

Immigration in the GILDED AGE



ANALYZE THE ROLE IMMIGRATION PLAYED IN THE GILDED AGE AND THE EFFORTS THAT WERE MADE TO ASSIMILATE IMMIGRANTS AND INDIANS INTO AMERICAN CULTURE.

..Essential Questions..

Write these in your notebook



- 1. WHAT WERE THE PUSH AND PULL FACTORS THAT ENCOURAGED IMMIGRATION DURING THE 1800's?
- 2. What is Social Darwinism? How did it influence Immigration in the U.S. ?
- 3. HOW DID THE AMERICANIZATION MOVEMENT ASSIMILATE IMMIGRANTS AND AMERICAN INDIANS INTO AMERICAN CULTURE?

Why Immigrate?



- In your notebook, make a ‘T-Chart’ as directed. On the left side, write all the reasons you can think of that would cause a person to leave their homeland and move to another place.
- On the right side, list 5 – 10 things that would encourage someone to leave everything behind and start a new life by immigrating to America.

“PUSH FACTORS”



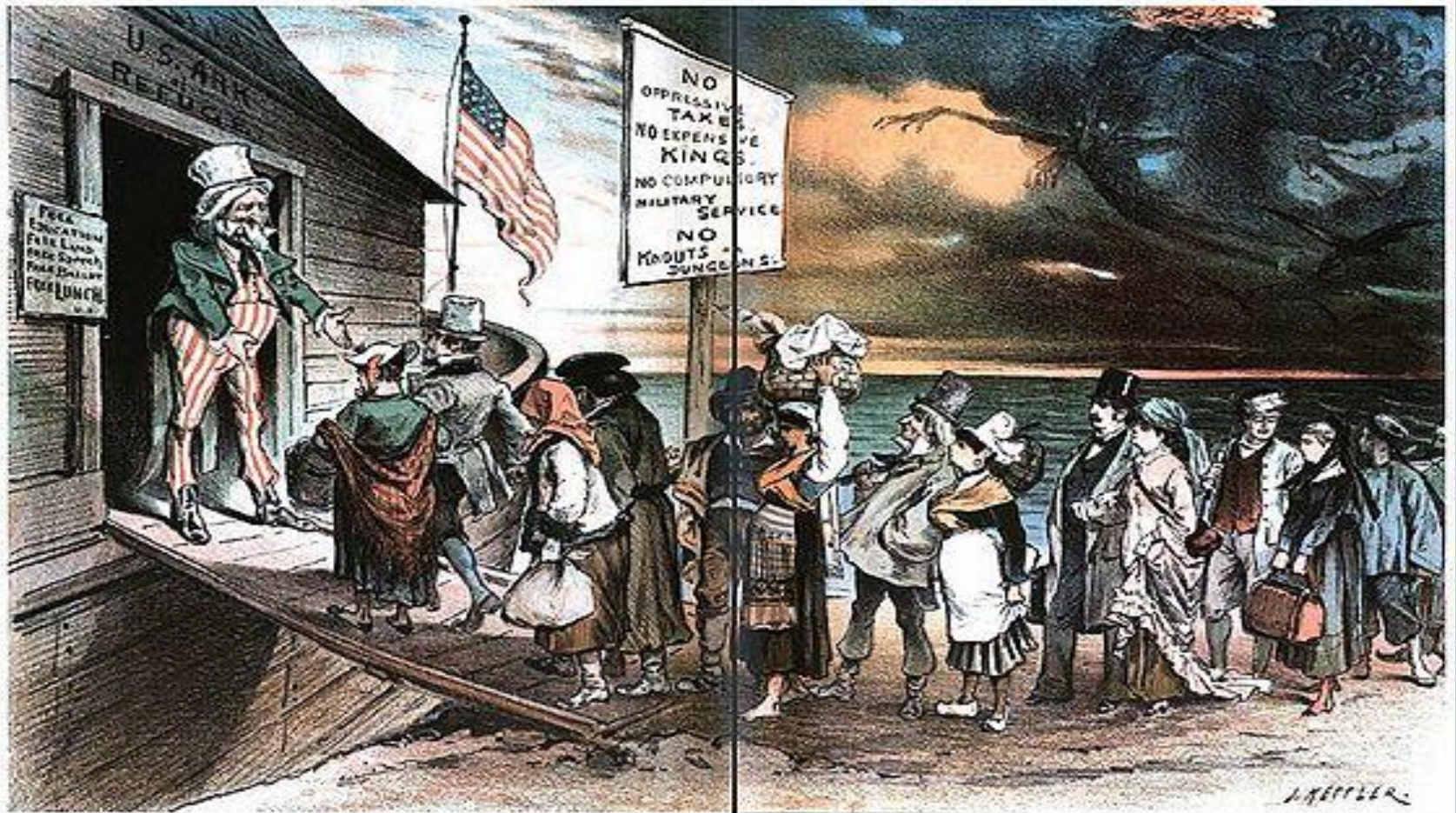
- 1. OPPRESSION IN EUROPE
- 2. LACK OF AVAILABLE LAND
- 3. LIMITED MEANS OF EARNING A LIVING
- 4. DISCRIMINATION; RELIGIOUS, SOCIAL ETC.
- 5. DEVASTATION LEFT FROM VARIOUS WARS
- 6. FAMINE AND STARVATION
- 7. HOPELESSNESS

