[**Period 8 Review**](https://vimeo.com/120078869)[**1945 on**](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/essays/1945-present?period=8)

**Key Concept 8.1:** The United States responded to an uncertain and unstable postwar world by asserting and working to maintain a position of global leadership, with far-reaching domestic and international consequences.

1. United States policymakers engaged in a **Cold War** with the authoritarian Soviet Union, seeking to limit the growth of Communist military power and ideological influence, create a free-market global economy, and build an international security system. [Origins of the Cold War](https://vimeo.com/38451459) [Period 8 Foreign Policy](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R58gOR2cVU&index=1&list=PL-69ThEyf7-A56nDKq8DtP3iAxSQED4br) [Foreign Policy 1945+ Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojnTpqOx2I0&index=57&list=PLCH8uxPXHDPD5YQPvxX3qlGSFlHNZUhd6) [Crash Course Cold War](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9C72ISMF_D0&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=38)
2. As post war tensions dissolved the wartime alliance between Western democracies and the Soviet Union, the United States developed a foreign policy based on collective security, international aid, and economic institutions that bolstered non-Communist nations. (Fraser; P. 741-747) [Cold War & Domino Theory](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JNHyDOWdYw&index=17&list=PL-69ThEyf7-A56nDKq8DtP3iAxSQED4br) [Duck & Cover](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKqXu-5jw60&list=PLE8E252F2CC85EEA4&index=2)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| **containment** | US Foreign policy 1946-1991 | **Included economic (Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine, Eisenhower Doctrine) proxy wars, military escalation, liberal policies like Peace Corps (Kennedy)** |
| NATO | North American Treaty Organization | Created to oppose Soviet aggression; USSR created East Germany and the Warsaw Pact in response, splitting Europe in half for the next 40 years |

1. Concerned by expansionist Communist ideology and Soviet repression, the United States sought to **contain** **communism** through a variety of measures, including major military engagements in **Korea** and **Vietnam**. (Fraser; P. 741-747; 813-823) [Origins of the Vietnam War](https://vimeo.com/22137050) [Korean War](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/postwar-politics-and-origins-cold-war/essays/korean-war?period=8) [Marshall Plan](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IU_QQtPRhSU&index=120&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Berlin Airlift](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gpYsK90aio&index=121&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Korean War](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okQzZhL81tE&index=122&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Vietnam War](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnSUBFEHmB0&index=128&list=PL47F868B521713645)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Truman Doctrine | Aid to Greece and Turkey | **Based on the domino theory--if one country fall, the rest would too** |
| Marshall Plan | European Recovery Plan | **Response to the European economic collapse after WWII--starvation loaned Europe billions--had to buy American goods** |
| **Korean Conflict** | NK invaded SK | **UN police action; MacArthur fired; Set limits to the Cold War Permanent division at 38th parallel; Truman started war w/o declaration from Congress; Leads to expansion of US military NSC-68** |
| **Vietnam War** | NV invaded SV | Expanded by LBJ after expansion of power with Gulf of Tonkin Resolution; Leads to deep divisions within America; loss of confidence |

1. The Cold War fluctuated between periods of direct and indirect military confrontation and periods of mutual coexistence (or **détente**). (Fraser; P. 802-805; 846-847; 829-833) [Cuban Missile Crisis](https://vimeo.com/22300667) [Cuban Missile Crisis](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Snc4g8yAURo&index=127&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Cuban Missile Crisis Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgNQN3nZPFg&index=59&list=PLCH8uxPXHDPD5YQPvxX3qlGSFlHNZUhd6)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Cuban Missile Crisis | Quarantine of Cuba until Soviet missiles are removed | **Closest to “hot war”****Leads to Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty; hot line** |
| **Détente** | Lessening of tensions  | Nixon recognizes Red China--visits China and the USSR; signs SALT 1 |

