

Change and Tradition in the 1920's

The economic growth of the Gilded Age and the devastation of World War I elevated the United States to world power status. However, the bitter experience of World War I made Americans reluctant to assume the role of a great power. Rather, Americans tended to withdraw into themselves; either to some imagined idealized past or to a more rebellious nihilism. The result was a decade of great contradiction. During the **1920's** many Americans enjoyed the excesses of wealth – Jazz, prohibited alcohol, and the rise of popular culture. Other Americans held to traditional beliefs; America remained the most religious modernized nation. The resulting cultural conflicts – as much as the often-celebrated excesses of the Jazz Age – shaped the 1920's.

Contextualized Essential Question

How did perspectives on the liberal values affect America in the 1920s and how did the cultural conflicts of the 1920s shape perspectives on the liberal values?

Sources:

- ___ DBQ 16: A National Culture Clash in the 1920s
- ___ Sara Evans, “Flappers, Freudians and All that Jazz”
- ___ Bill Moyers, *A Walk Through the 20th Century: The Twenties*
- ___ DM: National Security (1920)

Content Questions:

- How does the United States in the 1920s exhibit the conflicting impulses of change and tradition? Consider the following dimensions of the United States in the 1920s.
 - a. Business & Economy: Describe the economic and business trends of the 1920's. What limits were there to the prosperity of the 1920's?
 - b. Labor: How did efforts by organized labor to exercise the increased power they acquired during WWI backfire and lead to a near breakdown of organized labor in the 1920s”
 - c. Perspectives on Foreigners: What were the most important causes of the nativism and isolationism of the 1920's?
 - d. Politics & Government: What were the causes and consequences of the conservative politics of the 1920's?
 - e. Popular Culture: What did the popular culture of the 1920's demonstrate about America in the post-war world? (Focus on values and PEGS.)
 - f. Prohibition: What were the effects of Prohibition?
 - g. Race Relations: Describe the experiences of African-Americans during the 1920's.
 - h. Religion & Science: Explain differences and conflicts between American urban and rural life in the 1920's.
 - i. Gender: How, why and to what extent did women's social, economic and political roles change after World War One?

Terms:

1. World War One
2. Nativism
3. Isolationism
4. Communism
5. Red Scare
6. Palmer Raids
7. Anarchism
8. Sacco & Vanzetti
9. National Origins Act
10. KKK
11. Warren Harding
12. Calvin Coolidge
13. Herbert Hoover
14. Teapot Dome Scandal
15. Police, Steel and Coal Strikes
16. Model T
17. Stock Market
18. Installment Plan
19. Modern Advertising
20. Fundamentalism
21. Scopes Trial
22. William Jennings Bryan
23. Clarence Darrow
24. 19th Amendment
25. Companionate Marriage
26. League of Women Voters
27. Equal Rights Amendment
28. Victorian Moral Code
29. Sigmund Freud
30. Carrie Chapman Catt
31. Jane Addams
32. Double Standard
33. Flapper
34. 18th Amendment
35. Bootleggers
36. Speakeasy
37. Al Capone
38. Charles Lindberg
39. Babe Ruth
40. Flagpole Sitting
41. Jazz
42. Radio
43. F Scott Fitzgerald
44. Ernest Hemingway
45. Lost Generation
46. Great Migration
47. 1919 Race Riots
48. Harlem Renaissance
49. NAACP
50. Marcus Garvey
51. Langston Hughes
- 52.
- 53.