“PULL FACTORS”



- **CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOMS OF AMERICA**
- **VAST AMOUNTS OF AVAILABLE LAND**
- **A GROWING ECONOMY WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN**
- **RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE**
- **A POLICY OF OPEN DOORS FOR ALL**
- **THE AMERICAN DREAM! UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITY**

Welcome to America!



Puck April 28, 1880 by Keppler

LADY LIBERTY



AMERICA'S PROMISE...



- ***The New Colossus*** – poem by Emma Lazarus
 - Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes
command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

What is an 'IMMIGRANT'



-ONE TO LEAVES ONE PLACE WITH THE INTENT OF RELOCATING TO ANOTHER PLACE TO LIVE....usually wishing to get from a bad situation (push factors) and hoping to get to a better place with an improved situation..
(pull factors) America is known throughout the world as the “LAND OF OPPORTUNITY”

Who were America's Immigrants?



- The typical immigrant:
- male
- 15 to 40 years old
- little education and few skills
- passage to America paid by another contact in America
- saving money to send for the rest of his family

The voyage to America



What did the immigrants find when they arrived in America and how were they treated?



Take a number....



..and get in line



After a brief ‘medical exam’ immigrants were either released or isolated in quarantine in case of infectious diseases

- The procedure was intimidating, and, indeed, between 1891 and 1930 nearly 80,000 immigrants were barred at the nation’s doors for diseases or defects. Yet the vast majority were allowed to enter the country—on average, fewer than 1 percent were ever turned back for medical reasons. **Of those who were denied entry, most were certified, not with “loathsome and dangerous contagious diseases,” but with conditions that limited their capacity to perform unskilled labor.**



And so began another immigrant's life in AMERICA!



- In last half of 19th century, the US population increased more than three times from 23.2 million in 1850 to 76.2 in 1900.
- A large part of this increase was due to some 16.2 million immigrants...with 8.8 million more arriving during the peak years 1901-1910.

Immigration Terms



- On your vocabulary sheet, find these terms and write the definition and an example for each between them. They can be found in Chapter 15.
- Alien - Steerage – Quarantine – Ghetto
- Tenements – Social Gospel Movement –
- Settlement Houses -

“OLD” and “NEW” Immigrants



- Through the 1800s, most immigrants were from northern or western Europe: Britain, Germany and Scandinavia. Most of these “OLD” immigrants were protestant, while many were in fact Irish and German Catholics.
- Most spoke English, were literate and had work skills making it easy for them to blend into a mostly rural American society.

