

Post-War, Cold War and Social Change

A Presentation Based on the
Georgia Standards of Excellence
(GSE) Objectives for High School
History Students

SSUSH20 Analyze U.S. international and domestic policies including their influences on technological advancements and social changes during the Truman and Eisenhower administrations.

- a. Analyze the international policies and actions developed as a response to the Cold War including containment, the Marshall Plan, the Truman Doctrine, and the Korean War.
- b. Connect major domestic issues to their social effects including the G.I. Bill, Truman's integration policies, McCarthyism, the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act, and Brown v. Board of Education.
- c. Examine the influence of Sputnik on U.S. technological innovations and education.

SSUSH20 Analyze U.S. international and domestic policies including their influences on technological advancements and social changes during the Truman and Eisenhower administrations.



The Cold War

- SSUSH20a. Analyze the international policies and actions developed as a response to the **Cold War** including containment, the **Marshall Plan**, the **Truman Doctrine**, and the **Korean War**.

The Cold War

- The Cold War was the era of confrontation and competition between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. beginning immediately after World War II.



The “Iron Curtain”

- Having pushed the Germans back across Eastern Europe during World War II, the Soviet Union remained in control of these nations which became known as **satellite states**.
- This confirmed Western fears that the Soviet Union under Stalin aimed to spread Communism around the world.
- Great Britain’s leader Winston Churchill declared the Soviets had erected an “iron curtain” across Europe.

The Marshall Plan and the Molotov Plan

- After WW II, much of Europe was devastated physically and economically.
- To rebuild Europe and support democratic ideas, the U.S. developed the **Marshall Plan** (officially called the European Recovery Program) which provided billions of dollars in aid to European countries.
- Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and western Germany received a total of over \$13 billion in aid.
- The Soviet Union rejected the Marshall Plan and developed its own economic program for satellite states called the Molotov Plan.

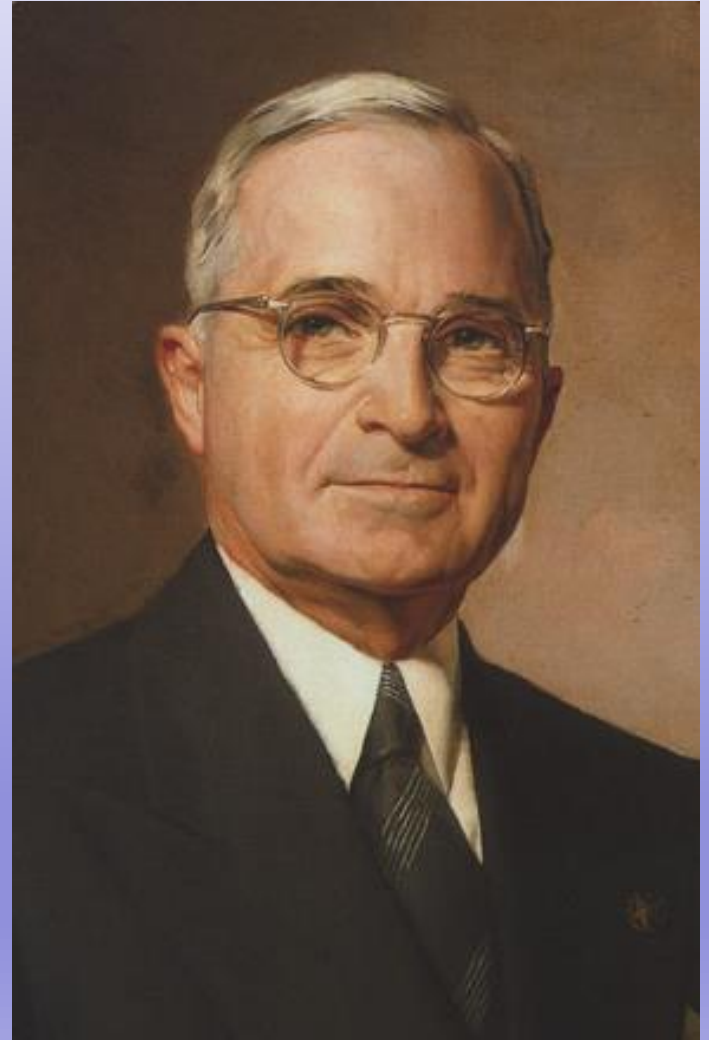
Containment Policy

- George Kennan, an American diplomat stationed in Moscow, proposed a policy of containment regarding the spread of communism.
- **Containment** became the U.S. policy to block, or contain, communism from expanding into other countries.



Truman Doctrine

- After WWII, Communists attempted to gain power in European nations; particularly threatened were Greece and Turkey.
- Proposed by President Harry Truman in 1947, The **Truman Doctrine** pledged U.S. aid to any country battling Communist aggression.
- It was immediately used to support the free governments in Turkey and Greece against communist threats.



NATO and The Warsaw Pact

- In 1949, 12 North American and European countries formed a defense agreement known as the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**.
- The chief aim of NATO is a pledge that each member will aid other members if they come under attack.
- The Soviet Union and its satellite states formed a similar alliance called the **Warsaw Pact** in 1955.

The Soviet Union Goes Nuclear

- On August 29, 1949, the Soviet Union conducted its first successful test of a nuclear weapon.
- The U.S. discovered this several days later when radiation was detected from a nuclear cloud that appeared to have come from the Russian Siberian desert.
- This led to an arms race that would last over forty years.

