

# Society and

# Culture

# Set

**Strategies/Ideas:**

Cards are not in chronological order. Consider organizing them that way!

Organize your study cards by theme or by era. If you want to cut the “cards” out, you can use them to sort into eras. [Some cards span many eras]

(See landscape era title “cards” to aid you in this technique).

Combine your use of these cards with the content outline. For example, you can sort into eras with other themes, study the cards, and read the relevant portion of the content outline to reinforce your understanding of main historical developments!

The significance of **RELIGION** in colonial beliefs, culture, and patterns of development... **NEW ENGLAND**

**Puritans – Congregational Church**

Motivated to migrate and settle by escaping religious persecution; did not practice religious tolerance, however; dissenters and other religious practices punished (banished, publicly humiliated, or execution)

**Plymouth – 1620, William Bradford**

**Massachusetts Bay – 1630, John Winthrop**

Later united with other colonies such as Salem to form **Massachusetts Colony**

**Connecticut and New Hampshire** – extensions from Mass. with similar views, although Connecticut was more progressive politically

**Rhode Island** – created by dissenter, Roger Williams; later joined by banished Anne Hutchinson; practice tolerance and separation of Church and state (different from others and treated as the “gutter” of New England)

**Example of Colonial religious fanaticism** – 1692 Salem Witch Trials

**Religious Beliefs:** mankind is sinful by nature and needs laws and guidelines for behavior, mankind is predestined before birth (Calvinism), visible saints are those who live a good life, those damned to hell live a wicked life; no religious tolerance; laws of governance based on laws of the Bible; men lead; women have few or no rights; educating youth imperative and centered on religious teachings as well as literacy; rigid Church structure

**Important Documents:** Mayflower Compact (William Bradford), City Upon a Hill Sermon (Model of Christian Charity, John Winthrop), Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

**Important Developments:** converted Indians lived in praying towns, drop in Church membership led to reforms [Halfway Covenant]; by the time of the First Great Awakening in the early 1700s, the Congregational Church was the largest Church in the colonies.

**Religious Conflicts:** Roger Williams banished, Anne Hutchinson banished, Thomas Hooker dissented when creating Connecticut’s Constitution (you didn’t have to be Church member to vote), Salem Witch Trials

The significance of **RELIGION** in colonial beliefs, culture, and patterns of development... **MIDDLE COLONIES**

**Quakers – Society of Friends** – largest group for this region; Pennsylvania, scattered elsewhere in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and even in New England

**Presbyterian Church** – frontier Pennsylvania, New Jersey

**Jews**- New York (small number)

**Mennonites** - Pennsylvania

**William Penn founded Pennsylvania as haven for Quakers** escaping persecution – largely from Puritans; set up society based on tolerance and equality, *unlike Puritans*; it was his “Holy Experiment”

**Quaker Beliefs:** pacifism, equality (gender and race), “inner light” guides individuals to salvation, minimal Church structure, refused to take oaths or serve in militia/military, early leaders of abolition (as were the Mennonites); treated Indians with more respect than other groups; religious tolerance

**Important Developments:** clashed often with Puritans, Middle Colonies were the most diverse of the three main regions, Ben Franklin was a Quaker (although Deist as an adult he maintained many beliefs such as concepts of equality and desire to end slavery)

**Presbyterian Beliefs:** Calvinist-predestination (they split off from the Puritans mainly over issues of politics), tolerant of other religions, salvation

**Important Developments:** by the time of the First Great Awakening in the early 1700s, the Presbyterian Church was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest Church in the colonies (the other two were Congregational and Anglican); They split between “old lights” and “new lights” in the Awakening

The significance of **RELIGION** in colonial beliefs, culture, and patterns of development...