1. Postwar decolonization and the emergence of powerful nationalist movements in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East led both sides in the **Cold War** to seek allies among new nations, many of which remained nonaligned. (Fraser; P. 762-766) [Arab-Israel & the Cold War](https://vimeo.com/28411676) [Eisenhower & the Suez Crisis](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JObqhUMgQcg&index=16&list=PL-69ThEyf7-A56nDKq8DtP3iAxSQED4br) [Crash Course: Cold War in Asia](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2IcmLkuhG0&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=39)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| **Suez Canal** | Nasser nationalized Suez Canal in Egypt | **British and French (and Israel) went to war to get it back; US intervened diplomatically to try to stop them** |
| CIA & Iran | Deposed PM and replaced with the Shah | Used CIA to interfere with gov’ts perceived to be pro-communist; Eventually leads to hostage crisis for Carter |

1. **Cold War** competition extended to Latin America, where the U.S. supported non-Communist regimes that had varying levels of commitment to democracy. (Fraser; P. 762-766; 871-873) [CIA & Guatemala](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rb7XaF1rs1E) [Iran Contra](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nix_vj2DaqQ) [Iran Contra (as explained on American Dad)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lFV1uT-ihDo)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| CIA & Guatemala  |  | **CIA used in Guatemala to overthrow president Guzman after he took land owned by the United Fruit Company to redistribute to the poor** |
| Iran Contra Scandal | US supported Contras in overthrow of Sandinistas  | US used money diverted from arms sales to Iran to fund the Contras after Congress said no. Reagan comes out clean after Oliver North (NSC) takes the blame. |

1. Cold War policies led to public debates over the power of the federal government and acceptable means for pursuing international and domestic goals while protecting civil liberties.
2. Americans debated policies and methods designed to expose suspected communists within the United States even as  both parties supported the broader strategy of **containing communism**. (Fraser; P. 747-751) [Anti-Communism in the 50s](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/fifties/essays/anti-communism-1950s?period=8) [McCarthyism](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9QNT0r5q2g&index=13&list=PL-69ThEyf7-A56nDKq8DtP3iAxSQED4br) [MCarthyism](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix5OScqjpRo&index=123&list=PL47F868B521713645) [McCarthyism Song](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXZ-n83hJW4&index=58&list=PLCH8uxPXHDPD5YQPvxX3qlGSFlHNZUhd6)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Second Red Scare | Truman’s loyalty program/McCarthyism unleashes  | **Loyalty oaths for union members, Hollywood Ten and blacklist, violation of civil liberties, McCarthyism; execution of Rosenbergs; Smith Act makes being a Communist illegal** |
| House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) | Investigated HollywoodInvestigates Alger Hiss caseInvestigates thousands | Hiss--Former State Dept official accused of being a spyPersecution of hundreds--massive violations of civil liberties |

1. Although anticommunist foreign policy faced little domestic opposition in previous years, the **Vietnam War** inspired sizable and passionate antiwar protests that became more numerous as the war escalated, and sometimes led to violence. (Fraser; P. 813-823) [Protest Music](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/sixties/essays/protest-music-1960s?period=8) [Vietnam War Protests](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVNUlOUlMeo)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| **SDS** | Students for a Democratic Society | **Began an anti-war movement rooted in opposition to the Cold War; escalated into active resistance to Vietnam; UC Berkeley Free Speech Movement** |
| 1968 Democratic Convention | 1968 Turning point | LBJ pulling out of the race, Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy being assassinated, the Democratic national convention turning into a mass of protests and riots, George Wallace campaigning as an open racist, and Nixon winning election |

1. Americans debated the merits of a large nuclear arsenal, the **military- industrial complex**, and the appropriate power of the executive branch in conducting foreign and military policy. (Fraser; P. 762-768) [Eisenhower's Farewell Address](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUXtyIQjubU&list=PLE8E252F2CC85EEA4&index=5)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Eisenhower’s Farewell Address | military-industrial complex | **Eisenhower tried to cut back on the military budget, and ended his presidency with a warning: “we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex.”**  |
| War Powers Act | LBJ and Nixon given unprecedented powers to pursue a war we never declared | an attempt to rein back in this imperial presidency by imposing time limits and restrictions on troop deployment  |

