1970s

As it was in the film industry, so the 70s were society wide, a time of transition. The popular movements of the 60s, civil rights and the anti-war movement had encouraged other groups to demand their inclusion in American society. As a result, the early seventies saw the continuation or beginning of new popular movements, including movements in popular culture, espcially film. However, the late seventies saw the powerful institutions in American society, including the film industry, begin to reassert their hegemony to an extent never seen before. This growing concentration of power in the hands of fewer and fewer institutions proceded through the last quarter of a century.

I. Early 70s

A. Popular discontent

1. Polls of early 70s

a. govt

i. elections won't make difference

ii. only 25% thought govt would do right

ii. 60% leaders don't care about us

iii. 83% leaders don't tell the truth

b. foreign policy

i. no more interventions even in NATO,

Mexico

c. economy

i. corporations too powerful

d. military

i. no more weapons

2. Louis Harris poll 1966-75

a. confidence in military 62% to 29%

b. business 55% to 18%

c. pres and Congress 42% to 13%

d. 65% of Americans oppose military aid abroad

allows dictators to maintain control

e. 55% alienated

B. Sources of discontent

1. continuing war in Vietnam

a. Nixon's bombing of Cambodia

b. questioning the rationale for intervention

c. popular resistance to war spreading to all segments of the population

d. loss in Vietnam April 29,1975

2. Breakdown of Bretton WoodsAug 1971

a. dollar devalued and allowed to float according

to changing economic conditions

b. wage and price freeze

c. stagflation and unemployment

3. Oil Embargo Oct 1973 and energy crisis

4. Watergate

a. June 1992 5 buglars

b. Aug 8, 1974 Nixon resigns

5. Saturation of US markets by imports '7014% by '7940%

6. US manufacturing

a. Singer

7. Mayaguez

8. decreasing real wages, increasing poverty "permanent

step backward"

B. Social Movements

1. workers - Occupational Safety and Health Act set up OSHA

a. universal right to safe and healthy workplace

b. plus funding and enforcement

2. environment

a. first Earth Day 1970

b. Clean Air and Water Acts

c. Love Canal, toxic dumps, dirty air and water, and

burning river

3. Women's movement

a. federal law that bans discrimination in federal

hiring and education programs

b. include women under Equal Opportunity Employment

c. Roe v Wade

d. Affirmative Action

4. Anti- nuclear movement

5. AIM and United Farm Workers

6. Protests against conituing war in Vietnam esp

bombing of Cambodia and North Vietnam

II. Political and Economic Power

A. The Crisis of Democracy - Samuel Huntington

1. social discontent popular movements of 60s and 70s had involved people too much

2. began to believe that they had a say in the way that

their world was shaped

3. need to curb democracy because it was beginning to

challenge the real power structures in American society

4. Undermining democracy

B. Re-establish economic hegemony in face of Euro and Japan

challenge for Pax Americana to G7

1. Lower production costs kills three birds with one

stone

a. lowers production costs increases profit

b. undermines entrenched power of unions

wages and benefits

c. undermines economic security of middle class

who

d. then blame the poor, minorities, environmentalists

e. and ignore their declining real wages and increasing

corporate profit

2. Lower production costs

a. complain about competing with foreign imports

b. move to "sunbelt" and

i take advantage of influx of Latino and Asian cheap labor

ii. land is cheap and taxes are low or abated

c. "outsourcing" to Asia and Mexico

3. consequences

a. real wages begin to fall

b. women in workforce to maintain middle class

c. beginning of deindustrialization

i. two tiered domestic economy

d. tncs or mnc

i. 300 corps and largest 7 banks got 40% of

income from outside U.S.

e. unions undermined

i. giveaways

ii. lose strikes, corps move

f. popular backlash at women, minorities, and

social services for the poor Prop 13

g. "environmentalists"

III. Carter and political and economic power

A. Not a liberal

1. millionaire peanut farmer who benefited for wealthfare: subsidies to wealthy farmers

