- Beautiful city movement
 - Establishment of parks in cities
 - Only the upper classes had the time to enjoy such parks
- Cities expand
 - Raising Chiccago (bringing buildings up 5 feet)
 - Boston, Chicago expanding
 - Building taller buildings to expand the space
- Brand names come up
 - Nationwide quality
- Technology
 - Indoor plumbing
 - Mechanical washing machines
- Life expectancy increasing
 - Birth control being practiced, abortion becoming more common
- Most people are not getting a huge education
 - Only about 6% of population graduates high school
 - Increasing higher education though
- Crossing class lines
 - Changing music tastes
 - * Ragtime
 - * Crossing class lines
 - * Technology enables it
 - Movies
 - * 1903 first real movie with a story
 - Popular magazines
 - Libraries
- American Realism
- Naturalist writers

- Impressionism is arriving
 - Frederick Childe Hassam
- Women's Rights
 - Victoria Claffin Woodhull
- Colleges transition to coed from male/female only
 - Women start participating in athletics
 - Bicycling
 - These women start to have more divorces
 - Divorce rate goes up a lot
 - By the end of the gilded age, most of the college educated women do not marry
- Public education changing
 - High school attendance increases
- Houses are being built with closets
 - People are buying standardized clothes cheaper, labor saving
 - Accumulation of clothes
- Most states eliminating chattle laws
 - They stated that women were subject to their husbands
- Education changes
 - School teachers becoming trained
 - About a fifth of elementary school teachers are professional
 - Kindergarten appearing
- Plessy v Furgeson
 - Unequal railroad operation
 - Only one dessent on the supreme court
- 1909 Springfield Race Riot
 - Most significant race riot
 - Lynched a black man
 - Destroyed black property

- Leads to the establishment of the NAACP
- By 1900, only about 1% of blacks graduate high school compared to 5-6% of whites
- Booker T Washington
 - Establishes Tuskegee Institute
 - Idea: Blacks should prove themselves and the barriers will fall
- W.E.B Du Bois
 - First black PhD (from Harvard)
 - Finds he can't get a job
 - Becomes radicalized
 - Finally gets a job but gets blocked, works at Atlanta University
 - Niagra Manifesto
 - * Political power is the key
 - * Need it now
 - Du Bois will be the only black staff of NAACP for a while