

Intro to Antebellum Reform

Causes of the Antebellum Spirit of Reform

What is “Antebellum”?

- Antebellum = Ante + Bellum
 - Ante = Before
 - Bellum = War
 - Antebellum = Before the war
 - In US History
 - usually before the Civil War (1861-1865)
 - 1820ish → 1860ish



What is “Reform”?

- Reform = Re + Form
 - Reform = to make again
 - To fix or improve



What is “Antebellum Reform”?

- General spirit of improvement in America from 1820-1860ish
- Reaction to the many changes happening at the time
- Targeted many different areas of American life

The United States Experiences Profound Changes

- Politically: Republicanism
- Economically: Industrialization
- Geographically: Expansion
- Socially: Second Great Awakening

Politically: Republicanism

From

- New form of government



To

- Expansion of the franchise:
removal of property requirements



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Economically:

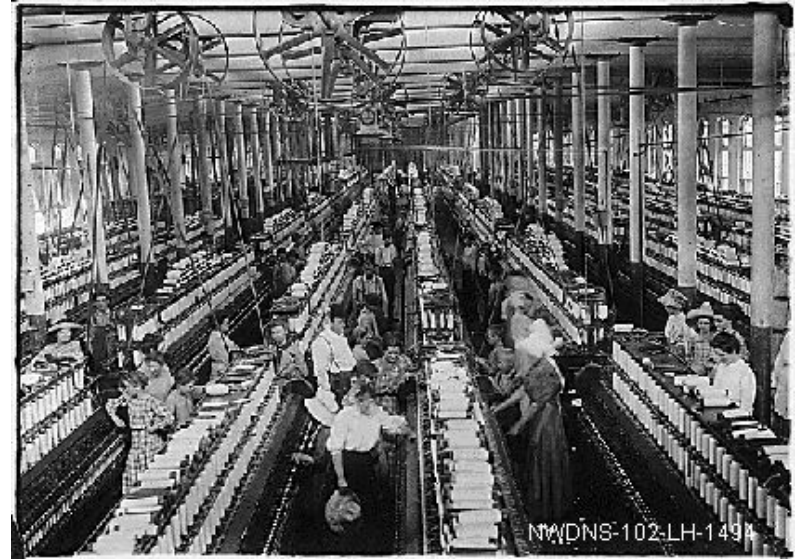
From

stable quiet peaceful farm life

Industrialization

To

noisy busy fast-paced industrial life



Socially: Second Great Awakening

- **What:** Protestant Religious movement
- **When:** early decades of 1800s
- **Where:** Throughout U.S.



Antebellum Spirit of Reform

BIG Changes led to:

- Messy, Confusing World → Need to adjust
- Imperative → Must change the world (do good)
- Confidence → Can change the world
- SPIRIT of REFORM

Target Areas for Spirit of Reform

- Crime & Punishment
- Alcohol (Temperance)
- Education
- **Slavery (Abolitionism)**
- **Women's Rights**