
Unit 4: The Progressive Era

US HISTORY

Looking back...

In our last unit, we talked about the Gilded Age and learned more about immigration, urbanization, and industrialization.

What were some of the problems that emerged during the Gilded Age?

Refresher....



Unit 4: Roaring Progress and Roaring 20s

Essential Questions

- ❖ What creates change?
 - ❖ Who/how are you obligated to help? (Universe of Obligation)
 - ❖ What were the most important reforms to come out of the Progressive Era?
 - ❖ Is progress always a good thing?
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Some definitions from the Progressive Era...

pro·gres·sive

/prəˈɡresɪv/ 

adjective

1. happening or developing gradually or in stages; proceeding step by step.
"a progressive decline in popularity"
synonyms: continuing, continuous, increasing, growing, developing, ongoing, accelerating, escalating; [More](#)
 2. (of a group, person, or idea) favoring or implementing social reform or new, liberal ideas.
"a relatively progressive governor"
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More definitions...

- **Upstander vs. Bystander**
- “**universe of obligation**”: describes the circle of individuals and groups within a society “toward whom obligations are owed, to whom rules apply, and whose injuries call for amends.” [1](#)

THINK about the following questions as we **progress** into the Progressive Era...

- How do groups, communities, and nations define who belongs and who does not?
 - How do individuals define the continuum of people for whom they feel responsible?
 - What factors influence the extent to which we feel an obligation to help others? How does the way we view others influence our feelings of responsibility toward them?
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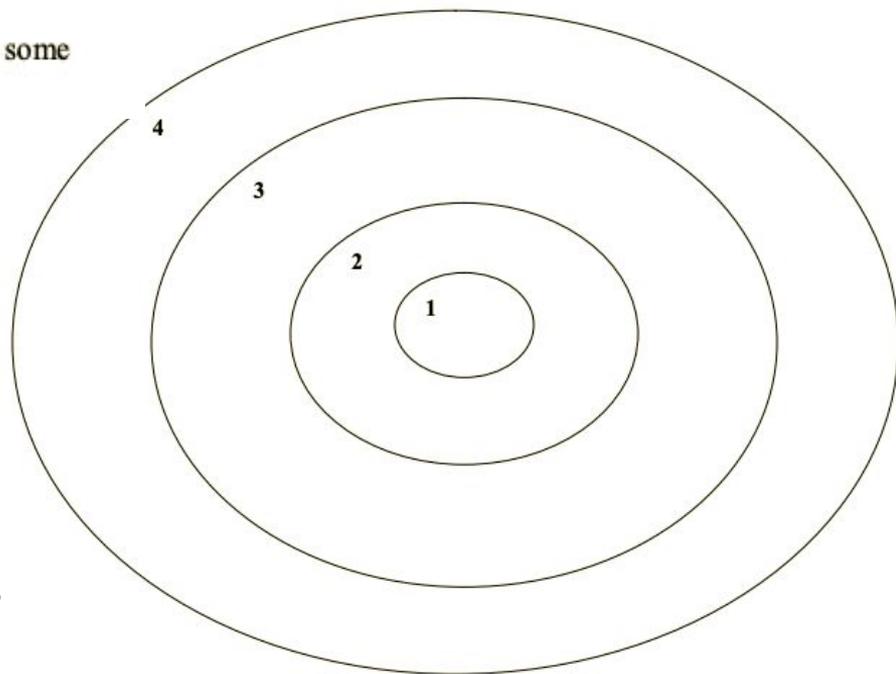
Universe of Obligation

In **Circle 1**, write your name.

In **Circle 2**, write the name of people to whom you feel the greatest obligation – for example, people for whom you'd be willing to take a great risk or put yourself in peril for (you don't have to write actual names.)

In **Circle 3**, who are the people on the next level? That is people to whom you have some obligation, but not as great as in circle 2.

In **Circle 4**, who are the people on the next level? People to whom you have some obligation, but not as great as in circle 3.