‘New’ immigrants were ‘different’

- These ‘New’ immigrants were largely Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox or Jewish.
- From Italy / Eastern Europe / Greece (Southern Europe and Eastern Europe or Western Asia) / also Asian Immigrants – Chinese
- Being different, the newcomers crowded into poor ethnic neighborhoods (ghettos) in New York, Chicago or other major U.S. cities..many were young men contracted for unskilled labor, mining or construction work who would return to their homelands when they had saved enough to bring their families to America.

'New' immigrants met Resentment and Fear



- Starting in the 1890s immigrants began to arrive from different and distant lands.
- 'New' immigrants came from southern and eastern Europe. They were Italians, Greeks, Croats, Slovaks, Poles and Russians.
- Many were poor and illiterate peasants from autocratic countries and were not accustomed to democratic traditions.

Restricting Immigration



- In the 1870s there were few legal restrictions on immigration to the United States
- In 1886 (the year the Statue of Liberty was placed on her pedestal) Congress passed a number of laws restricting immigration...
- First was the 'Chinese Exclusion Act' of 1882, placing a ban on ALL NEW IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA...

More anti-immigration laws



- Next came restrictions on immigration of ‘undesirable’ persons..(convicts or mentally incompetent) Another law in 1885 prohibited contract labor in order to protect American workers.
- With the opening of Ellis Island as an immigration center, new arrivals had to pass more rigorous medical and document exams as well as paying an entry tax before being allowed into the U.S.

'TYPICAL' Living Quarters



Jane Addams & Hull House



- Social reform movement resulted from worsening conditions for many immigrants in American cities. College educated Jane Addams of Chicago founded “Hull House” in 1889 in one of Chicago’s poorest neighborhoods. It provided counseling, day care and adult education for the immigrant population. Hull House’s success led to opening other houses such as the Henry Street Settlement House in New York in 1893.

The rise of NATIVISM



- Many NATIVISTS (Americans descended mainly from Irish and German immigrants) claimed the ‘new immigrants’ were inferior and would not be able to assimilate into American society. Better educated protestant Nativists feared poorly educated or illiterate immigrants who were Catholic, Eastern Orthodox or Jewish, fearing they would ‘outbreed’ them and take their places.

Essential Terms:



- Find these ACTS and define using definitions from your text book
- 1. CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT
- 2. ASSIMILATION -- already complete
- 3. POLITICAL MACHINE
- 4. NATIVISM
- 5. DAWES ACT – already complete

European Immigrants in America



- Economic and linguistic isolation tended to draw different groups of immigrants into distinct ethnic areas/neighborhoods or ‘ghettos’. While this was not an ideal situation, it allowed immigrants to live near and associate with people of similar origin and cultural traditions.
- Italians in “Little Italy” and various national groups grew as a result of their shared experiences as new Americans.

America is for Americans.....



- Life for Immigrants was very different from that of the American Indians in some ways, but strangely similar in others.
- For a growing number of Americans, an education was becoming necessary first step toward economic and social success.
- In 1870 only 2 percent of all 17 year olds graduated from High School.

'Becoming American'



- For many immigrants, learning to speak English was the first requirement in order to find employment and acceptance.
- Public schools where immigrants learned to speak English also played a role in 'assimilating' immigrants into American culture.
- Schools taught cultural values such as thrift, patriotism and hard work.

Continued..



- Students also learned to prepare traditional American foods, play American games and become comfortable with the political and social and norms and expectations of their new homeland.
- But not all immigrants were eager to leave their native history and culture behind.

Chinese Immigration



- It was the Klondike gold rush that attracted Chinese laborers to immigrate to California. But it was the western railroad companies who actively recruited large numbers of Chinese immigrants to construct their tracks. Known to accept hard work for low pay, these 'Coolies' as whites called them filled many manual labor jobs once railroad construction declined.

Chinese cont.



White workers came to resent the hard working Chinese and their different customs and lifestyles and began to pressure governments for action. While the Chinese made up only 1% of California's population in 1878, the legislature investigated the "evils" of the Chinese reflecting the racism that led in only years to Congress passing the 'CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT' (1882) suspending Chinese immigration for 10 years... Once established, the law remained for over 40 years.