1. Ideological, military,  and economic concerns shaped U.S. involvement in the Middle East, with several **oil crises** in the region eventually sparking attempts at creating a national **energy policy**. (Fraser; P. 831-833; 846-852; 843-845) [1970s Oil Crisis](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiLnj5WD0ao)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| OPEC | Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries |  **imposed an oil embargo on the U.S., cutting off supplies in 1973 and creating a massive shortage, which crippled the US and helped drive the economic recession begun by Vietnam; oil shortages drove massive inflation and helped weaken the American economy** |
| Department of Energy | Founded by Carter in 1977 | Created to try to create energy policy; called for conservation and research into alternative energy sources |

**Key Concept 8.2:** New movements for civil rights and liberal efforts to expand the role of government generated a range of political and cultural responses. [Crash Course: The 60s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkXFb1sMa38&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=41)

1. Seeking to fulfill Reconstruction-era promises, civil rights activists and political leaders achieved some legal and political successes in ending segregation, although progress toward equality was slow. [Civil Rights Movement](https://vimeo.com/19566620) [Civil Rights Movement](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/civil-rights-movement/essays/civil-rights-movement?period=8) [Music of the Civil Rights Movement](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/civil-rights-movement/essays/%E2%80%9Cpeople-get-ready%E2%80%9D-music-and-civil-rights-movement-1950s?period=8) [Civil Rights](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJoEG9AwhZE&index=124&list=PL47F868B521713645)
2. During and after  World War II, **civil  rights activists and leaders**, most notably **Martin Luther King Jr**., combatted racial discrimination utilizing  a variety of strategies, including legal challenges, direct action, and nonviolent protest tactics. (Fraser; P. 736-738; 778-788) [MLK](https://vimeo.com/28421744) [Non-violent Protest](https://vimeo.com/28423653) [Little Rock 9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMqKRaplLsk&index=125&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Crash Course: Civil Rights in the 50s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S64zRnnn4Po&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=40)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) | Founded by King and other black ministers | **Led many nonviolent efforts against racism and segregation** |
| Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC**)** | Founded by Ella Baker in 1960 | organized sit-ins; trained a generation of Civil Rights leaders like Stokely Carmichael |
| Montgomery Bus Boycott | 1955 Rosa Parks | Showed the power of nonviolent direct actionSC rules in 1956 bus segregation is illegal |
| Freedom Rides | CORE began in 1961 | to desegregate the interstate busses in the South; both black and white Freedom riders faced beatings; JFK saw on TV |

1. The three branches of the federal government used measures including desegregation of the armed services, ***Brown v. Board of Education***, and the **Civil Rights  Act of 1964** to promote greater racial equality. (Fraser; P. 778-788; 754-756; 806-813) [Brown v Board](https://vimeo.com/22401888) [Civil Rights Act of 1964](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/node/175859?period=8) [Civil Rights Act of 1964](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqJaAvKPrEM&index=126&list=PL47F868B521713645)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Harry Truman | Support of civil rights--believed in fair treatment--also black voters role in Demo party in North | **Desegregated military and federal bureaucracy, Fair Deal** |
| **Brown v Board of Ed** | Reversed separate but equal (1954) | **Results in Little Rock Nine being escorted by Federal Troops and National Guard** |
| **Civil Rights Act of 1964** | Banned discrim based on race, religion, national origin and sex | Segregation banned--Federal Gov’t now in charge and Equal Opportunity Commission created to enforce it |
| Voting Rights Act of 1965 | Outlawed literacy tests and gave the federal gov’t the right to investigate any county with less than 50% voter registration | Black voter registration skyrocketed as a result--the Democrats lost the South permanently as Nixon’s “southern strategy” followed |

1. Continuing white resistance slowed efforts at desegregation, sparking social and political unrest across the nation. Debates among **civil rights activists** over the efficacy of nonviolence increased after 1965. (Fraser; P. 786-791; 819-823) [Malcolm X](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O66ZB0HZeS4)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Malcolm XORBlack Panthers | Malcolm X main spokesman for the black nationalism of the Nation of IslamBlack Panther Party: Huey Newton and Bobby Seale to stop police violence through being armed, opposed Vietnam War, called for social welfare including free breakfast and health care | **Rejected accommodation of any kind and advocated defense and black pride’ assassinated after breaking from the Nation of Islam****Black Panther Party:1968 olympics--2 black athletes raised fist in a black leather glove during the National Anthem** |
| Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) | Stokely Carmichael led and organized Black Power | Looked to create independent communities which would not seek to integrate with white America; Opposed police brutality |

