

7 Ways that Studying US History 1877 to Modern Times History Shapes the Way You Think About REFORM Through MOVEMENTS.

1. The labor movement emerged after workers got tired of the inhumane conditions which forced them to **PROTEST** factories.

Industrialization, January 25th, 2019



“Brief History of the US Labor Movement” [accessed on May 1st, 2019](#)

In this picture, men are sitting holding up signs regarding work conditions. This picture shows how they refused to work until better conditions or pay was had. During the industrialization era, the United States was so focused on production, they didn't seem to worry about their workers. Because of their lack of attention towards their workers, unions were formed ([Industrialization, January 25th, 2019](#)). These unions fought back against the long hours and low pay as well as the working conditions. Many workers were forced to work around unsanitary machinery or sharp tools with no protection. Unions participated in many strikes, one of the biggest being the Homestead Strike of 1892. The Homestead Strike occurred in Pittsburgh after Carnegie Steel increased their number of skilled workers which created jealousy ([Crash Course #23: Industrial Economy](#)). In *The Decline of Independent Craftsman*, we learn that because of the

industrialization era the plants started hiring people just to have more workers (Finnerty, [The Decline of the Independent Craftsman, 1882](#)). Mills stopped idolizing skilled-workers and just focused on production, which led to overcrowding in the work place, another reason the labor movement began.

2. Native Americans were stripped of their rights from the government and forced to obey under new leadership. In response to this, Natives began **PROTESTING** and fighting for their rights.

Native Americans and the West, January 28th, 2019



National Guardian Photographs. "Wounded Knee, the Ghost Dance, and American Indian Movement" [accessed May 1st, 2019](#)

In this picture, Native American women are protesting Wounded Knee as a part of the Trail of Broken Treaties movements. In 1890, American troops killed over 300 Lakota tribe members at Wounded Knee in South Dakota in an effort to obtain their land. These women are taking a stand against all the inequalities and unjustness that they have faced in hopes of change. Throughout this class we have learned about all the hardships Native Americans faced as Americans attempted to monopolize the United States. Besides conquering land, Americans tried to strip Natives of their culture by sending them to boarding schools. Native children were sent to boarding schools where they were

forced to cut their hair and practice only English ([Crash Course #24: Westward Expansion](#)). These children rarely got to see their parents and were subjected to harsh punishments if they disobeyed teachers. US government implemented these prison-like schools as a way to gain control over what Indians should be doing and as a power move ([Native Americans and the West, January 28th, 2019](#)). Eventually, Native Americans decided to contest back against the government and started protesting and fighting in battles. In *A Native American Protest*, Natives protested by overtaking Alcatraz Island and offering to return it in the exchange of a treaty, making a mockery of all the prior treaties the US has written and broken to Native Americans ([A Native-American Protest, 1969](#)).

3. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, population in the United States grew due to an increase in immigration which led to limiting acts and forced immigrants to participate in silent **PROTESTS** until **REFORM** occurred.

Immigration, January 30th, 2019



“Immigration in 1900s” [accessed on May 1st, 2019](#)

In this picture, families are boarding a ship in hopes of a better life. With them they bring all of their favorite belongings that they can carry. Population grew drastically in the late 1800s as immigrants were fleeing their home countries when the “American Dream” became popularized. Along with the American Dream, immigrants came to America in hopes of finding a fortune ([Crash Course #25: Growth, Cities, and](#)

Immigration). Eventually, immigrants began taking over the United States which led to many exclusionary acts. One of the most controversy acts was the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. The act cut off Chinese labor immigration to the United States for ten years (**Immigration, January 30th, 2019**). Although immigrants did not participate in such drastic movements as the other groups, they did protest in smaller ways. Some immigrants arrived here illegally and lived in the US secretly, protesting the exclusionary acts and quotas. They did this small “protest” until immigration quotas were cut back and reform occurred. In *On The Evils of Chinese Immigration*, we learn about how people believed the Chinese were evil people who were responsible for the diseases and drug problems that popped up in the United States. Some US citizens had no desire to assimilate with these people and favored these acts, which is why immigrants some immigrants lived in secret to protect themselves (**Thomson, On The Evils of Chinese Immigration, 1878**).

4. Throughout history, women were seen as inferior to men and incapable of their jobs. Eventually, women had enough and decided to work towards **REFORM** and a more equal society.