Explain the impact of the new communist regime in China and the outbreak of the Korean War and how these events contributed to the rise of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

- Following WW II, China was involved in a civil war between the U.S. backed Nationalist government and Mao Zedong's Communist forces.
- Despite help from the U.S., the Nationalist government lost and retreated to the island of Taiwan.
- The communist People's Republic of China was formed in 1949.

Communist China

- In 1950, the People's Republic and the Soviet Union signed a treaty of alliance.
- The U.S. feared that the two countries would spread communism across the globe.
- The U.S. immediately began to industrialize/rebuild Japan in order to gain an ally in Asia.

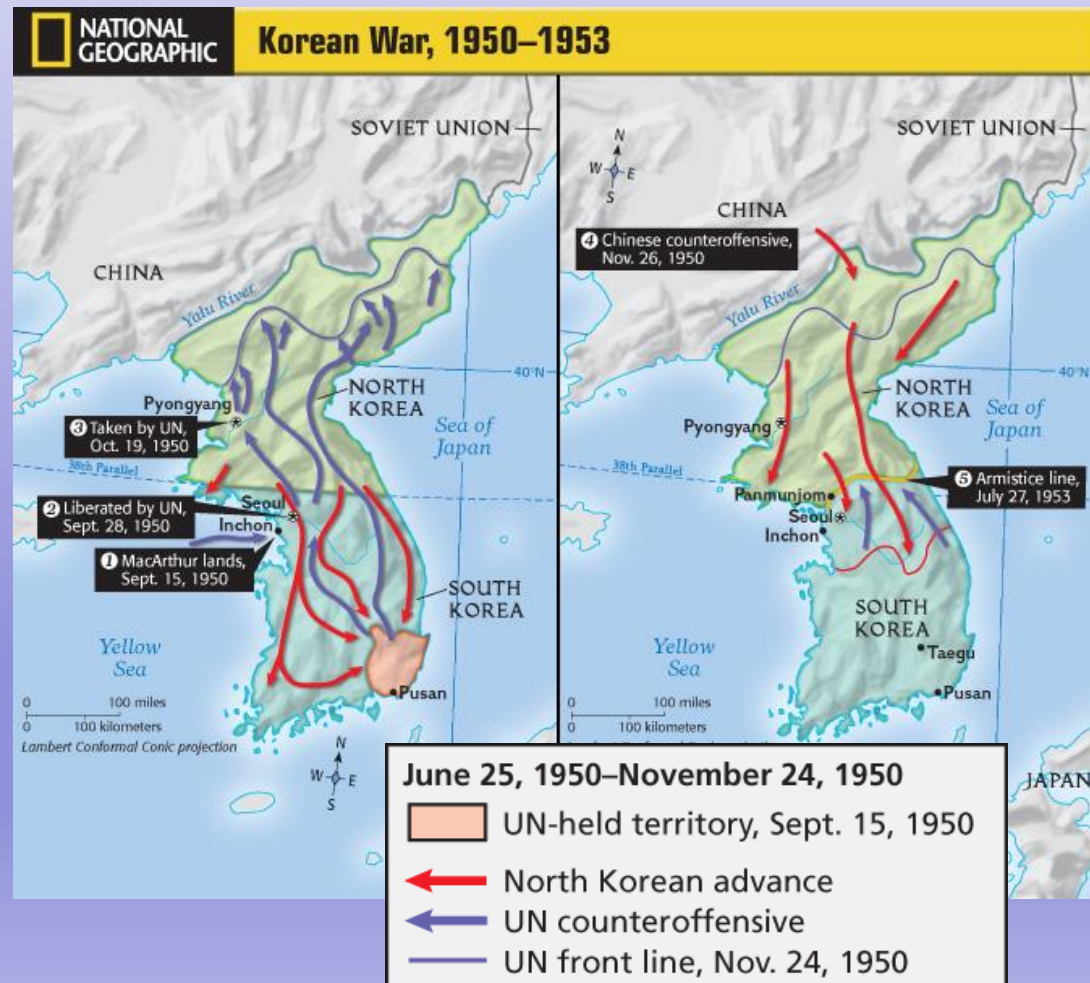


The Korean War

- At the end of WW II, Korea was split into halves at the 38th parallel, with the Soviets occupying the north and the U.S. occupying the south.
- Both the North and the South formed their own governments and claimed the entire country as their own.
- In 1950, the Soviet-backed North Korean Army invaded South Korea, nearly capturing the whole country.

The Korean War

- The U.S. Army, backed by United Nations troops, counter-attacked and pushed the North Korean Army to China's border.
- Feeling threatened by the advance, China attacked and forced the U.S. to retreat back behind the 38th parallel.



June 25, 1950–November 24, 1950

UN-held territory, Sept. 15, 1950

North Korean advance

UN counteroffensive

UN front line, Nov. 24, 1950



Chinese counteroffensive, Nov. 26, 1950

Armistice line, July 27, 1953



The Korean War

- The two sides eventually signed a cease-fire agreement (not a peace treaty) in 1953.
- The U.S. then began to build up their military and signed defense agreements with many Asian countries.
- The U.S. also began sending aid to French forces fighting Communist forces in Vietnam.

Post-War Domestic Affairs

SSUSH20b. Connect major domestic issues to their social effects including the G.I. Bill, Truman's integration policies, McCarthyism, the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act, and Brown v. Board of Education.

G.I. Bill of Rights (aka Servicemen's Readjustment Act)

- 1944 bill that provided benefits to World War II veterans.
- It provided:
 - **grants** for school and college tuition,
 - low-interest **mortgages**
 - small-business **loans**,
 - **job training**, hiring privileges, & **unemployment pay**
 - Amendments to the act provided for full **disability coverage** and the construction of additional VA hospitals.
 - Later legislation extended the benefits to **all** who had served in the armed forces.