1. Responding to social conditions and the African American civil rights movement, a variety of movements emerged that focused on issues of identity, social justice, and the environment.
2. **Feminist** and gay  and lesbian activists mobilized behind claims for legal, economic, and social equality. (Fraser; P. 795-796; 840; 833-835) [Feminine Mystique](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_p6q578Bw94) [Gloria Steinem & Feminism](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxmklZxqkWM) [Stonewall Inn Riot](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZrQeNBMqOk)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| *The Feminine Mystique* | Betty Friedan 1963 book | **Discussed the dissatisfaction of college-educated women stuck at home being wives and mothers rather than pursuing careers** |
| Gloria Steinem | Women’s Liberation | **New term for feminism in the late 60’s, Ms. magazine** |
| Stonewall Inn | Riots in 1969 | Gay patrons of the Stonewall in NYC fought back against police oppression in Greenwich Village, considered the beginning of the gay rights’ movement |

1. Latino, American Indian, and Asian American movements continued to demand social and economic equality and a redress of past injustices. (Fraser; P. 834- 840) [Cesar Chavez](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ns5NMHTk-yY) [AIM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BlKc19OUR54)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| American Indian Movement | **\* Using the model of the black civil rights movement, many native Americans banded together to lobby for participation in LBJ’s war on poverty.**  |  **But a more radical movement of young native Americans formed the American Indian Movement (AIM), and took up the confrontational tactics of the black power movement. In 1969, they seized Alcatraz Island and offered $24 worth of trinkets (to satirize the purchase of Manhattan).** **\* The most violent action took place in 1973, at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, site of the massacre of the Sioux in 1890. The protesters took hostages, and the siege was violently broken up by an FBI assault.** |
| Cesar Chavez | Led United Farm Workers | Led boycotts to call for better pay and working conditions for migrant workers |

1. Despite an overall affluence in postwar America, advocates raised concerns about the prevalence and persistence of poverty  as a national problem. (Fraser; P. 806-813) [War on Poverty](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYvZZdOI2YQ)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| **Lyndon Johnson/The Great Society** | **\* LBJ began the “war on poverty” with the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964,**  | **included Head Start, Job Corps and Upward Bound , VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America),Medicaid , a higher minimum wage, food stamps, and HUD****\* LBJ and the war on poverty advocated for urban housing projects, but the overcrowding that resulted from the high-rise “projects” often led to more crime, disease, and drug use, as well as removing a strong sense of community** |
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1. Environmental problems and accidents led to a growing environmental movement that aimed to use legislative and public efforts to combat pollution and protect natural resources. The federal government established new environmental programs and regulations. (Fraser; P. 795-796; 798; 828-829) [Earth Day](https://vimeo.com/92608814) [Love Canal Disaster](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/seventies/essays/everyone%E2%80%99s-backyard-love-canal-chemical-disaster?period=8)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring* |  documented thoroughly the environmental damage of the pesticide DDT (one of the most compelling arguments was the imminent demise of the national bird, the bald eagle, due to the weakening of the egg shells) | **Kick started the modern environmental movement** |
| Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) | Created by Nixon | Began federal investigation and supervision of environmental issues |

