Study Guide #2

The second exam will be online as scheduled, Tuesday March 24 11-12:15. The exam with cover all lectures since the last exam through Thursday March 12, in-class videos, including all of 50s Selling the American Way, and reading assignments since the last exam (see Blackboard Announcements for revised readings).

1. Second Civil War (1870s to 1920s): conditions for workers, the Gilded Age for owners.

a. Labor: conditions for workers, goals, strategies and tactics.

b. Capital (owners): Gilded age, goals, strategies and tactics.

c. Government: Means by which government subsidized labor during the war.

d. War: Ludlow Massacre, Lawrence Textile Strike, 1877 General Strike

e. WWI and the (temporary) Defeat of Labor: Propaganda, Espionage Act, Palmer Raids, Reformism, Consumerism and the radio.

Terms: Robber Barons, House of Truth, Progressive Era, Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, IWW, soup kitchen, militia, Espionage Act, deportations, injunctions, shape up systems, company towns.

2. Second Civil War (Depression through WWII)

a. Depression: effects on workers, early responses of owners.

b. Workers: tactics, strategies, battles, examples of victories for labor.

c. Labor 'final' defeat?: post-WWII economic boom for US, Cold War and anti-unionism, de-radicalization of labor, "no class conflict," consumerism.

Terms: American Dream, no strike clauses, sympathy strikes, Cold War.

3. Social Construction of the American Dream

a. U.S. economy and WWII: consequences, economic boom in U.S., American Empire and the Grand Strategy.

b. Post-WWII state subsidized capitalism: definition and examples.

c. Creating, subsidizing and selling the new American dream and suburbia: television, advertising, building the suburbs, new American Exceptionalism

d. The American Dream for the 'Other': redlining, de facto segregation, urban ghetto, environmental destruction, poverty. Terms: American Empire, urban ghetto, de facto segregation, redlining, welfare capitalism, Levittown, "the Dream Machine," grand strategy, MAD, permanent war economy, arms race, military industrial complex, Atoms for Peace, National City Lines,