1960s Cultural Trends:

* 1960s is when baby boomers start to become of age
  + All those rebellious teens are alienated from cold war mainstream society
  + Not embracing the adulthood of the previous generations
* Three distinct movements in culture
  + New Left (of the political spectrum):
    - Mostly white, college students
    - Directly inspired by civil rights movement
    - Become more politically engaged, question world around them
    - Not just let predecessors tell us what is good
    - Students for a Democratic Society 🡪 best represents this movement
      * Participatory democracy
      * As many people involved as possible
  + Other side of spectrum: Early Political Conservatism:
    - Also young people who feel alienated, and embracing more libertarian approach to things
    - Libertarianism combines two things:
      * Strong emphasis on individual liberty
      * Limited government
    - Very anti-communism
    - Young Americans for freedom 🡪 most representative
    - What these two movements share: concept of freedom and democracy
    - They are the reason that conservative white southern voters start shifting to vote for R party 🡪 important aspect of this group
  + Other young people reject politics altogether 🡪 counterculture
    - Emphasis on personal liberation
    - Much less political
    - Living in the moment
    - Greater racial + economic economy
    - Made US culture much more informal
  + Three trends are happening at the same time all among young people
  + Young people more involved and more alienated from central political parties emphasized by their parents
  + Also means these groups are going to be engaging in 1960s election

1960 election:

* D JFK vs R Richard Nixon
* JFK platform 🡪 new frontier
  + Focused on masculine toughness and adventurism
* Biggest influence in this election 🡪 first one that has televised debated b e4tween candidates
  + Why it matters: most scholarly agree that television benefited JFK
  + When people listened to radio, generally assumed that Nixon won, but when people watched, they agreed JFK won
  + Close election, but TV advantage helps JFK win 🡪 younger, more charismatic
* JFK :
  + is first Catholic president of the country
  + Youngest elected president
  + Really big on public service
    - How they should engage in life and cold war
    - Sets up Peace Corp 🡪 sends young people across the world
  + Sees civil rights as a cold war issue
    - We need to address civil rights
    - Tries to pass CV laws, but can’t get past southern democrats in Congress

Birmingham Campaign:

* MLK and the SCLC 🡪 shifting towards more direct action with this campaign
* April of 1963
  + Campaign is public action is a place with lots of segregation
  + Law enforcement makes lots of arrests, used fire hoses, police dogs, etc
  + MLK wrote his letter from a Birmingham Jail 🡪 even with JFK in power, this is how CV movement is being treated

March of Washington for Jobs and Freedom:

* Want to push on JFK to act on cv bill
* Aug 1963 250k people travel to DC in the March on Washington for equality and job opportunity
* This is huge
* Where we get very famous I have a Dream speech
* Not a lot of results, but very hopeful moment for people
* Which makes it more shocking that in sept, there is a bombing of a church in Birmingham, Alabama and kills 4 girls aged 11-14

Freedom Summer, 1964:

* JFK gets assassinated, Johnson (VP) uses JFK’s assassination to pressure congress to pass CV Act (1964)
* What the act does:
  + Focuses on three key things:
    - Prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations
    - Federal enforcement of desegregation and voting rights
    - And addressing employment discrimination
* Two big things it doesn’t get rid of:
  + Poll taxes and literacy tests
  + Most CB people go great but not good enough
* SNCC, CORE, NAACP, SCLC band together (huge shift bc everyone is combining) to launch the Freedom Summer project in Mississippi
  + Gather 800 (mostly white) volunteers
  + Goal:
    - Voter registration drives
    - Freedom schools
  + Seeing cross racial, cross age alliance here
  + Shift to 3rd stage of CV movement: student movement + older people movement combining into a national movement
  + Three volunteers were arrested and shot 🡪 bc it was in the middle of Freedom Summer, it gets national attention and like hey maybe we should do smth about this CV act didn’t fix everything
    - Brings national attention to the CR movement

War on Poverty + Great Scoeity:

* Johnson declares pretty big legislation
* How he words it: make US better for everybody
  + Economic Opportunity act, 1964
    - Start getting job training, food stamps, remedial education, head start (early education), US version of peace corps (Sending volunteers around US)
* Johnson runs for reelection in 1964 on platform of addressing urban decline, education, environment, address poverty (make America a great society)
  + Good platform, pretty strong showing in popular and electoral votes
  + And we see southern states voting for R instead of D 🡪 where we see this shift
  + They don’t like gov expansion
* In 1965 🡪 he pushes legislation through congress
  + Elementary and Secondary School Act 🡪 huge increase in gov power bc it provides federal gov money directly to schools (instead of money to states who give money to schools)
  + Medicare and Medicaid
    - Medicare provides healthcare insurance for elderly, Medicaid provides healthcare insurance for the poor
    - Johnson trying to care for US + make life better
  + Immigration and Nationality Act 🡪 ends quota restrictions from 1924 National Origins Act
  + Air and Water Quality Act 🡪 first person to push legislation for environment
* All of these things cost money 🡪 US is VERY MUCH deficit spending