The Baby Boom

- Because of the Great Depression & World War II, many people delayed marriage and starting families until the war ended.
- After the war, economic prosperity in the 1950s and 1960s led to a sudden rise in the birth rate.
- This **population explosion** (estimated at as many as 75 million births) led the growth of suburbs and a building boom in housing, schools, and shopping centers.



Levittown

- Developed 1946-1951, Levittown was an early preplanned, mass-produced housing complex near the city of New York.
- More than 17,000 low-cost homes were built, with accompanying shopping centres, playgrounds, swimming pools, community halls, and schools.
- The name Levittown became a national symbol for suburbia during the post-World War II building boom.



President Truman Integrates the U.S. Military and the Federal Government.

- Many of President Truman's Fair Deal social programs, including those aimed at advancing civil rights for African Americans, were defeated during his presidency but were later enacted in the 1960s
- Still, Truman did desegregate the U.S. Armed Forces by issuing Executive Order 9981 on July 26, 1948, which in part said:

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the president that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.

- Truman realized this would cost him the support of segregationists in the South.
- Truman has also been noted for appointing African Americans to important government positions.

Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956

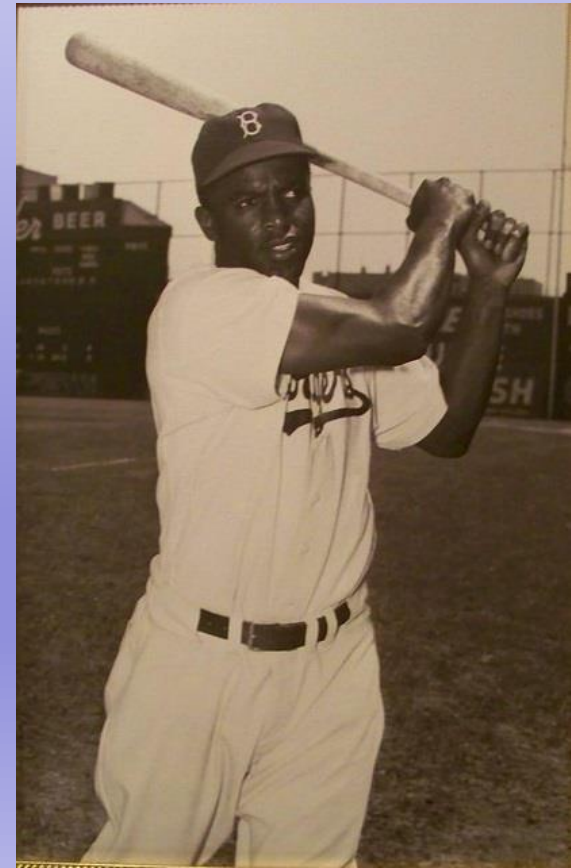
- President Eisenhower made **revitalizing highways** one of the goals of his first term.
- In the army in 1919, he had accompanied a military convoy across the U.S. and saw the poor condition of our nation's roads, and as Allied Forces Commander in WWII, **his admiration for Germany's Autobahn highway network reinforced his belief that the United States needed first-class roads.**
- Eisenhower formed committees to study the idea, enlisted governors to offer suggestions, and met with Members of Congress to promote the proposal.
- President Eisenhower worked with Congress and ultimately the President signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 on June 29, 1956.
 - This act resulted in over 40,000 miles of roadway and a boom in construction and roadside businesses.

Alternative Names

- Different books use different names for the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956.
- Some describe it as the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act of 1956.
- Others simply call it the Interstate Highway Act.

Jackie Robinson and the Integration of Baseball

- Until the 1950s, African Americans were not hired to play on Major League baseball clubs.
- African Americans played in their own professional leagues known as the Negro Leagues.
- In 1946, Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers signed an African American named Jackie Robinson to a contract to play for the minor league Montreal team that year.
- The following year, 1947, Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers team and became the first African American to play in the Major Leagues.
- Rickey chose Robinson to be first because he believed that Jackie was tough enough to not fight back when facing the discrimination and name-calling he was expected to and did encounter.



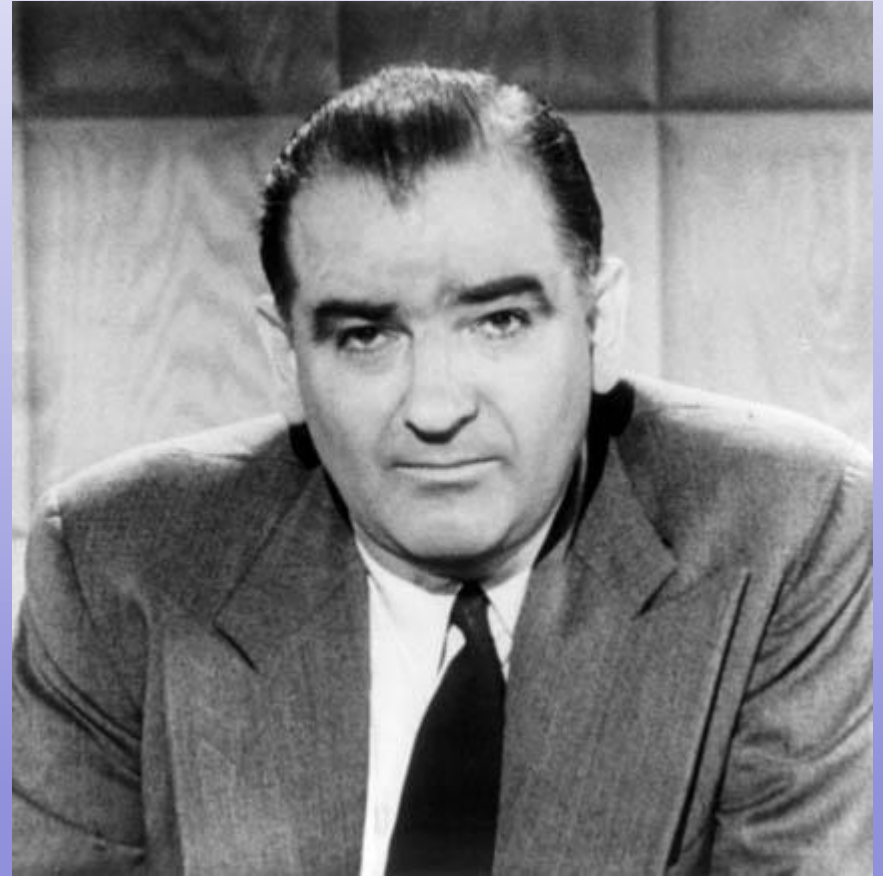
Brown v. Board of Education (1954)

