandal –
  - Archibald Cox – took Nixon to court to free tapes
- Nixon fired Cox but Elliot Richardson (attorney general and his assistant resigned rather than fire Cox - "Saturday Night Massacre")
- New Special Prosecutor – Leon Jaworski continued suit – House starts Impeachment bill

## Watergate: (P2)

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- Investigations show mis-use of FBI and CIA to investigate and harass anti-Vietnam activists
- Whitehouse control of illegal activities
- Nixon income tax irregularities
  - (Nixon agrees to pay \$444K in back taxes)
- April 1974 White House releases edited tapes – nothing proved but was negative
  - 15 minute black-out
- June 1974 – US Supreme Court said unedited tapes to Special Prosecutor – House votes for impeachment
  - Tapes indicate that 3 days after break-in Nixon orders FBI to stop investigating
- August 1974 Nixon resigns – Ford is president – pardons Nixon