**CHESAPEAKE AND SOUTHERN COLONIES**

**Catholics** – Maryland – *and scattered in Pennsylvania*

**Anglican – Church of England** – Virginia, Maryland, Southern colonies

**Lord Baltimore** founded Maryland as a haven for Catholics who faced persecution from Protestants; other than Maryland... Catholics were not allowed to vote

**Catholic Beliefs:** Pope in Rome led Church as top of strict hierarchy; women cannot lead; salvation is earned through good works, faith, loyalty; divorce not allowed; act of confession and other rites conflicted with Protestant beliefs

**Anglican Beliefs:** Monarch is the head of the Church; Divine Right of Kings meant God selected monarch; Although the church was created out of the Protestant Reformation (rebellion against Catholic Church practices) many Catholic traditions continued in Anglican Church

**Important Developments:** In the beginning, Catholics dominated Maryland, but eventually they became outnumbered by Protestants and religious persecution resumed; by the time of the First Great Awakening in the early 1700s, the Anglican Church was the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest Church in the colonies; the Anglican Church did not have a significant impact on colonial culture (unlike influence of Congregational Church in New England or the Society of Friends in Pennsylvania); because of Anglicization and British dominance in North America... being Anglican carried important status

**Important Documents:** Maryland Act of Toleration (freedom to Christians only), Virginia Statue of Religious Freedom (Revolutionary Era; Thomas Jefferson; ending Church taxes and establishing freedom of religion and separation of Church and State

### **Manifest Destiny & Culture**

John O'Sullivan coined this phrase; meaning it was "**God's will**" that the **U.S. expand sea to sea**... several forces allowed that to happen and as it did culture and identity was impacted. It was a continuation of the belief system – going all the way back to the colonies – that European/White culture and systems were supreme. Manifest Destiny's height was the 1840s under President Polk. Oregon Territory defined with Britain (Oregon Trail – mass migration), Texas annexed, Mexican-American War and Mexican Cession increased size of the U.S. and **increased sectionalism over the expansion of slavery. Racial conflict between Whites and Hispanics** increased in the Southwest, as well.

By the 1840s, the U.S. had been transformed by canals, national roads, steamboats, railroads, massive immigration, and **market revolution** (mainly in the North). The South had been transformed by the cotton gin and rise of **King Cotton. Sectionalism increased** due to economic differences as well as **social conflict over slavery** (expansion of ) and **ethnic/racial diversity of North** as compared to the South which was Black/White.

**Nativism** increased in this era (Know-Nothing Party, "No Irish Need Apply") as did anti-Indian policies such as Trail of Tears.

North and West became more connected due to transportation and communication changes (canals, railroads, telegraph wires) which **increased sectionalism** as South was largely cut off from this growing network.

The **gap between rich and poor** increased in both regions (North: Business owners = rich; South = plantation owners rich).

Disease destroyed many Plains Indians at this time which allowed the **Sioux Nation** to increase dominance, however with increasing White migration they were unable to hold onto most of their land.

## **FIRST GREAT AWAKENING**

When: **Early 1700s** (18<sup>th</sup> century)

Where: First in England, then spread through English colonies

Who: **George Whitefield** was a preacher from England who led many revivals with participants ranging from **Puritans, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists**. John Wesley was influential, as well, as the Methodist Church [Methodism] was slowly gaining the attention of colonists. **More women participated than men, and many African Americans –both free and slave-participated. Most of the attendees were in the lower class of farmers, servants or workers.**

How: **Fire and Brimstone sermons... choose God or go to Hell!** "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" by **Johnathan Edwards** warned listeners that at any moment God can drop them into the pit of hell to burn for eternity. Meetings were enthusiastic, outdoors, and **challenged traditional straight-laced Church meetings.**

Cause: It was a reaction to two things mainly. One was a **reaction to dropping Church membership and religiosity of the population – the secularization of society.** Second was a **reaction to Enlightenment thought which emphasized reason over faith.**

Effect: Instilled **sense of independence and rebellion** as more people could preach and more people **challenged the authority** of their existing Church. The lower classes began to **challenge the elite** using the rationale that all men are sinful and all men need God. It also encouraged **increased communication** among colonists and regions. All of these effects would later **play into the Patriots' rebellion** and the War for Independence (American Revolution) following the French and Indian War.

## Civil War & Culture

Deadliest war in U.S. history, “brother against brother,” everyone impacted in some way...**2% of population killed, mostly men**...Million+ injured...Many single women, single moms, fatherless children; **620,000 dead**...