- The Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision actually decided several pending cases, including one regarding Linda Brown, an African American girl who was denied admission to a school in her Topeka, Kansas neighborhood because of her race.
- This **landmark** (ground-breaking) decision of 1954 ruled that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional because it violates the clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that states all people are to have “equal protection” under the law.
- Not only did this decision lead to integration of public schools, it also reversed the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson decision by saying that “separate but equal has no place” [in public education].

McCarthyism and a New (Second) Red Scare

- The rise of Communism in the Soviet Union and China, and the war in Korea gave rise to a new Red Scare in the U.S.
- Many Americans felt as though the U.S. was losing the Cold War battle and wanted a government explanation
- In 1950 Senator Joseph McCarthy claimed to have a list of 205 men working for the U.S. government who were members of the Communist Party-this claim propelled him into the American spotlight

- In 1952 McCarthy began holding hearings about Communism, accusing many in the government of being spies, or Communist sympathizers.
- His “witch-hunt” for communist became know as McCarthyism. Those who openly challenged McCarthy would be accused of being a communist sympathizer.



- McCarthy's downfall began in 1954 when, in televised hearings, he accused the U.S. Army of containing communists.
- As millions of Americans watched on TV, he openly badgered and harassed witnesses.
- With pressure from the American people, Congress censured McCarthy, ending his political power.



SSUSH20c. Examine the influence of Sputnik on U.S. technological innovations and education.

- Another result of cold war tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union (U.S.S.R.) was **the Space Race**, government-led initiatives to explore beyond the boundaries of Earth's atmosphere.
- Both superpowers had been developing programs with weather balloons and ICBMs (missiles that could be launched and targeted over long distances).
- The U.S.S.R. took an early lead in the Space Race in 1957 by successfully placing the **Sputnik I** satellite in orbit.
- President Eisenhower brushed off Sputnik as unimportant; secretly, he was glad the Soviets launched the first satellite because this cleared the way for the U.S. to go forward with a top secret spy satellite named "Corona" without objections that we were using space for a military advantage.

Sputnik and Education

- The Sputnik launch also convinced U.S. leaders that the United States needed to reform education, especially in science, math and engineering, in order to “catch up” with the U.S.S.R.
- Congress passed the **National Defense Education Act** in 1958 to increase funding for education, make low-cost student loans available, and to focus on scientific and technical education.

The “Space Race”

- In part as a result of the Sputnik launch, the U.S. formed NASA (the National Aeronautics and Space Administration) during the late 1950s to lead the way in space exploration.
- In the early 1960s, President Kennedy made space exploration a priority, and set a goal of reaching the moon by the end of the 1960s:

We have a long way to go in the space race. We started late. But this is the new ocean, and I believe the United States must sail on it and be in a position second to none.

--President John F. Kennedy, 1962

U.S. Astronauts Walk on the Moon

- In 1969, the U.S. claimed victory in the Space Race with a successful mission that sent American astronauts (space explorers) to the moon.
- On this mission, Commander Neil Armstrong and Pilot Edwin Eugene 'Buzz' Aldrin, Jr. became the first men to walk on the moon.



Exploring Outer Space

- Space exploration provided military and scientific advantages, for example:
 - Orbiting satellites with cameras and radio relay technology aided in transmitting TV and radio signals longer distances as well as other spying capabilities.
 - Development of technologies that have applications not just in space, but on earth as well, for example, GPS technology, cordless tools, space blankets, WD-40 and even Tang!
 - Perspectives that improve our knowledge of our environment, especially regarding weather and pollution.

The Kennedy and Johnson Years

- SSUSH21 Analyze U.S. international and domestic policies including their influences on technological advancements and social changes during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations
- a. Analyze the international policies and actions taken as a response to the Cold War including U.S. involvement in Cuba and the escalation of the war in Vietnam as a result of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.
- b. Connect major domestic issues to their social effects including the passage of civil rights legislation and Johnson's Great Society, following the assassination of John F. Kennedy.
- c. Describe the impact of television on American culture including the presidential debates (Kennedy/Nixon, 1960), news coverage of the Civil Rights Movement, the moon landing, and the war in Vietnam.
- d. Investigate the growth, influence, and tactics of civil rights groups, Martin Luther King, Jr., the Letter from Birmingham Jail, the I Have a Dream Speech, and Cesar Chavez.
- e. Describe the social and political turmoil of 1968 including the reactions to assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert F. Kennedy, the Tet Offensive, and the presidential election.