Universe of Obligation

Watch “Bad Samaritan” Video

Answer the following in your notes:

1. What governed who was and who wasn't in David Cash's universe of obligation?
 2. What choices did he have? Why did he make the choice he did?
 3. What would it take for him to make a different choice?
 4. What do you think is the relationship between “Universe of Obligation” and the Progressive Era?
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TEXTBOOK READING AND QUESTIONS

- 1) Read pages 188-189. Define yellow highlighted terms: (Progressive Era, Exposé conscription), and ANSWER ALL THREE QUESTIONS on page 189.
- 2) Skim through pages 190-201 so you can define the following terms:

Pages 190-193: Women Fight for Rights

- a) Women's suffrage
- b) Children's Bureau
- c) Enfranchisement
- d) Alice Paul
- e) Temperance Movement
- f) Prohibition

*How did strategies of NAWSA and NWP differ?

Pages 196-197: Reforming Government

- g) Direct Primary
- h) 17th Amendment

How did progressives give voters a larger voice in state government? (consider referendum, initiative, recall)

Pages 198-201: Reform Under Roosevelt

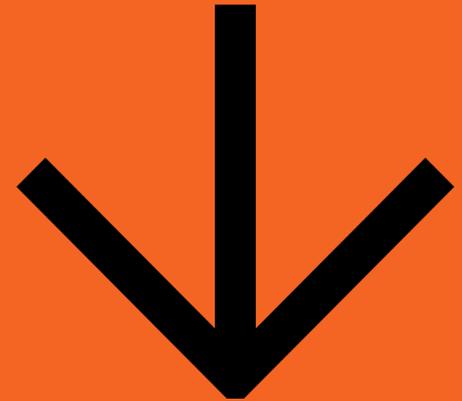
- i) Square Deal
- j) Sherman Antitrust Act
- k) Pure Food and Drug Act

Why was Roosevelt seen as a trust buster and known as the "conservation president?"

Personal and Government Universe of Obligations scenarios...

Reformer	Problem/Issue	Solution Posed	My Thoughts...
Jane Addams	Conditions of urban living	Hull Settlement Houses (provided social services like day care, classes, a library, boarding houses for poor families)	Hull Houses sound like what I would call a community center today...
Eugene Debs	Treatment of workers	Labor Unions: organizations to protect rights of workers	
Woodrow Wilson	Government's role in personal lives	"New Freedom": using power of the government for <i>Social Justice</i>	
Walter Rauschenbusch	Corruption of society	Christianity to "purify" society AKA Social Gospel	

**The Next 6 Slides are A
REVIEW from the Textbook
Assignment**

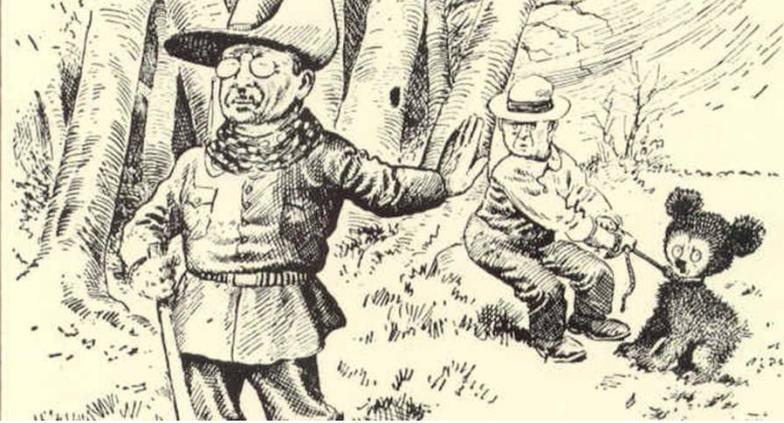


Leading Reform Movements of the Progressive Era...

POLITICAL REFORMS...

