

Midterm for US History 24100

Part 1: Question 2

2. Compare the fate of black people in the South under Jim Crow segregation, Indians confined to the reservations in the West, Chinese immigrants out West, and the people of color living in the colonies that were gained as a result of the Spanish-American War, all by way of addressing the following questions: In what ways did the issue of race figure in the treatment of each of these groups? Why did each group ultimately suffer the fate that it did? What did white people hope to gain from how each group would be dealt with? (In the case of Jim Crow, keep in mind that poor and rich whites had different motivations for supporting segregation.) In what ways is it useful to see the situation and experience of each of these groups of people of color as a form of imperialism? What was the larger economic and political context in the U.S. that shaped the increased oppression of people of color toward the end of the 19th century?

Essay1:

As the period of reconstruction was coming to an end, After American experience during the civil war, most of the politician who fought for the protection of African American right abandoned their focus. This was partly due shift in focus on interest as people suffered from the wounds. In the southern states, local government contracted a legal system which purpose was to reestablish white supremacy. A Legislation known as the Jim Crow laws categorized people of color from whites in, housing, school, jobs and public places. Generally, anyone with suspected black ancestry in any degree was considered a “person of color”. As Segregation was also known

as “Separate but Equal” with sole purpose of prevent contact between black and Whites as Equal, limiting their freedom and opportunity. This legislation denied black men from voting and take away their civil right. Black man was voting right was affect by the southern states literacy tests, polls taxes and exclusion of black voters. Poll tax required citizens to pay fee to register to vote (*Give me Liberty* p.645). These fees kept many poor African American from fulfilling their voting requirement leading to loss of status. The law of Segregation in some southern state remain unsettle as some railroads, theaters and hotel admitted black and whites on an equal basis. These new laws enacted violated most of the principal of Racial Discrimination outlawed in the 1883. A court Case know as Plessy vs Ferguson in Louisiana gave approval to southern states requiring the separation of facilities which obviously violate the principal of equal liberty. As More state apply the law of segregation in southern states, it became Clear to White society their illustration as the dominant race. Better school and Public Facilities, Ability to pay the Poll Taxes Allow them to Have Greater influence in society, participate in Voting.

The Jim Crow laws prevented poor Southern Whites from rebelling against the economic exploitation with only a few exception poor Whites in the South have been brutally exploited since well before the Civil War. In some cases, as bad or worse than Black Americans. Jim Crow laws allowed this White underclass a relief from their oppression as it gave the false confidence to believe that “As bad as they might be, they were better than best nigger”. One reason why poor white supported segregation.

Black People Who Attempted to Challenge the Concept of Separate by Equal Faced not only Legal power but allow treat of violence. As the Ku Klux Klan Made in appearance in promoting white supremacy and violence toward black people, the use of Terror and Lynching (Burning, cutting body piece.) of Black voter was very frequent in the south. These experience of black in southern states, was an example of Conflict faced by minoring in community with less

power and influence. By the late 1880, the total number of Victim through lynching reach about 5000. Nearly all of memory of black Bravery in Army and other Accomplishment was forgotten as Segregation divided people in the southern states as Black was considered second-class citizen thought pattern of thought and policy. In state such as Mississippi 147000 and Louisiana more Than 130,000 black votes who registered in 1890, the number fall about 9000 and 1342 by 1904.

The Indian confined in Reservation came when the united states expanded Westward in the 19 Century. In Contrast to the Jim Crow Segregation law (which was more of race, social and political rights Battle), The Indians Confined was more of a battle for land, economic and Settlement purposed. Whites Settler clashed with native American over the Use of land area. As the United States had long regarded most Indian tribes as sovereign entities, with which it negotiated treaties in order to frame legal relations and resolve conflicts. These Step of negotiation with Indians prior as they were independent nations Was supported by Railroad Company. In time, many Native American nations were settled on reservations that set them apart from the white settlers but that also relegated them to a separate and unequal existence.

The Dawes Severalty Act of 1887 Led the United states to Sale or acquire more Indian territory as Immigration to America was increasing. US the need more Option to make money by selling Indian land and expend the US size Westward. As European Settle in Indian land, more conflict rose for competition of natural resources. The Acts broke up Indian land into small parcel which increase the money potential from White Purchaser. For Indian who accepted the new deal, this mean more of assimilation for them, as their culture will be washes out and they will become Americanized. By 1.890 the vast majority of remaining Indian population had been removed to reservation in the West. The Policy proved to be a disaster for Indians leading to the loss of much tribal land and the erosion of Indians culture (*Give me Liberty* p. 609). Looking at the Dawes act as from the perspective of whites, this was more of a profit as for example about 172

000 acres were divided into farm, and about 50000 acres was sold out to white purchaser. In Oklahoma when the Government acquired about 2 million acres of Indians land, about 50 000 white settlers poured into the territory to claim farms. Further land Rushes followed as the government was benefit this business and white settler getting Farm for good price. In nearly Half of century after the passage of the Dawes Act, Indians lost about 86 million acres of the 138 million acres that was in their possession prior to the Act. (*Give me Liberty P. 609*). These Confinement in Reservation in the west led certain Indian to assimilate and become American Citizen. Even though the idea of Leaving their tribal setting and assimilate into to American society, did not favor many Indians. By the 1900 nearly the US congress granted about 100000 citizenships to Resident of Indian territory.