Women's Suffrage, February 13, 2019



“Feminists Protest: Then and Now” [accessed on May 1st, 2019](#)

In this picture, women are holding signs with phrases regarding the oppression they’ve faced in an effort to gain attention for the women’s movement. During the 1920’s, women participated in many protests to create a more equal society. Prior to this,

women were seen as exclusive houseworkers in charge of looking after the home. The Women's Christian Temperance Union was then created which began the push for women's suffrage. This organization wanted women's suffrage to help pass laws to reduce drinking, some speculate in order to help control their abusive drunk husbands ([Crash Course #31: Women's Suffrage](#)). Along with suffrage, women started changing roles in housework and experimenting with outfits ([Women's Suffrage, February 13th, 2019](#)). This sparked the era of women wearing more loose clothing and shorter hairstyles. Flappers also arose during this time period, who were seen as young, free women. In *Alice Paul Inspires Her Fellow Suffragist*, we hear about struggles these women went through such as getting themselves arrested, in hopes of receiving the right to vote ([Paul, Alice Paul Inspires Her Fellow Suffragist, 1917-1918](#)). Paul hoped to inspire suffragist to keep fighting for what is rightfully theirs, with this article until reform occurred.

5. For years, African Americans were subjected to racism and unjust behaviors because of their race. This led to the creation of the Black Power movement as a way for **REFORM** to occur.

The Black Freedom Movement, March 18th, 2019



"Black Power movement" [accessed on May 1st, 2019](#)

In this picture, citizens are raising their arms and creating a fist as a way to say they support the Black Power Movement. This movement was created as a way to gain media attention and emphasize the prejudice African Americans faced in hopes of

reform. Overtime, this became the symbol for black power and a way to show support against the inequalities African Americans faced. This picture demonstrates that they movement was not limited by age, as it highlights the range in ages between the men. Along with the symbols, the black power movement participated in many protests such as the boycott, sit-ins, the freedom ride, and mass marches (Cmiel, *Sixties Liberalism and the Revolution in Manners*). This movement was popularized by the fact that many participants took a very non-violent route. MLK became known as the leader of this movement, and he emphasized the importance of peaceful protest such as the one in Birmingham, Alabama. In this protest, African Americans filled all the jails in Birmingham as a symbol of racism (The Black Freedom Movement, March 18th, 2019). In *Black Power*, Carmichael discusses the intentions of the movement and shuts down the idea of integration. Many citizens believed to solve the Black Power Movement, African Americans could “integrate” into their society, but many did not like the idea of this because they would have to leave behind their culture and adapt to white society creating a bigger society led by more white authority (Hamilton and Carmichael, *Black Power* 1967).

6. The gay liberation movement became highly publicized during the 1960s as they participated in many **PROTESTS** and worked alongside other movements to gain more attention.

Social Movements of the late 20th century, March 20th, 2019



Alsop, Julia. “Sylvia Rivera: A Forgotten Hero of the Stonewall Rebellion” accessed on May 1st, 2019

In this picture, men and women unite to protest for gay rights. Together, they grip on to the long pole together symbolizing their unity in this fight. Until the 1960s, gay

liberation wasn't talked about but suddenly, it became a huge movement as they marched for change and gay culture began to become normalized ([Crash Course #40: The 1960s in America](#)). One of the bigger protests from this movement was the Stonewall Inn. This protest sparked the gay liberation and began when police officers entered the club and arrested thirteen people ([Social Movements of the late 20th century, March 20th, 2019](#)). Ongoing customers felt like they were being discriminated against, and thus a full riot occurred. One of the many arguments against this movement, was that relationships were only meant for a man and women according to the bible. Many conservatives felt gay people were "perverts" or infectious. In *When the Homosexuals Burn the Holy Bible in Public... How Can I Stand by Silently*, we read about a woman who believes homosexuals are evil and immoral. In her story it is reflected she believes these people are trying to recruit children and teach them their virtues ([Bryant, When the Homosexuals Burn the Holy Bible in Public... How Can I Stand by Silently, 1977](#)). The gay liberation movement was one of the most controversial movements we looked at and still occurs in some ways today.

7. The anti-war movement took off during the Vietnam War and was popularized among college students with various **PROTESTS**.

Vietnam, April 1st, 2019



Kinnick, Maddy. "Anti-War Movement" [accessed on May 1st, 2019](#)

In this picture, citizens are holding up signs in opposition to the war in Vietnam. They are also holding up peace signs, which arose during this time period, as a way to show they favor peace and love over war. This movement was popularized by college students during the Vietnam war after TV stations broadcasted from the battlefield. This was one of the first times Americans were able to see what really occurred during war which scared them. Students participated in several protest-like sit-ins and marches to show their opposition ([Vietnam, April 1st, 2019](#)). They participated in these for months across the country hoping that change would occur and that the US would pull out of the war. The US entered this war under direction from President LBJ in an effort to prevent the spread of communism. Although they entered this war with high hopes, it was later revealed during the war that they understood they faced long shoots in Vietnam, just decided to stay in the war for the fight against communism ([Logevall, Vietnam: Flawed Decisions, Terrible Consequences](#)). Anti- war protesters argued against this fight because they believed the domino theory was unrealistic and unlikely to occur. In *A Vietnam Veteran Opposes the War*, we learn about how the movement was not limited to college students. Some soldiers from the war even felt like there was no hope or end in sight in the war which makes one question why this war lasted so long ([A Vietnam Veteran Opposes the War, 1971](#)).