The Second Wave Group Questions

1. **Who was migrating to the United States during the period from 1860 until World War I?**

Polish and Russian Jews, southern Italians, Greeks, Poles, Hungarians, Romanians, Bohemians, and Chinese. Less families, more single men looking for a temporary opportunity to work for a good pay with intentions of returning to their native country.

1. **Why were these people leaving their countries of origin?**

Opportunities, because their home countries are suffering, better environment, and mostly because World War I was building up pressure very heavily. Mostly economic motivation with men working to make as much money as possible in order to bring back to their home country.

1. **In what ways was the movement of people between Europe and the US during the period from the 1890s until WWI different than it had been during the 1840s and 1850s?**

It was much heavier and more diverse, and it was more southern/eastern Europe, and some Asians, rather than just northern Europe. The first wave was primarily families who wanted to stay, while this second wave was more of single men with the intention of working for some time, to build up money to return and do what they want in their home country.

1. **In what relevant way(s) had the US economy changed between the 1850s and the 1890s?**

There was a war, which caused it to tumble a bit, but then soon after the industrial revolution happened, which caused quite the boom. There was also the gold rush in California which caused a need for new jobs, then came the transcontinental railroad which brought a need for people to help build that railroad. Overall the US was becoming a more industrialized country.

1. **How did (1) native-born US citizens and (2) US labor unions react to the new migrant groups that arrived in the US during this period?**

Nobody really liked it at all. The citizens didn’t like it since the people weren’t interested in becoming a part of the community, or being friendly and fitting in with the typical American culture. The labor unions didn’t like these migrants because this caused the native US citizens’ wages to become lower due to more people able to work. Not many countries throughout history have appreciated migrants coming into their country likely due to strong nationalist ideals that have existed throughout human kind.

1. **How did the US government react? How, and why, did this reaction differ from previous legislation focused on immigration and naturalization?**

They weren’t too happy about it. It increased the legislation restricting immigration. It regulated the number of people able to come into the country at the time. It also excluded certain peoples from coming into the country due to factors of the person’s origin, characteristics, or other physical or cultural features.