Chinese Exclusion Act continued



- Resistance to Chinese immigration grew almost immediately after the Gold Rush drew workers to San Francisco from around the world. California enacted the discriminatory ‘Foreign Miner’s Tax Laws’ in 1850. The belief in White superiority was built on ignorance and the incorrect idea that the Chinese were ‘stealing’ “American Jobs”. But despite the hard work and harsh treatment, the Chinese developed a place for themselves in American



society, building a successful community (Chinatown) and thrived in the American economy. Chinese assimilation into an “American Lifestyle” angered many white Americans in part because the Chinese kept their own social customs, traditions and behaviors and most offensive to white supremacists, the Chinese rejected the Christian religion. It was fear and anger that led to the passing of the Chinese Exclusion Act



This Act limited Chinese immigration to 105 per year for a period of 10 years. The law was made stronger in 1884 with additional provisions limiting anyone of Chinese descent from entering or leaving the United States...regardless of their country of birth.

The Chinese Exclusion Act seriously limited the civil rights and opportunities of Chinese Americans for the next 41 years and was only repealed in 1943.

...the irony of assimilation...

- This process of 'Americanization' was not a one way street. The constant contact between those born in America and those from other nations encouraged a sharing of cultures and traditions and led to America becoming the "Melting Pot" becoming the great strength of America's changing identity.
- There was however a difference in the way Europeans, Chinese and American Indians were 'assimilated'. Those that would not bend would be broken....

The “Indian Problem”



- American Indians and US Settlers had profoundly differing views of the ownership of land, the concept of ‘property’ and ‘religion’. Many whites could not accept such alien cultures and beliefs.
- Many ‘Americans’ felt that Indians were ‘savages’ and unworthy of consideration as an established and civilized culture.

Expansion and Confrontation



- As the US raced to bind the East and West coasts together, the California Gold Rush brought immigrants from many nations to the American West and pushed out or destroyed many local native populations. The Indians saw the Americans as intruders and resisted being pushed off of their traditional lands which were sacred to them and their cultural heritage.

American Response to the American Indians

- At first, the government tried to control or limit the Indian's movements using 'treaties' but soon tried to force the various tribes to move to 'reservations'"for their protection and the safety of the settlers". It was finally decided that if Indians wanted to become "real Americans" they would need to give up their traditions and beliefs and live as Americans lived...or else.....

Assimilation and the Dawes Act

- The U.S. Government created the BIA or Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1824 to manage and administer relations and treaties between the government and Indian tribes.
- In 1887 the DAWES ACT was passed as a means of assimilating Indians into American culture with the promise of citizenship and the right to vote if the Indians complied with the conditions of the Act. But there was a sinister side to the Dawes Act.....

The DAWES ACT

- or...General Allotment Act...abolished all tribes, granted each head of household a parcel of 160 acres of (once tribal) land. The land was to be held in trust for 25 years by the government....but if the 'landowner' accepted the deeded land, lived according to the laws of the territory in which they resided and lived independently on the land and away from tribal communities would be granted U.S. citizenship and the right to vote. But of course there was a catch.

There is no free lunch...or land...

- The Dawes Act would make farmers out of hunters and warriors. It would have them pay taxes on land they now owned..a concept foreign to their sacred view of land stewardship. The lands were not always of good quality and much was incapable of supporting agriculture making it impossible for the Indians to succeed in their attempts to become farmers. “Excess” land was taken by the government and sold to settlers.

Dawes did his job...

- Before 1887 Indians held over 150 million acres of tribal lands. Within 20 years of the Dawes Act over 2/3 of the land had been sold or taken for unpaid taxes by the government to sell.
- Treaties, forced removal from tribal lands, forced migration onto reservations and legal discrimination continued until 1924 when the American Indian Citizenship Act gave citizenship and voting rights to all Indians born in the U.S. as well as a return of tribal status.

Another Trail of Tears



- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45HATCW02PQ>