**Many women in poverty** – rising to **status of breadwinner** – working outside home – and many assisted in war effort...This **new situation/status** inspired many women to fight for more rights (property, work, suffrage)...Veterans hospitals following the war served mainly by **women** who were now becoming dominant in **nursing** field; this began during the war as Dorothea Dix led nursing for Union – making it more **socially acceptable** for women to work in this field. Following the war, Clara Barton founded the Red Cross.

**African Americans gained freedom, citizenship, and suffrage** (for men)... creating a new challenge in order to transition from slave into the American **social structure**... Southern Whites lost their **social structure** and struggled to make sense of and peace with the chaos that was a destroyed South (economic, environmental, and social system destruction). **American identity changing = expanding democracy** to African Americans... Although Blacks continued to struggle for **social, economic, and political equity**, the world witnesses a victory in republicanism and the U.S. continued down a path toward reaching **its ideal** of “all men are created equal” while European powers were disappointed that the U.S. hadn’t fallen apart (they were poised to reclaim area; during war France seized Mexico). **Exodusters** (Freedmen) left South for Kansas, **Black Church movement** grew (culture, beliefs), “40 Acres and a mule” didn’t follow through and Southern Blacks largely still economically dependent on Whites.

**Beliefs and ideas concerning the government** changed following the war, shifting from states’ rights to central government and **supremacy of the Union** over regional goals, ideologies, policies... Northerners assisted in Southern transition until economic depression hit in 1870s. (Reconstruction, Freedman’s Bureau, etc)

**Northern culture** changed as industrial boom began, **Southern culture** slowly rebuilt under Black Codes, Jim Crow, Sharecropping, and continued dependency on cash crop agriculture. **Western culture** changed as enclosure of the West began and many Indian Wars and boomtowns altered landscape both physically and culturally. Northerners and Southerners continued to dislike each other through the end of the century.

## **SECOND GREAT AWAKENING**

When: **Early 1800s** (19<sup>th</sup> century)

Where: First in **frontier regions of Kentucky**, then spread through **New York and New England**; **“Burned Over District” in New York saw the most revivalism**

Who: **Charles Grandison Finney** and Peter Cartwright (Methodist) among others; more **women** participated than men, some African Americans and some American Indians, people who believed in the **second coming of Christ** were more likely to participate, **Baptists and Methodists** more than Presbyterians and Congregationalists (decline in older Churches, rise of newer Churches)

How: **Outdoor revivals**, some of which were very large with thousands in attendance

Cause: It was a reaction to two things mainly. One was a **reaction to the secularization of society and perceived drop in moral values.**

Second was a **reaction to influence of Deists and Unitarians which challenged traditional Protestant beliefs.**

Effect: It **challenged Calvinism** and spread beliefs that people could be saved through faith and actions (not predestination). Because this movement focused on morality, it inspired people to strive to be “good” and “make the world a better place” which **led to many new reform movements** including abolition, temperance, and women’s’ movement. More people began to focus on **the betterment of society** and religion started become more emotional, personal, and diverse. New Churches, such as the **Mormon Church**, also formed in this era – inspired from the religious conversations occurring especially in the Burned Over District.

## **Industrialization & Culture**

Industrialization to **urbanization** (mainly in the North) which created a **new culture of city living, increased gap between rich and poor, and increased ethnic/racial/cultural diversity** (mass migration of “new” immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe who were largely unskilled and very poor; increased nativism; Chinese Exclusion Act). Meanwhile in the **South**, **Jim Crow** increased **segregation, continued racial discrimination**, and dismantled Reconstruction victories (*Plessy v Ferguson*); and, in the **West**, Indian Wars culminated in **forced assimilation** (Dawes Act) and the reservation system.

Northern economy boomed, Western farmers struggled with rise of corporate farms, Southern agriculture dominated by sharecroppers (poor). **Education and innovation** flourished in Northern cities while Southerners were largely uneducated (except for the elite Planter class). Carnegie, Rockefeller, Stanford, Vanderbilt made large contributions to **education** and **philanthropy**; **higher education** increased (Morril Act, Hatch Act); **Scientific method** applied to social issues and **social studies** (or social science) increased. **YAY!** Normal schools taught **education; medicine and law** now required degrees.