The Cold War in Cuba and Vietnam

SSUSH21a. Analyze the international policies and actions taken as a response to the Cold War including U.S. involvement in Cuba and the escalation of the war in Vietnam as a result of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.

The Cuban Revolution

- In 1959 Fidel Castro overthrew the American supported leader of Cuba, Batista.
- Cuba, only 90 miles from the U.S. mainland, took control of all U.S. property in Cuba, including land and factories.
- The new Cuban leader aligned his government with the Soviet Union.



The Bay of Pigs



- When John F. Kennedy (JFK) became President in 1961, he inherited a plan from the previous President which called for a CIA backed invasion of Cuba in order to overthrow Castro.

The Bay of Pigs

- The U.S. worried that the Soviet Union would use Cuba as a base to spread Communism through out the Western Hemisphere.
- Though only President for three months, Kennedy listened to his advisors and approved the secret plan which called for 1,500 Cuban exiles to attack, supported by U.S. planes.



The Bay of Pigs

- The attack came on April 17, 1961, and it was a disaster:
 - Reports of the planned attack had leaked out days before it happened.
 - The attack site, the “Bay of Pigs”, was poorly chosen with coral reefs slowing down the landing craft, and swampy land causing problems once ashore.
 - In an effort to hide U.S. involvement, Kennedy refused to send in the expected air support.
- Within days Cuba had captured or killed all of the invaders.



The Cuban Missile Crisis

- In 1962, U.S. spy planes photographed Soviet-made long range missiles being set up in Cuba.



Cuban Missile Crisis

- President Kennedy ordered a naval blockade of Cuba, demanded that the Soviets dismantle and remove the missiles, and warned Russia that the U.S. would launch an all out nuclear missile attack on the Soviet Union if any missiles were fired from Cuba.



The Cuban Missile Crisis

- The Soviets ignored the warning and continued to work on the sites.
- Many in the U.S. believed that a nuclear holocaust would occur.
- In late October, after secretly negotiating with the Soviets, disaster was avoided.
- Russia agreed to pull out of Cuba if the U.S. promised not to invade the island.
- President Kennedy also secretly agreed to remove U.S. missile installations in Turkey.

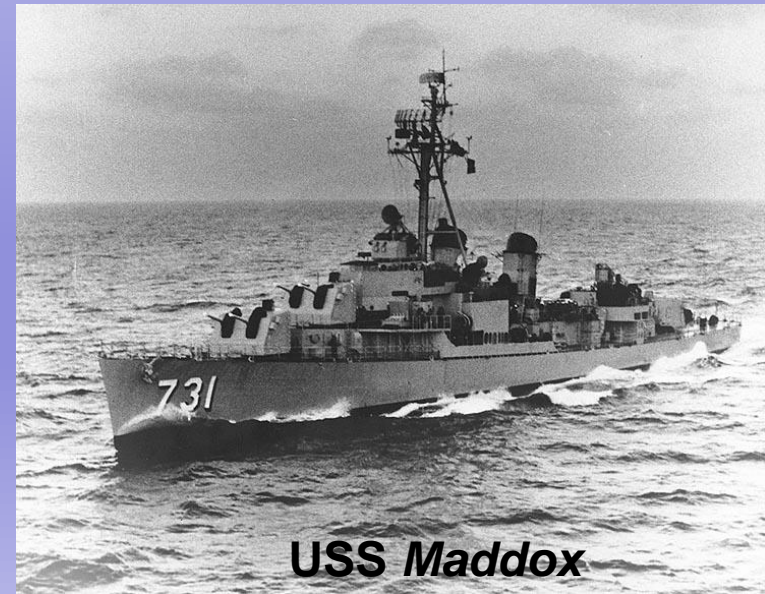
The Vietnam War

- The U.S. had been sending economic and military aid to South Vietnam since the early 1950s to combat North Vietnam's Communist government.
- By 1963, the U.S. had over 16,000 "advisers" in South Vietnam.



The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution

- In August 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) announced that North Vietnamese ships had attacked American destroyers in two separate incidents. (This turned out to be only partially true).
- He asked permission from Congress to let American forces defend themselves if attacked.
- Congress approved the **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution** which allowed LBJ to take any actions he deemed necessary to deal with threats to U.S. forces or U.S. allies.
- As no official declaration of war had been made by the U.S., this resolution served as a legal basis for increased U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War.



USS Maddox

The Vietnam War Escalates

- The Vietcong began attacking military bases in the South, which killed and wounded U.S. advisers.
- In 1965 Johnson ordered U.S. jets to attack positions in the North.
- In March 1965, Johnson launched Operation Rolling Thunder, a bombing campaign of the North, and sent more than 180,000 troops to fight in Vietnam.



Anti-War Movement

- Vietnam was the first “television” war where Americans could see first hand what was happening in the war.
- As the war dragged on, many Americans began to protest U.S. involvement in the following ways:
 - * Teach-Ins
 - * Draft Dodging
 - * Doves vs. Hawks
 - * Protest Marches



Tet Offensive (1968)

- In early 1968, military leaders announced that U.S. forces were gaining strength and winning the war.
- In late January 1968, the North Vietnamese launched a surprise attack during the Vietnamese New Year. They attacked nearly every U.S. airbase and most major cities in the South.