1. Liberalism influenced postwar politics and court decisions, but it came under increasing attack from the left as well as from a resurgent conservative movement. [The 60s](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/sixties/essays/sixties?period=8) [Domestic Policies](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ajNVbz_Mh0&index=2&list=PL-69ThEyf7-A56nDKq8DtP3iAxSQED4br)
2. Liberalism, based on anticommunism abroad and a firm belief in the efficacy of government power to achieve social goals at home, reached a high point of political influence by the mid-1960s. (Fraser; P. 799-801; 806-813) [LBJ & the Great Society](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21S_2jyvvTc&index=133&list=PL47F868B521713645)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| **Great Society** | see above |  |
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1. Liberal ideas found expression in **Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society**, which attempted to use federal legislation and programs to end racial discrimination, eliminate poverty, and address other social issues. A series of **Supreme Court decisions** expanded civil rights and individual liberties. (Fraser; P. 801; 806-813) [Warren Court](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5XRmBYpMWqY&index=130&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Gideon v Wainright](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrThhnY7vn0&index=131&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Miranda v Arizona](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_UEREAqyz0&index=132&list=PL47F868B521713645)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Medicaid & Medicare | Health care |  |
| **Civil Rights Act of 1964** | ends discrimination |  |
| Head Start | Preschool program for underprivileged children | Provides preschool, nutrition and health services for children |
| Miranda v ArizonaORGideon v WainrightOR Engel v Vitale | Miranda RightsGideon right to an attorneyEngel no prayer in school |  |

1. In the 1960s, conservatives challenged liberal laws and court decisions and perceived moral and cultural decline, seeking  to limit the role of the federal government and enact more assertive foreign policies. (Fraser; P. 806-813; 827-828) [Crash Course: Rise of Conservatism](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCrxD19DHA8&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=42)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Barry Goldwater | Ran against LBJ in 1964 | **1964: the year conservatives began assuming control of the Republican Party, he was furiously anti-Communist and opposed the Civil Rights Act;**  |
| **Richard Nixon** | moved to the right; election of 1968 | Called for the Silent Majority to support him; his “southern strategy” appealed to many white Democrats who opposed the turn to civil rights in their party; got “white backlash” voters from George Wallace |

1. Some groups on the left also rejected liberal policies, arguing that political leaders did too little to transform the racial and economic status quo at home and pursued immoral policies abroad. (Fraser; P. 795-799; 820-821) [SDS](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRoJoflUH4k) [Black Panthers](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGZpDt6OYnI) [Eyes on the Prize: Black Panthers](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMnc2KjS7Vw)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) | “New Left” | **Opposed Cold War policies generally and Vietnam War** |
| Black Panthers | see above |  |

1. Public confidence and trust  in government’s ability to solve social and economic problems declined in the 1970s in the wake of economic challenges, political scandals, and foreign policy crises. (Fraser; P. 828-833; 843-853) [Nixon & the Constitution](https://vimeo.com/39277035) [Iran & the Cold War](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/age-reagan/essays/iran-and-united-states-cold-war?period=8) [Nixon-Carter](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgIWBlFu5fM&index=28&list=PL-69ThEyf7-A56nDKq8DtP3iAxSQED4br) [Watergate](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8MwsORIyko0&index=135&list=PL47F868B521713645) [The 70s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Okg-Er-4BBs&index=136&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Jimmy Carter](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oH1QnTmol-Y&index=138&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Iran Hostage Crisis](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kz6O9L7QBno&index=139&list=PL47F868B521713645) [Crash Course: Ford, Carter, & Malaise](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyN5LPHEQ_0&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=43)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Watergate | Nixon ordered wiretapping of DNC | **Did nearly permanent damage to the American belief in the presidency; leads to his resignation** |
| Crisis in Confidence/Malaise Speech | Given in response to the erosion of support due to massive inflation and economic problems that the gov’t could not solve | the “Me Decade” did not want to be blamed--hurts Carter’s support |
| Iran Hostage Crisis | Instigated by the admission of the deposed Shah to the US for cancer treatment | Another problem Carter couldn’t solve |

1. The 1970s saw growing clashes between conservatives and liberals over social and cultural issues, the power  of the federal government, race, and movements for greater individual rights. (Fraser; P. 827-829; 837-840; 841-842; 833-835) [The Legacy of the 60s](https://vimeo.com/22084755) [NY Times v US](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yncmoqqfJ0Q&index=134&list=PL47F868B521713645)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Bakke v California | Affirmative Action case | **Affirmative action is constitutional but invalidated the use of racial quotas** |
| Roe v Wade | Abortion case | Legalized abortion based on the 4th amendment guaranteed right to privacy |

**Key Concept 8.3:** Postwar economic and demographic changes had far-reaching consequences for American society, politics, and culture. [The 50s](http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/fifties/essays/fifties?period=8)