2. supported Vietnam until end

3. Presidential appointees - same old establishment figures NYTimes his appointments were "reassuring" to the Establish

4. Trilateral Commission and the new world order

a. David Rockefeller and Brzezinski

b. cooperation from Europe and Japan

c. G-7

B. Carter's policies

1. $18 billion tax cut for the wealthy, but saved $25

million in second helping to children of milk during lunch

2. Bailout of Chrysler

a. wage concessions by workers

b. shut down factories

c. profits 2x

3. fed cut money supply

a. interest up, sales down

4. military + $10 billion even though he ran on cutting

budget

5. continued foreign policy of protecting US interests at

by supporting dictators who violated human rights

a. Philippines

b. Iran - Shah and his Savaki

c. Indonesia and E. Timor

d. El Salvador

e. Nicaragua

f. letter to every congressman asking them to vote

against bill on World Bank tying loans to hrts

g. denied aid to Vietnam "the destruction was

mutual"

h. threatened India's humanitarian aid if they shipped

water buffalo to Vietnam

IV. Film Industry

A. Early 70s - Golden Age

B. Late 70s

1. new owners

2. new marketing strategy

3. new product

1980s America

Kevin Philips, a Replican analyst, 1980s was "a triumph of upper America

. . .the political ascendancy of the rich, and the glorification of capitalism, free markets, and finance."

I. Concentration of Economic and Political Power

A. Mergers and Conglomerates

1. legalization of "shared monopolies"

a. specific segments of the economy become

dominated by a few corporations

2. film industry

a. federal government vacated consent decree

b. large corporations monopolize but

now vertical and horizontal

B. Globalization

1. most large corporations become mncs

2. federal govt subsidizes moves

a. AID

b. military aid to stabilize " corporate friendly"

third world countries

C. Deregulation

1. deregulation of oil prices +2Billion

2. banking industry and stock markets

D. Taxes

1. $190 billion tax cut to wealthy, taxes to poor increased

2. Reagan 70% to 28% for top bracket

3. corporations that paid no taxes in some years despite

making billions

a. 42 Fortune 500 cos paid no tax 1981-85

b.

E. Regulatory Agences

1. appointed corporate friendly NLRB

2. appointed hostile business man head of OSHA

3. weakened EPA, enforcement, funding, manpower

F. Federal Judiciary

1. appointed half of judgeships federal most conservatives

2. appointed arch-conservative to Supreme Court

G. Attack on unions

II. US Empire vs "evil empire"

A. Reagan Restarts the cold war

1. Russian invasion of Afghanistan and third world

insurgencies raise specter of Communist threat

2. $1 trillion to military for first term

a. Star Wars

b. Trident submarine

c. B-1 bomber

d. fall of SU 1989 only 2% cut

e. 1992 $120 billion to defend Europe

CIA espionage chief: never seen any study that shows SU would profit in any way from invading UA or WE.

3. US interventions

a. 1982 Marines to Lebanon

b. Oct 1983 Operation Urgent Fury

c. Increased miltary aid to El Salvador

d. Nicaragua

e. bomb Libya

f. Bush - Panama

4. However, Reagan signed nuclear disarmement treaty,

ready for total nuclear disarm

III. consequences

A. Created two tiered work force as America transformed from

a society of industrial productivity to sales and service

1. globalization and automation

2. two tiers

3. knowledge industry

B. The rich got richer

1. wealth 1978-90 Forbes 400 3x

2. wealth 1980-1992 top 1% gained $1 trillion

3. income top 1% +87%

5. reflected in *Wall Street*

C. the poor got poorer

1. wealth declined

2. real income 77-90 down for 60% income for bottom 20% down 5%

D. Workers

1. Job loss 1980-94 43 million

2. 1982 1.2 million jobs lost in industrial sector

3. job loss include downsizing of white collar workers

4. women enter workforce 70 40% by 90 60%

5. unemployment up - 1982 11%

6. increase in sweatshops in major cities with immigrants

form globalization

F. Family

1. leisure time is down

2. two people working

3. child poverty is 25%

4. 350,000 disabled off Social Security

5. 1 million children cut from school lunches

G. Minorities

1. unemployment 21/2x

2. teenage blacks 30-40% unemployed

H. Other countries

1. El Salvador

a. Reagan aid to government that was killing own

people "death squads" est 50,000

b. Deaubisson trained at OSA certified as making

human rights progress

c. El Mozote massacre denied, killed nuns, Archbishop

Romero

d. did away with certification process

e. 49-79 16.7 million 1981 $82 million

2. Nicaragua

a. financed counter-revolutionary force with no

popular support

b. violated congressional law and financed illegally

through Irangate

3. Panama

a. Noriega one of Bush's men in CIA

b. 1989 26,000 troops, free fire zone

i. hundreds to thousands

c. reestablished US friendly and drug friendly

government