- Though the attack was a military failure, the Tet Offensive was a turning point in the war because most Americans came to believe that the U.S. could not win the war.
- President Johnson's approval rating dropped dramatically and eventually led Johnson not to seek reelection.

SSUSH21b. Connect major domestic issues to their social effects including the passage of civil rights legislation and Johnson's Great Society, following the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

- On November 23, 1963, President Kennedy was shot to death while riding in a convertible in Dallas, Texas.
- An inquiry into Kennedy's assassination by the Warren Commission (an investigation headed by chief Justice Earl Warren) concluded that Kennedy was killed by Lee Harvey Oswald, a 24-year-old Dallas resident.
- Two days later, Oswald was shot to death by Jack Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner.



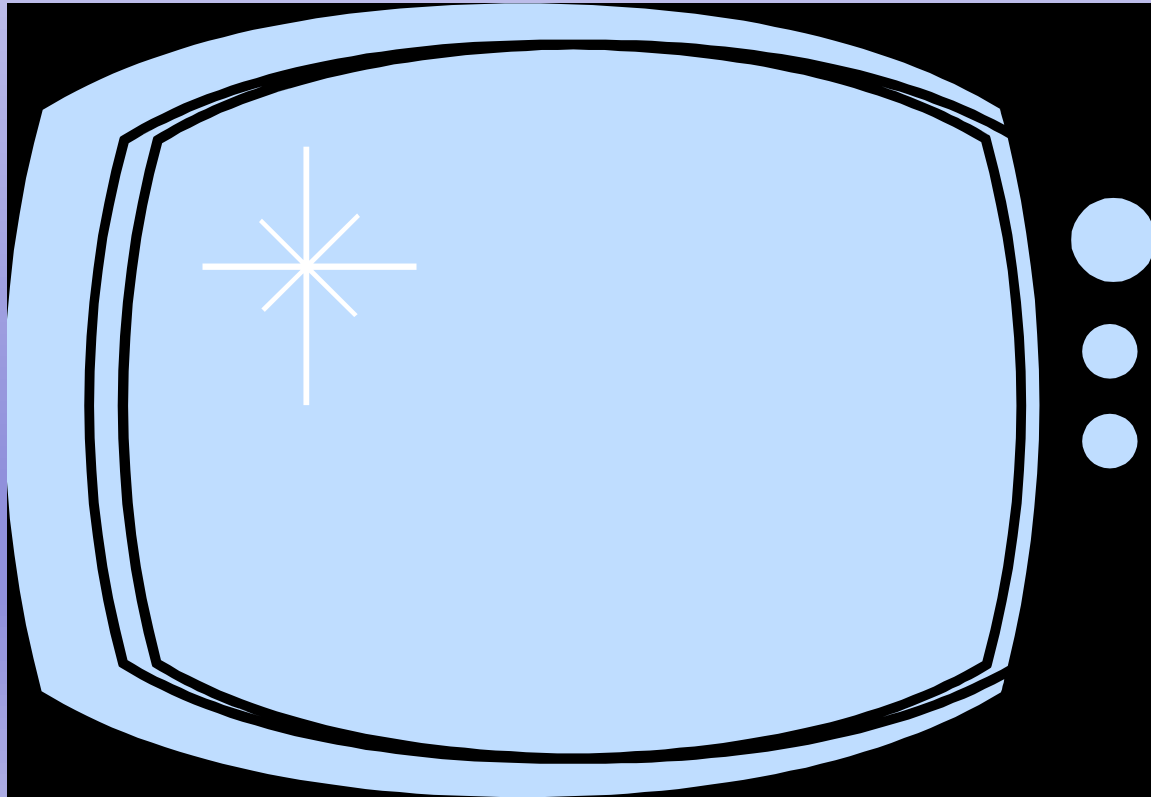
Political Impacts of the Kennedy Assassination



- Although President Kennedy championed civil rights legislation, he was not able to convince Congress to act on it.
- As a result of Kennedy's untimely death, passage of important civil rights legislation which became the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965) fell to his successor, President Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ).
- LBJ used his skills gained as a member of Congress to push through many of Kennedy's plans, including not only civil rights laws but also bills on poverty and tax cuts.



SSUSH21c. Describe the impact of television on American culture including the presidential debates (Kennedy/Nixon, 1960), news coverage of the Civil Rights Movement, the moon landing, and the war in Vietnam.

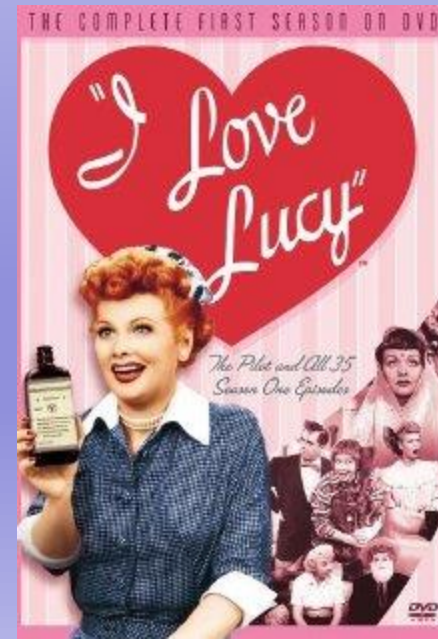


Television

- Perhaps no technological innovation has had as wide a ranging impact as television
- “In 1945, there were probably fewer than 10,000 sets in the country. This figure soared to about 6 million in 1950, and to almost 60 million by 1960.”

--"Television." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. Chicago: World Book Inc., 2003: 119.