The Chinese exclusion came in the 1850s, Chinese workers migrated to the United States, first to work in the gold mines, but also to take agricultural jobs, and factory work, especially in the garment industry. Chinese immigrants were particularly instrumental in building railroads, Gold Field, factory in the American west, and as Chinese laborers grew successful in the United States, a number of them became entrepreneurs in their own right. As the numbers of Chinese laborers increased, so did the strength of anti-Chinese sentiment among other workers in the American economy. This finally resulted in legislation that aimed to limit future immigration of Chinese workers to the United States, and threatened to sour diplomatic relations between the United States and China.

American objections to Chinese immigration took many forms, and generally stemmed from economic and cultural tensions, as well as ethnic discrimination. Most Chinese laborers who came to the United States did so in order to send money back to China to support their families there. At the same time, they also had to repay loans to the Chinese who help paid their passage

to America. These financial pressures left them little choice but to work for whatever wages they could. Non-Chinese laborers often required much higher wages to support their wives and children in the United States, and also generally had a stronger political standing to bargain for higher wages. Therefore, many of the non-Chinese workers in the United States came to resent the Chinese laborers, who might squeeze them out of their jobs. Furthermore, as with most immigrant communities, many Chinese settled in their own neighborhoods, and tales spread of Chinatowns as places where large numbers of Chinese men congregated to visit prostitutes, smoke opium, or gamble. Some advocates of anti-Chinese legislation therefore argued that admitting Chinese into the United States lowered the cultural and moral standards of American society. Others used a more overtly racist argument for limiting immigration from East Asia, and expressed concern about the integrity of American racial composition. Beginning in the 1882, congress temporally put restriction on Chinese immigration. Non-White was prevented from becoming citizens and became the first time that race has been used to excluded a group of people from entering the united State. (*Give Me Liberty* p.651.) Most of the Chinese descent who live in the US after Act, suffered from discrimination somewhat similar the segregation During Jim Crow as some Chinese descent were Assaulted and faced Violence Similar to black Fate.

In the late 19 Century thousands of Chinese workers where Expel from town, mining camp and Chinese business and residence was assaulted (*Give me Liberty* p. 651) This violence toward the Chinese is what is known as Xenophobia. More of Native and White in the West was afraid of the completion from Chinese worker and Though through Violence them could express their Fear and brought congress attention the situation in the West by excluding the Chinese. These Chinese Experience in the West has a lot of Similarity to the fate of Black living under Jim Crow that to the Indian Confinement in Reservation. It was more a battle of civil social rights, politic. As Some Chinese felt their rights being violated, protest and Demand to congress

to look at their Situation and protect their 14th amendment right. For Example, it was reported that San Francisco provided no public education to Chinese children between 1871-1885 (*Give me Liberty* p. 651). These Techniques of keep the Chinese from going through latter of success all was attempted to make them fails social Similar to What Black endured in south Keeping Them Illiterate and not having much political and social influence. As more court arise, congress take some step into bettering the situation allowing for example some state to segregate school and public office and business. The exclusion profoundly Shaped the Experience of Chinese American, isolating them through segregation same as Black in the south, making them incapable of assimilating to mainstream society.

In the case of people of color living in colonies gain during the Spanish American war, At the end of the 1890s, in the Spanish-American War, the United States for the first time acquired overseas possessions and found itself ruling over peoples from Puerto Rico to the Philippines. The United states did not want to admit certain colonies such the Philippine to the unions, has sometime with racial profiling as their fate was a big similar to what Indians have faced in the US. They were sometime considered as indigenious people and not qualify enough to gain American citizenship or join the US. A small group of late-nineteenth-century thinkers actively promoted American expansionism. American interest in its new possessions had more to do with trade than gaining wealth from natural resources or large-scale American settlement. Puerto Rico and Cuba were gateways to Latin America, strategic outposts from which American naval and commercial power could be projected throughout the hemisphere. American rule also brought with it American racial attitudes. In an 1899 poem, the British writer Rudyard Kipling urged the United States to take up the “white man’s burden” of imperialism (*Give me Liberty* p. 714). American proponents of empire agreed that the domination of non-white peoples by whites formed part of the progress of civilization. Among the soldiers sent to the Philippines to fight

Aguinaldo were a number of black regiments. Their letters from the front suggested that American atrocities arose from white troops applying to the Filipino population the same “treatment for colored peoples” practiced at home. Assumed that new territories would eventually be admitted as equal states and their residents would be American citizens.