- **Direct Primaries:** Voters select their party's candidates
- **17th Amendment:** U.S. Senators are elected by popular vote
- **Referendum:** Voters can vote on bills directly
- **Recall:** Voters can remove elected officials from office

*IN A NUTSHELL: POWER MOVES TO VOTERS



Conservation Reforms

We have become great because of the lavish use of our resources. But the time has come to inquire seriously what will happen when our forests are gone, when the coal, the iron, the oil, and the gas are exhausted, when the soils have still further impoverished and washed into the streams, polluting the rivers, denuding the fields and obstructing navigation.-Teddy Roosevelt

- Mid to late 19th century, lots of natural resources heavily exploited (seemed infinite...developed a “tradition of waste”)
 - Conservation v. Preservation
 - Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt administration supported conservationists and implemented...
 - Expansion of the National Park system
 - Federal Bird Reserves
 - National Forests, National Parks, National Game Preserves, National Monuments, etc.
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“He simply wishes to make it possible for a man to be both a Negro and an American without being cursed and spit upon by his fellows, without having the doors of Opportunity closed roughly in his face.”

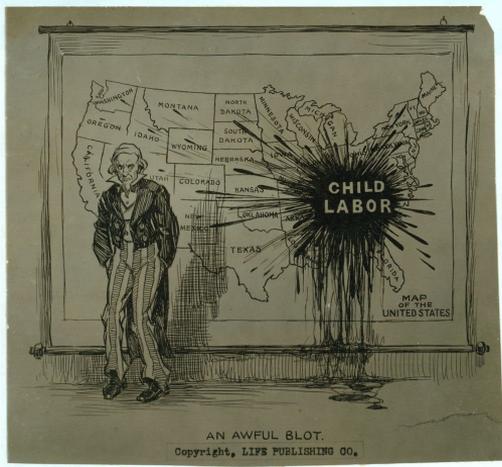
— W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*

Civil Rights Legislation and Women's' Rights Legislation

We will go over both of these two topics in more detail but for now, know that...

- W.E. B. Du Bois published “The Souls of Black Folk” in 1903 calling for a more proactive approach to civil rights
- 1909: NAACP founded by group of black and white activists
- Margaret Sanger opened the first U.S. birth control clinic in Brooklyn
- Suffragists rallied in every state for women’s suffrage until the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920





Labor Reform, Trade Unions, Socialism, Health/Safety Reforms

Advocating for legislation for Child Labor and Workplace Safety

- National Child Labor Committee formed to work to abolish child labor
 - Many states began passing compulsory education laws
 - Trade Unions!
 - Both skilled and unskilled labor unions to help demand better wages, hours, treatment, etc.
 - American Socialist Party founded in 1902 (Eugene Debs)
 - Supported labor union movements
 - Building codes set minimum standards for light, air, room size, sanitation, fire escapes, etc.
 - Health codes required restaurants and factories to maintain clean facilities
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"WET" OR "DRY"



Shall the Mothers and Children be Sacrificed to the Financial Greed of the Liquor Traffic?

IT IS UP TO YOU, VOTER, TO DECIDE

VOTE DRY



Temperance Movement

- Temperance Movement advocated the moderation or elimination of alcohol believing it to be responsible for physical abuse of families, sickness, workers efficiency
- Led to the 18th Amendment of prohibition which banned the manufacture, sale, and consumption of alcohol



THROUGH THE CONSTANT USE OF LIQUOR HE LOSTS, AT TIMES, ALL CONTROL OF HIMSELF AND IN ONE OF THESE MOMENTS KILLS HIS WIFE.

Trust Busting

- **Trusts:** stockholders in several companies transferred their shares to a single board of trustees.
 - With this control, a single board of directors could dictate policy (including prices) for several companies for the purpose of monopolizing a market and forcing other competitors out of business.
 - Thus, trusts gave the illusion to the public that various companies were competitive with each other when in fact they were controlled as one.
 - **Sherman Antitrust Act:** 1890 U.S. legislation which outlawed trusts – monopolies and cartels – to increase economic competitiveness
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