**Social Darwinism reinforced racism and nativism.** Immigrants going to the North and West, not the South.- **Tenement slums** aided by **settlement houses** (Jane Addams), **Social Gospel charity**, and **political machines** (buying votes with services); **ethnic neighborhoods** increased (Chinatowns, Little Italies), by 1900 1/3 of New Yorkers were foreign born; immigrants held on to more of their culture than earlier waves. **Suburbs** grew with streetcars; management class (mainly Whites) able to live further from factories while poor lived in city. (de facto segregation)

**Leisure time** in cities led to increased sporting events such as baseball and boxing as urban culture grew along with vaudeville shows with music, dance, humor; Southern minstrel shows with Whites in blackface were popular among both Whites and Blacks (yet reinforced racial stereotyping)

Art became more **realist** (unlike romanticism of pre-Civil War). **Mark Twain** wrote about rugged, western characters, artists like James Whistler experimented with new styles, **architecture** flourished as skyscrapers and city landscapes increased. **Landscaping** increased as efforts to beautify cities increased (Central Park). **Newspapers** competed for readers and included **yellow journalism** (Hearst vs Pulitzer), **magazines** increased included women’s magazines like Vogue and Ladies Home Journal; Barnum and Bailey Circus toured, Buffalo Bills Wild West Show popular... **City culture much different from rural and Southern culture.**

## **ANTEBELLUM REFORMS**

**Reform movements challenged the status quo, introduced liberal thought, and worked to increase democracy and equality by challenging the very beliefs that the nation was founded on... Declaration of Independence & “all men are created equal.”** **The Abolition movement** was not new to the Antebellum Era but it definitely surged following the **Second Great Awakening**. Organizations lobbied Congress, published anti-slavery literature, or even set up a colony in Africa to recolonize African Americans in Liberia.

The **women’s movement**, spearheaded by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton (among others), fought against the status quo beliefs that women were inferior and incapable of making decisions (voting). They fought for the right to control their own finances, to go to school or work, or to generally rebel against the Cult of Domesticity. The movement began at Seneca Falls in 1848 where the Declaration of Sentiments was written and signed declaring that “all men *and women* are created equal.”

These and other movements such as prison reform and mentally ill reform were largely inspired by the **Second Great Awakening** in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (Antebellum Era, Era of the Common Man). Other reforms such as utopias were inspired by **transcendentalism** as well as **religion**.

Also in this reform era, a truly **UNIQUE AMERICAN CULTURE** was forming. Instead of being the “copy-catters” of Europe, America began to create new styles of art, architecture, and literature which took pride in the growing nation. This movement began after the War of 1812 as illustrated with the surge of nationalism and Francis Scott Key’s *Star Spangled Banner*.

The **Hudson River School** - Landscape painting, celebrating beauty of **America Literature** celebrated *tales of American characters in American settings like Ralph Waldo Emerson* -Wrote as well as travelled giving lectures, **Washington Irving** - *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, **James Fenimore Cooper** - *Last of the Mohicans*, **Nathaniel Hawthorne** – *Scarlett Letter*. **Architecture**-New style based on ancient Greece and Rome, columns and domes illustrated American **pride in a Republic** (Roman Republic) and democratic ideals (Athens – democracy)

## **PHILOSOPHICAL THOUGHT From Colonies through Early Republic**

**Colonial Philosophical Thought** – dominated by practical pursuits and religious interests (some colonies separated Church and State and provided more liberty (Rhode Island))

**European Enlightenment** 1600s/1700s – **John Locke**, Montesquieu and others (**natural rights**, separation of powers, checks and balances, concept of liberty, views challenging divine right)... thanks to trans-Atlantic print culture... ideas spread to the colonies...and contribute to rebellion and the development of republican ideals and federalism

**The Age of Reason - Rationalism (late 1700s)** – deism, more focus on logic and laws of nature, less on miracles/prayer, development of secular values (separation of Church and state, secular education, religious tolerance/freedom)