(via <http://hypertextbook.com/facts/2007/TamaraTamazashvili.shtml>)



Television Leads to McCarthy's Demise

- In 1952, Senator Joseph McCarthy held hearings about Communism, accusing many in the government of being spies, or communist sympathizers.
- As millions of Americans watched on TV, he openly badgered and harassed witnesses.
- McCarthy's downfall began in 1954 when, in televised hearings, he accused the U.S. Army of containing communists.
- With pressure from the American people, Congress censured McCarthy, ending his political power



The Kennedy/Nixon Debates

- On Sept. 26, 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy debated Vice President Richard M. Nixon in the first-ever televised presidential debate
- The debate was seen by nearly 70 million viewers.
- Nixon had been ill, was underweight, and refused make-up to improve his pallor.
- Kennedy appeared fit, tan and confident.
- Although radio listeners believed Nixon won the debate, TV viewers thought Kennedy had won.
- Kennedy won the election that November.



TV and the Civil Rights Movement

As the proportion of American homes with television sets increased during the 1950s from about 50% to over 90% by the 1960s, a larger proportion of Americans began watching not only entertainment but news events from around the country and the world.

- Civil rights activists realized that television coverage could aid their cause, and television network executives found viewers fascinated by the protests and riots of the movement.
- As television covered the civil rights movement, viewers began to identify with protestors treated brutally by police.



Birmingham, Alabama, May 4, 1963 New York Times,

U.S. Astronauts Walk on the Moon

- On July 20, 1969, televisions around the world broadcast live coverage of the first astronauts to the moon.
- It is estimated that 93% of all television-watching households in the U.S. tuned in for this event.



The Anti-War Movement

- Vietnam was the first “television” war where Americans could see first hand what was happening in the war.
- As the war dragged on, many Americans began to protest U.S. involvement in the following ways:

- * Teach-Ins
- * Draft Dodging
- * Doves vs. Hawks
- * Protest Marches



Lyndon Johnson's Great Society

- LBJ ran for President in the 1964 election on a platform (campaign pledge) that promised to create a “Great Society,” that is, create a nation that treated all people more fairly.
- Johnson's vision for this Great Society was on a scale comparable to FDR's New Deal, that is, a massive plan of programs and spending to achieve his vision.
- Johnsons' plans were ambitious and some failed for lack of funding or planning, but the Great Society achieved many goals.
- Among the programs that Johnson's Great Society created from 1965-1968, these still exist:
 1. Medicare: a health program for the elderly
 2. Medicaid: a health program for the poor
 3. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act: money for schools
 4. Project Head Start: help for young children
 5. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): aid to cities

Richard M. Nixon

- Richard Milhous Nixon ran as the Republican candidate for the Presidency in 1968
- To win, Nixon had to win in the South, traditionally a Democratic stronghold
- To gain Southern votes, Nixon promised to be a Conservative President, and limit government powers, a long standing desire in the South
- He also promised to appoint a Southerner to the Supreme Court
- Nixon's "Southern Strategy" helped him get elected

The Civil Rights Movement

- SSUSH21d. Investigate the growth, influence, and tactics of civil rights groups, Martin Luther King, Jr., the Letter from Birmingham Jail, the I Have a Dream Speech, and Cesar Chavez.



American Civil Rights Movements

- Anti-slavery agitation began in the late 17th century just as slavery became legal in the colonies.
- The Abolition Movement emerged via the appearance of formal anti-slavery organizations during the 18th century.
- After abolition was achieved in 1865 through the 13th Amendment, Jim Crow Laws institutionalized segregation.
- In the 20th century, Mass Action/Protest Demonstrations were sporadic before 1950s; the heyday of these tactics in the civil rights movement was during the 1950s-1960s.

Tactics of the Modern Civil Rights Movement

- Boycotts
- Sit-ins
- Protest Marches
- Civil Disobedience
- Litigation/Lawsuits
- Legislative and Political Lobbying
- Media Coverage

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)

- Formed by Dr. King and other African American ministers, SCLC focused on non-violent protest.
- They aimed to end segregation and register African Americans to vote (mainly in cities).
- They organized non-violent protests in the South leading to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965
- **After the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, SCLC began to change its focus towards the plight of African Americans in Northern cities**
- **This change in focus, and the failure of a few of SCLC's protests, caused many to doubt SCLC's non-violent approach**

Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)

- SNCC began at the suggestion Ella Baker, the executive director of the SCLC, who believed **students** should have a civil rights organization separate from NAACP and SCLC.
- Initially, SNCC was comprised of African American college students from the South along with some white students
- SNCC first focused on urban issues, such as sit-ins to desegregate public facilities; later they worked to register voters in the rural South.
- Members also participated in Freedom Rides to help draw attention to segregated bus terminals in the South.
- **Changing composition:** By the mid 1960s, SNCC became more radical, eventually voting whites out of leadership positions in the organization and focusing on Black Power.
- **Black Power** is an imprecise term, but meanings include control of African American social change movements by African Americans only and a shift from non-violent to violent tactics.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