Selma and the Voting Rights Act, 1965:

* MLK and SCLC organizing peaceful march from Selma to Montgomery
* Takes three attempts
* First time they are sprayed by tear gas
* Third times they succeed
* People are now watching police beating up people in a peaceful protest 🡪 bc of television
* Makes gov look bad
* Direct relationshi8p between march and Voting Rights Act 🡪 this violence is what gives Johnson ammunition to pass the act
  + Act bans literacy tests
  + Ends poll taxes (but not super immediate)
  + Provides registration assistance for Black voters from federal gov
  + Says there are southern states with history of voting rights violations 🡪 those 7 states can’t pass any voting rights legislation without approval from federal gov

Incomplete Equality, 1964-68:

* Story doesn’t end really
* Somethings improve, others don’t
* Vietnam War exacerbates racial tensions 🡪 black men are poor, less likely to go to war, less likely to avoid the draft, black emn disproportionately drafted
* Other people oppose war 🡪 war against another country is just perpetuating white supremacy
* money aspect 🡪 war sucks up a lot of money, programs cost a lot of money
  + Vietnam funnels money that would’ve gone to black communities towards the war effort
* All of these things make Black people more unhappy with gov
* In 1965: Malcolm X murdered
  + More militant leader, is murdered
  + Causes a mess
  + Another thing: Johnson commissions Kerner Commission to investigate race issues across the country
    - Publish that urban race issues is centered around white supremacy 🡪 we are set to have two different societies of white suburban country and black low income country
* Some improvements: 1967 Loving vs Virginia:
  + Legalizes interracial marriage
  + States can’t have bans on it
* 1968 🡪 MLK gets assassinated 🡪 huge blow to CV movement and nonviolence
  + Leader of nonviolence got shot
* Two things that are momentous:
  + Congress passes fair housing act designed to address discrimination in federal housing programs
    - Like redlining
  + And year that Shirley Chisholm is the first Black woman elected to Congress

Black Power:

* 24th amendment bye bye poll taxes
* Over the course of this, we see new movement called Black Power movement, mostly 60s-70s
* Focused on racial pride, self sufficiency, and equality of Black people
* Term coined by Stokely Carmichael
* Coming from idea that nonviolent protest not working, so we need to make more drastic change 🡪 only able to do that by addressing white power structure at its core rather than working within the power structure
  + More radical
* Celebrating Black culture (both African and African American)
  + Part of this 🡪 students embracing traditional African clothing and colors, traditional clothing wear
  + “Black is Beautiful” movement focuses on celebrating these culture elements, embrace own identities
  + Some is political, some is cultural, all addressing Blackness and Black Power

Epitome of black power 🡪 Black Panther party:

* Huey Newton + Bobby Seale taking control of their community + arming themselves for self defense
  + Most militant version of Black power
* Call for end of police brutality, employment for black Americans, housing, etc
* Tend to get very associated with militancy 🡪 people are like this is scary
* Have a ten point plan 🡪 things that they want
* Set up a lot of community social programs
  + Things like Free breakfast program for students +. Children
  + Free health clinics
  + Gov isn’t taking care of us, so we’ll take care of ourselves
  + But they get press for shootouts with the police
* Reason why black panther gets associated with violence 🡪 Cold War

COINTELPRO:

* FBI has counterintelligence program designed to wage war against any dissent in the US
  + Operating under executive branch 🡪 not public knowledge and not under control of Congress
* One of the things they target 🡪 black civil rights leaders + People against Vietnam war
  + Spying, wiretapping phones, making criminal charges on flimsy evidence 🡪 taking power away
  + Makes people flee because it reduces their credibility
* Negative Propaganda in all of this against black panther party 🡪 negative ideas blow out of proportion, also part of reason why Black Panther party gets associated with violence during cold war 🡪 associating them with dissent, not good in cold war
* Also assassinated prominent individuals in the Black Panther party
* Undermines black leaders 🡪 even MLK is targeted in this way
* By mid 1970s this is pretty effective, weakened Black power movement to the point where they’re not really effective
* FBI also has more power to investigate things during Cold War than before