**American Revolutionary Thought** – influenced by **First Great Awakening**, **Enlightenment** ideas, **Benjamin Franklin** (a highly civilized man – fair-minded, humane, charitable, inventive, and a source of worldly wisdom – qualities which were unique in early America; published Poor Richard’s Almanac, established first postal system, valued reason and virtue), **Thomas Paine’s Common Sense** (logical arguments for independence), and the **Declaration of Independence** (illustrates enlightened thought including **natural rights**)

## **PHILOSOPHICAL THOUGHT** **From Early Republic through Modern Age**

### **Counter-Revolution (1800-1850)**

***Southern Racial Aristocracy*** conflicting with ideals of republicanism and DOI – meant to secure Southern way of life and deny natural rights to slaves

***Scottish Realism*** – retreat to traditional beliefs and attempts to rationalize and defend traditional beliefs including religious values/morals... to preserve culture... to use common sense to support tradition

### **Transcendentalism (1820-1860)**

More optimistic than Calvinist-pessimism, focused on human potential for good and God as loving and just, rejected deism, criticized dependence of knowledge on science, connect to nature, moral idealism, moral progress, political and social justice/equality, social action (influenced some utopias, Henry David Thoreau influenced later movements – civil disobedience-MLK)

### **Speculative and Absolute Idealism (1860-1900)**

Speculative thought, philosophy as a field, critique of education, science, literature, and art; focused on people's higher purpose to solve problems; pragmatism also prevalent at this time

### **Darwinism (1859-1900)**

What began with a theory of evolution (which continues to create debate) helped lead to Social Darwinism and “survival of fittest” as racial theory and rationale for imperialism and other social divisions

**Realism & Naturalism**– 20<sup>th</sup> century- logical, scientific, focus on facts  
(many debates reflect battle of idealism vs realism)

## **Mass Culture-Beginning of Modern Culture**

**Gilded Age – Progressive Era** -- urbanization, telephone/communication, first department stores, early advertisements

**Roaring Twenties** – more urban than rural, culture conflicts (tradition vs modern), radio and cinema (mass communication-facilitates mass culture), new type of hero (sports, record breakers, movie stars), jazz music, advertisements/marketing, consumerism

### **1920's Culture Conflict**

Fundamentalist Christianity vs Science/Evolution  
(Scopes Trial)

Urban consumer culture vs Rural agrarian virtue  
Black vs White

(height of KKK, Harlem Renaissance/segregation)  
Native vs Immigrant

(Quotas, Red Scare, Sacco & Vanzetti)  
Victorian values vs Flappers

(hair, dress)

Older generation vs younger  
(freedom b/c of automobile, promiscuity, Freud)

Lost Generation vs “Roaring” era of happiness  
(Great Gatsby)

### American Art & National Culture

First truly American culture, art, architecture, literature, music  
began after War of 1812

**Art-Antebellum**-Influence of Greek and Roman architecture reflects importance of republicanism in culture; Hudson River School artists celebrating American landscapes, Authors wrote of American characters (Puritan-Scarlet Letter), subjects included historical moments in colonization and independence (Washington Crossing the Delaware)

**Art-Gilded/Progressive** – more realism than romanticism, steel allows skyscrapers (architecture), Frank Lloyd Wright (form and function)

***Rationalism*** in Revolutionary Era replaced with ***Romanticism*** in Antebellum than ***Realism*** in Progressive Era.

**Art-Modern Times** – Pop Art (Andy Warhol) with screen-printing, graphic arts

#### Puritan Legacy

Public education, hard work ethic, protecting Sunday, systematic structure to towns, social/moral norms are important... *as we move to modern times increasing pluralism and rebellion of traditional norms diminishing this*

**Republicanism** – debate/opposing views, freedom of speech, tolerance of variety and diversity ... more than any other society at that time, compromising, law and order... still important parts of culture today

### Gospel of Wealth-Andrew Carnegie (Gilded Age)

This ideology includes the following beliefs:

- a. Extreme wealth was nothing to apologize for
- b. The wealthy have an obligation to give back (philanthropy)
- c. People who are idle or lazy do not deserve charity; only those who try deserve it... if you give indiscriminately you only create dependence and a class of irresponsible people who will breed moral infection
- d. Investments in public include the arts, libraries, universities, etc. to promote culture and education

