

## ECONOMIC EVENTS THAT INFLUENCE PEOPLE:

### Great Depression 1929-33

- favored government involvement in the private sphere as a result of economic hardship
- New Deal legislation put people back to work bolstering the nation's infrastructure and attempted to stimulate the economy
- Social Security was a part of the government governing the private sphere.
- people who voted for FDR and various pieces of New Deal legislation are considered the **New Deal Coalition**.

### World War II 1939-43

- created many jobs and put the United States to work creating raw war materials
- united the American people and created a sense of trust in government, continuing the trends of the Depression

### Cold War and Vietnam→(1955-75)

- time period associated with various countercultural movements and fear of Communism
- mass disagreement over government involvement in Vietnam
- people born during Vietnam had perception of the government as unfavorable and negative in general, people born before still had preconceived notions laying around from the Depress and WWII

### U.S. Countercultural movements and major political assassinations

- fostered political demonstrations and as opposition grew to American government's practices challenging the government became normal
- during the 70-90s Democrats were the "liberal" side and dominated the South, however, as they began supporting values such as SS marriage and abortion, old Democrats became Republicans

### 9/11 (2001)

- created two ideas: (A) "we need to up our defenses. no more terror" or (B) "stop getting involved in the middle east. no more needless entanglement"
- in the end led to some sense of patriotism
- the subsequent **invasion of Iraq** raised questions about Americans entering other countries like they had for decades before. many Millenials during a 2014 survey said that the US should stay out of world affairs.

### Great Recession (2007-12)

- had the same effect of trust in government as the Depression
- created lots of pessimism, **which as been shown to increase the chances of a single person voting Democrat - and supporting govt involvement and stuff**

## KEY TERMS

**conservative** - tend to favor traditional values, limited government involvement, law and order, etc.

**equality of opportunity** - the belief that all persons should be able to go as far as they can carry; and that people in similar circumstances should be treated equally.

**free enterprise** - the belief that the market should be regulated based on the decisions that people make, and that the govt should not excessively control the market

**individualism** - the belief that the worth and freedoms of an individual are of utmost importance in society.

**self centered individualism**- the belief that the individual completely rises over the group in importance  
**enlightened individualism** - the belief that while the individual is important there are points in time in which the individual does not take precedent over the group and that sacrifices are necessary at some point

**laissez-faire** - "let it steer itself"

**limited government** - the belief that the government should not strong arm its people and exercise immense control over the population. extends to things such as civil rights and business.

**liberal** - the inverse of conservative; tend to be open to new values, support government involvement, etc.

**political culture** - the combination of knowledge, background, experiences, etc. that form the political beliefs of a group and/or individual

**rule of law** - the belief that the law should apply to all equally, even those who created the law. this is why we have rules regarding transfer of power, corruption, etc.

globalization - economic spread between multiple nations, as well as some nations having influence worldwide

**political socialization** - a process in which an individual gains their political beliefs through experiences, gaining of knowledge, etc.

**generational effects** - the effects that the time period a person was born in has on political socialization

**lifecycle effects** - the effects that moving thru different stages in life has on someone's political ideologies and beliefs

## **GENERATIONS LIST**

Silents: <1945

- "work hard under the system"

Boomers: 1945-1964

- "children. lots of children"

Gen X: 1962-1982

Millennials: 1983-1995 (acc. to book: turned 18 around or after 2000)

- "turn of the century"

Gen Z: 1995-2010

- "the last humans to survive, its the last letter of the alphabet after all"

Gen Alpha: 2012-??

- we ran out of names