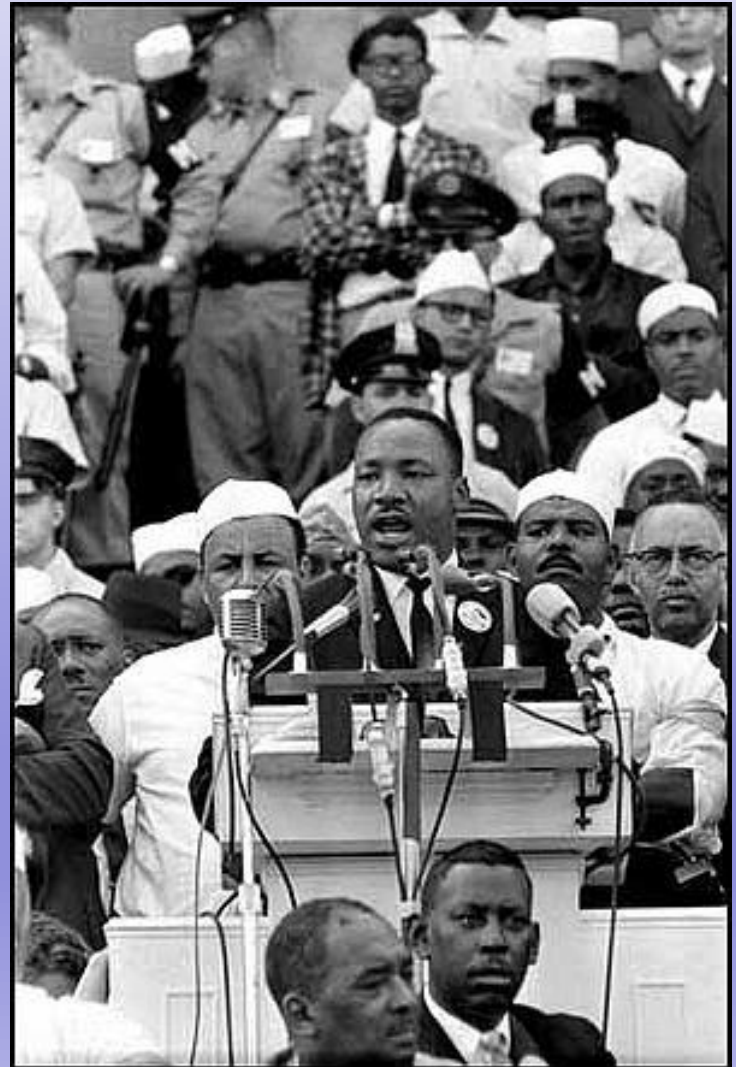
- Martin Luther King, Jr. was an African American pastor who became the most visible spokesman for the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s.
- King copied non-violent resistance strategies used in the Home Rule movement by Mahandas K. (“Mahatma”) Gandhi in India.
- King’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” and his “I Have a Dream” speech are two of the most moving and eloquent missives from the Civil Rights movement.

“Letter from a Birmingham Jail”

- Written on scraps of paper smuggled into his cell after being arrested in 1963 while protesting for civil rights in Birmingham, Alabama.**
- King’s letter eloquently explains that although he and other protestors were breaking the law, it was necessary to expose the injustices of racial discrimination “to the light of human conscience. . . .”**

King's "I Have a Dream" speech

- Delivered during the 1963 civil rights March on Washington, D.C. organized by A. Philip Randolph and supported by King.
- This speech is one of the most moving and prophetic examples of American rhetoric.
- [Speech Excerpts](#)
- ["I Have a Dream. . . . \(full\)"](#)



Civil Rights Act of 1964

- President Kennedy was determined to get civil rights legislation passed, but he was assassinated before achieving this goal.
- Although some people were surprised that Kennedy's successor Lyndon Baines Johnson would support such legislation, LBJ got behind it totally.
- The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was the broadest such legislation ever enacted.
- It made segregation illegal in most public places, gave all citizens access to public facilities, required employers to end workplace discrimination and **gave government more power to enforce civil rights laws.**
- It also established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to monitor workplace practices.

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- This law **empowered the U.S. Attorney General to monitor voting practices** to ensure fairness and ended discriminatory practices such as literacy tests.
- As a result, nearly 250,000 new African American voters were registered to vote and the number of elected African Americans increased substantially.

The Civil Rights Movement Changes

- With passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Civil Rights Movement achieved two main goals:
 1. Segregation had been outlawed, and
 2. Federal laws prevented discrimination and ensured voting rights
- SCLC began to focus towards the plight of the poor, especially African Americans in Northern cities and rural whites. This change and failure of some SCLC protests caused many to doubt SCLC's non-violent approach.
- By the mid 1960s, SNCC became more radical, eventually voting whites out of leadership positions in the organization and focusing on Black Power.
- Black Power is an imprecise term, but meanings include control of African American social change movements by African Americans only and a shift from non-violent to violent tactics.

Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta & the United Farm Workers' Movement.

- Cesar Chavez helped to organize a **strike** against table grape growers in 1965.
- Their goals were increased wages and benefits for farm workers, many of whom were Mexican Americans.
- In 1966, Chavez and Dolores Huerta formed the United Farm Workers under the AFL-CIO.



1968

SSUSH21e. Describe the social and political turmoil of 1968 including the reactions to assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert F. Kennedy, the Tet Offensive, and the presidential election.

The Turmoil of 1968

1968 was one of the most violent, tumultuous years in our history. A few examples of this turmoil are:

1. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, TN. His death touched off a series of riots around the country.
2. Robert F. Kennedy, JFK's brother, was assassinated in Los Angeles while campaigning for the Presidency.
3. At the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, riots erupted when police used force to disperse anti-war and other demonstrators—even several respected journalists were roughed up by Chicago police.
4. Students at Columbia University took over several buildings for eight days, and students from Harvard, Radcliff, and Boston University held a four-day hunger strike to protest the war.
5. Women's rights activists protested outside the Miss America beauty pageant and tossed wigs, high heels, bras, girdles, dish detergent, false eyelashes, and other items into a "Freedom Trash Can."