Was supported by those who believed in hard-work, American dream, rags-to-riches mobility

#### Impact of this ideology

As government began to change with Progressivism, then New Deal, then Great Society... those who supported his view fell out of power and American society has continued to move toward indiscriminate welfare/charity and increased criticism of the wealthy class, debates continue especially since most tax revenue is paid by the wealthy and entitlements continue to increase

## The Counterculture

1950s- Era of conformity and religious revival, ideal family middle class suburban with traditional gender roles...  
Beatniks rebelled ... fueling **counterculture movement of the 1960's**

Andy Warhol, John Lennon, Bob Dylan – rebelled against conformity; **musicians and artists** reveal unhappiness with white-washed America; Woodstock, attention to Native American treatment over time rather than on America as liberators

Betty Friedan, **Feminine Mystique** - feminism --rejected cult of domesticity and burned bras or protested pageants and fought for equality

**Rebellious youth** – drug culture-freeing mind on LSD trips, sexual promiscuity (free love, hippies, birth control), rejecting Christianity and embracing Eastern religions or American Indian spirituality, rejecting beliefs of their parents, culture became more informal

**Anti-War – protests and music** (*contrasted with Cold War fears and 1950s propaganda*)

**Civil Rights Movements** including more rebellious and militant groups such as **Black Panthers**... rebelling against de facto issues... (non-violent led to many de jure changes but de facto remained and race riots of 68 showed those changes hadn't helped much)

**Gay and Lesbian Rights**... fighting for acceptance and protection against discrimination

**Clothing/hair**... more colorful, tie-dye, eastern and Indian influences, not your average housewife dress

... *these things helped fuel conservative resurgence which aimed to restore family values*

## Social Darwinism (Gilded Age)

This ideology includes the following beliefs:

- a. Competition is normal, there are winners and losers, and the winners do not owe the losers anything, survival of the fittest
- b. Social classes based on socioeconomic status (how much money/wealth one has) is a sign of economic development and overall progress, upward mobility is available for those who work hard to accumulate wealth
- c. The role of government is to protect the environment in which business can grow; government should not try to eliminate class or poverty because they are natural

Social Darwinism was supported by:

- a. Captains of Industry
- b. Upper class
- c. The “Forgotten Man” (middle class, tax payers, working hard to climb the ladder, resenting handouts to the poor)

Impact of this ideology:

- a. Fueled capitalism (with little government regulation)
- b. Fueled overseas expansion (imperialism)
- c. Fueled eugenics and racial/ethnic/gender stereotyping
- d. Fueled laissez faire

### Social Gospel (Gilded Age)

This ideology includes the following beliefs:

- a. Christianity and American Churches have an important role to play in American society
- b. Churches should provide services to the poor and speak up for those in need
- c. Christians should organize and create a “kingdom of God” on earth
- d. Government action is necessary in society
- e. Individuals have the ability to manipulate evolution and direct society onto a path of higher morality
- f. Cooperation is more important than competition

Social Gospel was supported by:

- a. Protestants
- b. Poor
- c. Progressive reformers

Impact of this ideology:

- a. Increased support for government intervention in social issues
- b. Increased connection between morality and social injustice and poverty
- c. Fueled movements such as the Settlement House Movement and child labor laws)

### Antebellum Era Reforms

REFORM	LEADER	CAUSES	GOAL
Abolition	Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, William Lloyd Garrison, Harriet	Slavery as a moral wrong vs. white supremacy in the South	Emancipation (gradual by moderates, immediate by radicals)
United States Temperance Union:	Various	Excessive consumption of alcohol was widespread among all classes.	Abstinence from liquor including prohibition
Health	Dorothea Dix	Inhumane treatment of the insane in prisons: physical punishment & isolation	Prison Reform: Rehabilitation & treatment instead of punishment; build asylums for the mentally ill.
Women's Rights - Seneca Falls Convention (1848)	Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott	Lack of rights concerning property; suffrage; education.	Overcome inferior status with a focus on women's suffrage
Education	Horace Mann	Concern for creating intelligent voters who could support & perpetuate democracy.	Free public education (tax-supported); longer school year; teacher training; broad curriculum