1. Rapid economic and social changes in American society fostered a sense of optimism in the postwar years.
2. A burgeoning private sector, federal spending, the baby boom, and technological developments helped  spur economic growth. (Fraser; P. 731-736) [Post WWII Baby Boom](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gmka2mydsD0)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Baby Boom | 1946-64 | **Dramatic increase in birth rate** |
| GI Bill of Rights | \* GI Bill allowed an entire generation to go to college; attending college became the standard for the middle class; low interest loans | Fuels prosperity of 1950’s; also new colleges built, community colleges for job skills added; growth of suburbs |

1. As higher education opportunities and new technologies rapidly expanded, increasing social mobility encouraged the migration of the middle class to the suburbs and of many Americans to the South and West. The **Sun Belt** region emerged as a significant political and economic force. (Fraser; P. 733-736; 844) [Sun Belt Map](http://wps.pearsoncustom.com/wps/media/objects/2428/2487068/atlas/Resources/sm_ah6_m006.jpg) [Sun Belt](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKtzboeYDjY) [Levittown](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrZ5CmbJG9o)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Levittown | Mass production in homes | **allowed people to own homes for low cost; leads to development of suburbs** |
| **Sun Belt** | A/C allows for movement to Sun Belt | Many went to California--defense industries, South’s increase in population increases its political power--matched with its transformation into a Republican stronghold |

1. Immigrants from around the world sought access  to the political, social, and economic opportunities in the United States, especially after the passage of new **immigration laws in 1965**. (Fraser; P. 811; 884-885) [Post 1965 Immigration](https://vimeo.com/45977537)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| Immigration and Nationality Act (1965) | Ended national origins quotas |  |
| **Immigration from Mexico** | Close proximity led to large #s of immigrants in the 60’s and 70’s | by 2010, Latinos from Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America would lead them to become the dominant minority in the US in terms of sheer numbers—but in 2010, Asian-Americans proved to be the fastest growing minority, including Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, India, and Pakistan |

1. New demographic and social developments, along with anxieties over the Cold War, changed U.S. culture and led to significant political and moral debates that sharply divided the nation.
2. Mass culture became increasingly homogeneous in the postwar years, inspiring challenges to conformity by artists, intellectuals, and rebellious youth. (Fraser; P. 735-736; 840-841) [Ginsberg & the Beats](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5z0kakKOZM)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| beat generation | Jack Kerouac and Allan Ginsberg assaulted middle class conformity in the 50’s | **Promoted ideas of a counterculture** |
| **counterculture** | Rejected materialism | Use of drugs, recreational sex--sexual revolution spurred by the birth control pill, informal living arrangements, |

1. **Feminists** and young people who participated in the **counterculture** of the 1960s rejected many of the social, economic, and political values of their parents’ generation, introduced greater informality into  U.S. culture, and advocated changes in sexual norms. (Fraser; P. 840-841; 833-835; )

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| “Don’t Trust Anyone over 30” | UC Berkeley Free Speech movement | **referred to “generation gap” baby boomers rejected their parents choices; feminists rejected roles as wives and mothers; MS** |
| birth control pill |  | leads to more recreational sex; sexual revolution leads to divorce becoming more common less than 1% in 1960, 50% by 1980 |

1. The rapid and substantial growth of **evangelical** Christian churches  and organizations was accompanied by greater political and social activism on the part of religious conservatives. (Fraser; P. 841-842) [Religion in the 1960s](https://vimeo.com/21777502) [Crash Course: Rise of Conservatism](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCrxD19DHA8&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtMwmepBjTSG593eG7ObzO7s&index=42)

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| **Example** | **Definition/Description** | **Significance to the Thesis** |
| **Fundamentalism** | 70’s return to protect family and traditional values | **Fear of social changes--evangelical church membership skyrockets in 70’s** |
| Phyllis Schafly & the Defeat of the ERA | Kills ERA | **Anti-feminist; becomes conservative icon** |
| Moral Majority | Jerry Falwell’s religious right | Becomes a strong political voice in the 70’s; wanted to end abortion, homosexuality, divorce and porn and protect the family and traditional values |