In the aftermath of the Spanish-American War, however, nationalism, democracy, and American freedom emerged more closely identified than ever with notions of Anglo-Saxon superiority. After nearly a half-century of American rule, the Philippines achieved independence in 1946. Until 1950, the U.S. Navy administered Guam, which remains today an “unincorporated” territory. As for Puerto Rico, it is referred to as “the world’s oldest colony,” because ever since the Spanish conquered the island in 1493 it has lacked full self-government. The Congress Gave citizenship to Puerto Ricans in 1917. Puerto Rico today remains in a kind of political limbo, poised on the brink of statehood or independence. The island has the status of a commonwealth. It elects its own government but lacks a voice in Congress (and in the election of the U.S. president) and key issues such as defense and environmental policy are controlled by the United States.

To sum up race played an important in American society from it conception until today. Racial profile has been used to divide people, make political decision, that favors certain than the others. Race has been used to classify certain group of people as second-class citizens, enforced oppression for economical gain and resentment of xenophobia toward others leading their fates

Part2: Question 2

During the decades following the Civil War, the rapid industrialization of the United States left many workers deeply immiserated, often with little chance of improving their lives. Describe the conditions under which workers lived and worked, and then go on to explain how their lives could be so hard at a time when the wealth of the country was dramatically increasing. Next, articulate the ways that workers attempted to enhance their interests during this time. Finally, explain why the working class was unable to achieve much, despite valiant efforts, during this time.

Essay2:

During the rapid Industrialization time that followed after the civil war, the working conditions were terrible during the Industrial Revolution. As factories were being built across the nations, businesses needed more workers. With a long line of people in need to work, employers could set wages as low as they wanted because people were willing to do work for lower salary as long as they got paid. The political and economic philosophy of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in which the concept of class struggle plays a central role in understanding society's allegedly inevitable development from capitalist oppression under capitalism to a socialist and ultimately classless society. The Workers' Problems was Low wages. The amount of money that person can spend on things such as housing, clothing, food, medical care, and recreation determines a person's standard of living. Low wages affected workers' standard of living by not being able to rent apartments with proper plumbing or ventilation for their families. Unsafe working conditions, led many workers to dangerous situation. Thousands of workers

were killed in industrial accidents and tens of thousands of workers were injured or became ill from their work.

People worked fourteen to sixteen hours a day for six days a week. However, the majority were unskilled workers, received about 3-10 dollars a week to support their family, working at approximately 10 cents an hour. Skilled workers earned a little more, but not significantly more. Women received one-third or sometimes one-half the pay that men received. Children received even less after serious works conditions. Owners, who were only concerned with making a profit, were satisfied because labor costed less. Factories were not the best places to work. Machines spit out smoke and in some factories, workers came out covered in black soot by the end of the day. There was a plethora of machines with not many safety precautions. This resulted in many accidents. The workers only received a break for lunch and a break for dinner. The use of children as labor for such long hours with little pay will led to the formation of labor unions later.

As more and more business began to boom and the national markets grew, more people began to move to the Northeast because they wanted jobs. Most people gathering in the "slum. Six to ten people lived in a small room which was as big as an apartment. Not only was there not enough room, but more people got sick as well. Because everyone lived in terrible conditions and so close to one another, diseases spread rapidly and lack of medicine and medical care resulted in many deaths. At the time, population was increasing rapidly because of more people moving in, so apartments became more crowded and in worse condition. These were the people that lived every life that had to fight for jobs and competed to live.

As industrialization occurred rapidly, the middle class rose. The middle class, skilled workers, managers, clerks, accountants, and others, had the money they needed to survive, and had money left over for other leisure goods. This extra money enabled them to live comfortably. Most moved away from the cities because they thought the "slum or ghetto" was unhygienic and unpleasant. This led to the beginning of suburbs, or socially segregated neighborhoods. However, the majority of the people living in industrialized areas lived in terrible, harsh conditions because of the lack of money and the overwhelming population.

Class Rapid urbanization and population growth helped to create the harsh living conditions in cities. Cities grew up around factories that polluted the air. As people poured into cities, housing and city services were not sufficient to support the growing population. Working people crowded into tiny tenement rooms without running water in foul-smelling slums. Workers labored long hours for low wages in work environments that were often dangerous. However, many from the working class created their own sense of community. Some found comfort in Methodism which discouraged violence but encouraged self-reform.

