a) During the period of prohibition in 1920s USA, alcohol was banned by the government. It was illegally imported from places like Canada by women who carried them back inside the skirts of their dresses, hidden from view and those women were known then as bootleggers. Bars, pubs and anywhere that promoted drinking alcohol were also banned, so underground secret pubs were made where the alcohol bought into the country was sold. Someone always had to be on the lookout for police as they could be caught easily, and in that case they had to quickly pack away the alcohol and act normally. These secret drinking houses were called speakeasies, probably because they had to be quiet about their activities so not to arouse suspicion amongst the government, as they were all over the country.

b) Prohibition was ended in 1933 because the government discovered the speakeasies and bootleggers smuggling alcohol and riots broke out all over the country because many Americans were outraged at the lack of alcohol as it was an integral part of life, even for women. The government at that time realised that the banning of alcohol was causing more trouble than it solved with all the riots, secret drinking houses and extra police they had to pay to go round and inspect, so they stopped it.

c) The USA was not a very tolerant country in the 1920s. Many things its people and the government did made it that way. Women evolved and became more daring, doing things like smoking and drinking alcohol, activities which were reserved for men before that time. Racism started to appear with the black immigrants coming in from Africa. They were living in the South, the poor part of America, working on farms for very little amounts of money. The Ku Klux Klan was a racist organisation targeting blacks in the South, where the organisation originated. A couple of the politicians were members and it was very popular, claiming thousands of members by the mid 1920s. They thought America should be for the Americans, that being one of their popular slogans, and they paraded around the streets of major cities in their uniform, white cloaks with white hats covering all their faces so as to remain anonymous. The prohibition did not help matters because many people relied on alcohol for the social life, and women had started drinking it, so when it was banned there was national outrage.