



REVIEW REFORMERS

AMERICAN PERFECTIONISM

Many reformers of the 1820s and 30s, sought to create the perfect representation in miniature of what life should be.

- Americans sought millennial perfection through the reformation of American society.
- The current of reform was driven by two streams of thought: romanticism and revivalism. Both movements stimulated the quest for perfectionism.
- Utopian Movements
- Penitentiary Reform
 - Dorothea Dix



ABOLITION

- Pennsylvania- earliest abolitionists during colonial time.
- New England and the North will outlaw slavery during the Am. Revolution.
- 1816 → American Colonization Society created (gradual, voluntary emancipation.)
 - Created a free slave state in Liberia.
- No real anti-slavery sentiment in the North in the 1820s & 1830s.
- James Birney was the candidate for the Liberty Party in 1840 & 1844.
- Civil War will lead to 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments and equality by law.



SEGREGATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS

- Booker T. Washington vs. W.E.B. Du Bois
- NAACP
- Harlem Renaissance
- Executive Order 8802
- Armed forces integrated by Truman
- *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* decision
- Little Rock Central High School desegregated
- Montgomery bus boycott
- Freedom riders oppose segregation
- March on Washington
- Civil Rights Act passed
- Mississippi Summer Freedom Project
- Selma to Montgomery march
- Voting Rights Act approved
- Watts Riots



EDUCATIONAL REFORM

- MA → In 1647 is the 1st colony to establish tax support for local public schools.
- 1st Great Awakening- Log colleges founded for the education of preachers in the colonies.
- “Republican” responsibility to educate the next generation.
 - Noah Webster writes *A Grammatical Institute of the English Language* , an American version of spelling and a dictionary.
 - The McGuffey Readers, as they came to be known, are among the most influential textbooks of the 19th Century.
- **Horace Mann**- established state teacher- training programs, children should be “molded” into a state of perfection
- Antebellum **Lyceum** movement- early form of organized adult education gave people an opportunity to hear debates and lectures on topics of current interest.

- By 1860 every state offered free public education to whites.
 - * US had one of the highest literacy rates.
- **Chautauqua movement**, began as a program for the training of Sunday-school teachers during the Gilded Era. It broadened to include general education, recreation, and popular entertainment.
- By 1918 all states have laws for mandatory education for children is a result of child labor reform.
- By the 1920s, John Dewey advocated education not only as a place to gain knowledge, but also as a place to learn how to live, high school becomes standard.
- The GI Bill of Rights opens up college education to the masses.




WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Women wanted equality during Revolution

- Abigail Adams “Don’t forget the women”
- Mercy Otis Warren

Republican Motherhood

1830s & 40s Suffrage vs. “Cult of Domesticity”

- Women had the same “natural rights” as men, which meant participating politically.
 - Seneca Falls Convention 1848, *Declaration of Sentiments*
 - Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony
 - A woman’s “sphere” was in the home (it was a refuge from the cruel world outside) and her role was to “civilize” her husband and family.
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WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Women's clubs during the Gilded Era

Suffrage- women had the same “natural rights” as men, which meant participating politically.

- National American Woman Suffrage Association
- National Woman's Party

◦ **Alice Paul**

Successful after WW1 and the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920.

ERA- proposed in 1923, approved in Congress in 1972, but never ratified.

- National Organization of Women (NOW) vs. Phyllis Schlafly

Women's Rights Movements of the 1970s- ERA, Roe v. Wade, Title IX.

TEMPERANCE

The American Temperance Society (1826) was dedicated to total abstinence. “Demon Rum”

Progressive Era- The Woman’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), founded by Frances E. Willard, and the Anti-Saloon League were formed.

- Carrie Nation

Finally, in 1919, the 18th Amendment prohibited the sale and drinking of alcohol.



CONSERVATION MOVEMENT

- Started in the Progressive Era with the founding of the Sierra club, national parks, and federal legislation to protect nature.
- 1950s-80s- anti-nuclear demonstrations
- 1960s the publishing of the *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson will bring awareness of environmental issues.
- 1970- the first Earth Day
- Love Canal
- Three-mile Island