Workers tried domination to solve their problems and business owners were unwilling to accommodate to solve the workers' problems because there were plenty of workers. Moving was often not a solution to workers' problems because it was often not possible or acceptable to many of them. The advantage for workers of forming a union is to have a better chance of getting the employer to listen to the workers' requests. During the strike, a company is likely to give in to the demands of a union on certain bases. Workers who learned that they needed to organize had no chance to prevail in a power struggle against the combined forces of industrial owners and the United States government unless they built stronger unions. Their main purpose was to fight and improve their work and living conditions under the industrial society. They

wanted to put a stop to long hours with little pay and demanded more pay and fairer treatment. They did not want children to work in factories because of the danger involved.

The railroad strike of 1877 was therefore a terrifying shock to most Americans. For middle-class urbanites and small-town residents removed from many of the harsh realities of the new industrial order, the size, the rapid spread, the worker unity, and the extreme violence of the strike raised a horrible specter of social warfare just a decade after the end of the Civil War. The Working class formed the Knight of labor in 1869. Together they sought to build a comprehensive organization uniting workers of all races, genders, ethnicities, and occupations. The Knights were equally expansive in their objectives. They lobbied government for the eight-hour day and child labor restrictions. They also campaigned for the initiative and referendum electoral processes through which common citizens could draft and vote upon laws. But most fundamentally, and most radically, they sought to build more cooperative labor-management relations. They envisioned industries governed by councils of workers and managers within genuinely democratic, and ultimately collectively owned enterprises. However, as more immigrants came to the United States, more workers became available. These workers were willing to work, even if others were not because of unfair treatment. This lessened the effect of the labor unions since businesses had no shortage of workers. This is why most labor unions were unsuccessful

The Farmers also faced several problem Problems during the industrial period

Two reasons why farmers received less money for their crops was Producing much more supplies by new machines. Selling crops at the same time to pay back their debts

The farmers' costs didn't decrease due to paying high rates of railroads charges. And Need to borrow money to buy seeds and machinery. The banks legally take over the farmers' property if the farmers did not pay back a loan. Most of the farmers in the South by 1900 were working

someone else's land and were in debt to local merchants. The farmers try Accommodation to Solve their Problems through the democratic process in order to influence the government to pass new laws because the farmers did not want to strike against big businesses but wanted them to meet their needs. In the South, "the sharecropping system, locked millions of tenants farmers, white and black, into perpetual poverty. The interruption of cotton exports during the Civil War had led to the rapid expansion of production in India, Egypt, and Brazil. The glut of cotton on the world market led to declining prices (from 11 cents a pound in 1881 to 4.6 cents in 1894), throwing millions of small farmers deep into debt and threatening them with the loss of their land" (*Give me Liberty* p.680). Also as the Populists wanted the government to control railroads and banks because it would lower transportation costs and interest rates. Nonperishable crops are crops that can be kept for a long time, such as corn, wheat, and cotton. Sub treasuries are large government warehouses to store nonperishable crops. The Populists' idea for sub treasuries would make it unnecessary for farmers to accept low prices from distributors the government paid the farmers 80% of the value of their nonperishable crops immediately to pay their loans without taking out a high interest. The government stored their crops until prices were higher before selling them crops. The idea of direct election of senators supported the Populists to form a coalition with workers, consumers, and other people.

Unions were successful in some ways in solving the problems for only high skilled workers. It helped other workers by pressuring businesses to improve wages and working conditions. Many African Americans worked as strikebreakers because they were not allowed to join most unions. Reasons why unions were not successful most workers did not belong to a union. Legislators did not pass laws that helped solve workers' problems. Courts

supported big business owners. Some Business something threats to fire employee when they joined some union. In "*Give me Liberty*" p. 724 an example can be seen. "When 200 of its workers tried to join the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), the owners responded by firing them". Some workers didn't join a union because they believed that they had to take care of their own business. The Supreme Court hurt unions by using the antitrust parts of the Act against them. Two reasons why legislators might vote for a new law Strong need from many people. Threat from many people that they won't vote for them at the next election unless the new law is passed. Certain Workers formed Coalitions

Which are organizations with different groups that are cooperating to solve the same problem. Coalitions are used when there aren't enough people in a group to influence the legislators. For Example, Rural farmers and urban low-income workers, both white and African Americans were united and organized to form the coalition of the National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union.

To Sum up the industrialized of America was a period of challenge for rising working class in need for works. As the nation was becoming prosperous, the worker battle to improve their works and earning condition through strikes and union. As the result, successful brought to the attention capital society good work practice and fails in some way as powers diminishes.

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