

The United States, 1951 to 1991

I. 1950's

A. Politics

1. Harry S Truman, President 1945–1953
2. Dwight David Eisenhower, President 1953–1961
3. J. Edgar Hoover, FBI Director 1924–1972

B. Society

1. population
2. status of women
3. status of minorities (esp. blacks)
 - a. Civil Rights Movement
 - b. Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (May 17, 1954)
 - c. Rosa Parks, resident of MONTgomery, AL (arrested December 1, 1955)

C. Economy

1. business
 - a. William Levitt (b. 1907) and Levittown
 - b. “What’s good for the country is good for General Motors—and vice versa.” –Charles Wilson, former president of GM and to-be Secretary of Defense in Eisenhower administration
 - c. military-industrial complex
2. work force

II. 1960's

A. Politics

1. John F. Kennedy, President 1961–1963
2. Lyndon Baines Johnson, President 1963–1969
 - a. “The Great Society”
 - b. Civil Rights Act 1964
 - c. anti-Vietnam War movement
3. Barry Goldwater, Senator and presidential candidate
4. Robert “Bobby” Kennedy, Attorney General, Senator, and presidential candidate

B. Society

1. population

2. status of women
 - a. Betty Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*, 1963
3. status of minorities (esp. blacks)
 - a. Civil Rights Movement
 - b. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929–1968)

C. Economy

III. 1970's

A. Politics

1. Richard Nixon, President 1969–1974
 - a. Opening up of China
 - b. Watergate
2. Gerald Ford, President 1974–1977
3. Henry Kissinger, Secretary of State, 1973–1977
4. Jimmy Carter, President 1977–1981

B. Society

1. population
2. status of women
3. status of minorities (esp. blacks)

C. Economy

III. 1980's

A. Politics

1. Ronald Reagan, President 1981–1989
 - a. Reaganomics and the Laffer Curve
2. Iran-Contra
 - a. Col. Oliver North
 - b. Admiral John Poindexter

B. Society

1. population
2. status of women (end of ERA)
3. status of minorities (esp. blacks)
4. people with disabilities
 - a. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 1989
 - Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA)
 - Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)

C. Economy