

# The USA 1910-1919: Why did immigration become such a major issue in American society?

## Timeline / Chronology

1860s	Beginnings of the Open Door Policy
1917	The first controls were put on immigration.
1917	Literacy Test was introduced
1919	The Red Scare begins
1919-1920	The Palmer Raids
1920	Sacco and Vanzetti arrested
1921	The Quota Act introduced
1924	The National Origins Act was introduced
1927	Sacco and Vanzetti executed
1929	The Immigration Act was introduced

## Key People

WASPs – White Anglo Saxon Protestants  
 Hispanics  
 New Immigrants  
 Black Americans  
 Native Americans  
 Asians  
 Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti  
 Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer

## Key ideas

### The American Dream

America was a land of opportunity and it needed a steady flow of immigrants to help the economy expand.

### The Open Door Policy

All immigrants were welcome to come to the USA.

### The Red Scare

American fear of Communism

### The Closed Door Policy

America stopped letting immigrants into the USA.

## Key events

### The Palmer Raids

The arrest of over 10,000 suspected communists & anarchists by A. Mitchell Palmer.

### Sacco & Vanzetti

Two suspected Communists who were convicted of murdering two men during a 1920 armed robbery of a shoe factory in Massachusetts. The case divided opinion in America with many believing that the men were on trial for their radical beliefs, not the crimes they were accused of.

## Key Vocabulary

### WASP

Old immigrants from northern Europe, especially Britain, Ireland, Germany & Scandinavia. They were the original American settlers.

### Ellis Island

The port in New York where immigrants arrived to be processed.

### Melting Pot

The idea that immigrants would all quickly integrate into America and adopt the American way of life.

### New Immigrants

The immigrants who came into the USA during the Open Door Policy. They were not Protestants and had other religions, they had their own cultures and languages and came from Eastern or Southern Europe or Asia.

### Communism

The belief in a classless society (no upper, middle or working class people) in which all methods of production are owned and controlled by all its members and everyone works as much as they can and receives what they need.

## Key Quotes

*"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door."* Inscription at the foot of the Statue of Liberty

*"Never in our full life could we hope to do such work for tolerance, for justice, for man's understanding of man as now we do by accident."*  
Bartolomeo Vanzetti

# The USA 1910-1919: Was America a country of religious and racial intolerance during this period?

## Timeline / Chronology

1919	Race riots in more than 20 US cities
1915	The KKK started to become popular again
1924	Native Americans were granted citizenship
1925	The Monkey Trial
1925	The KKK reached it's peak with 5 million members
1925	David Stephenson trial. Popularity of the KKK started to decline
1928	The KKK only had a few hundred thousand members

## Key events

### The Monkey Trial

Biology teacher John Scopes deliberately taught Darwin's ideas in a school in Tennessee and was put on trial in 1925.

### David Stephenson

He was found guilty of rape and mutilation of a white woman on a Chicago Train. As Imperial Wizard of the KKK, this scandal massively harmed the reputation and membership of the KKK.

## Key People

WASPs – White Anglo Saxon Protestants  
 Ku Klux Klan / David Stephenson  
 Religious Fundamentalists  
 John Scopes  
 Clarence Darrow / William Jennings Bryan  
 Marcus Garvey / William du Bois

## Key ideas

### Segregation

Black people were prevented from having access to the same facilities as white people. They had separate housing, schools, hospitals and some states banned mixed marriages.

### The Great Migration

Many black people left the South and migrated to the northern states of America in search of better jobs and conditions.

### Lynching

A punishment used by the KKK. Black people were hung without trial.

### Harlem Renaissance

Black culture and pride flourished in cities, Harlem in New York became a centre of art. Talented black artists and poets met there and spoke about the social and economic problems faced by blacks. Black theatre and music attracted big audiences listening to jazz, soul and blues. Louis Armstrong gained fame.

### Discrimination of Native Americans

They were forced to live on reservations with poor quality hunting land. Men had to cut their hair and they were forbidden to wear make up. Children were sent to boarding schools and taught Christianity. They lived a hard life with WASPs trying to get rid of their culture, until some recognition in 1924.

## Key Vocabulary

### Religious Fundamentalism

Christians who believed in the bible word for word.

### Bible Belt

Southern states of the USA where fundamentalists lived.

### Jim Crow Laws

The laws of segregation.

### NAACP

National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. Tried to help black people improve their lives.

### UNIA

Universal Negro Improvement Association. More radical than NAACP.

### Ku Klux Klan

They were a white supremacy terrorist movement who used violence to intimidate black Americans.

## Key Quotes

"To be a poor man is hard, but to be a poor race in a land of dollars is the very bottom of hardships." *William du Bois*

"You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man's freedom. You can only be free if I am free." *Clarence Darrow*

# The USA 1910-1919: Was the 1920s a decade of organised crime and corruption? 1. PROHIBITION

## Timeline / Chronology

1918	The War Time Prohibition Act is passed to save grain for the war effort during WW1
1920	18th Amendment (Prohibition) was introduced
1920s	The rise of bootleggers such as Al Capone show the beginnings of the era of the gangster.
1929	St. Valentine's Day Massacre
1929	Elliot Ness begins to tackle violators of Prohibition especially Al Capone
1933	Prohibition is repealed

## Key Quotes

"Prohibition has made nothing but trouble." *Al Capone*

"Communism is like Prohibition, it's a good idea but it won't work." *Will Rogers*

"I am like any other man. All I do is supply a demand."

## Key People

Anti-Saloon League  
 Women's Christian Temperance Union  
 Henry Ford  
 Bootleggers / Moonshiners / Rum Runners  
 Al Capone / Gangsters / Bugs Moran

## Key ideas

### Main reasons for Prohibition

During the 1800's, TEMPERANCE, or not drinking alcohol, was common in rural areas, especially amongst Christians. Some movements were so strong that they persuaded local governments to ban the sale of alcohol. One of the biggest movements was the **Woman's Christian Temperance Union** and the **Anti-Saloon League**. These groups blamed alcohol for sin and evil in American society like gambling, domestic abuse. Industrialists like Henry Ford also thought it made people less efficient at work. Campaigners argued that prohibition would bring back god-fearing American family values. This campaign gathered pace until it became a national campaign to ban alcohol.

### Other reasons for Prohibition

Prohibition also became a big issue in American politics: Politicians had to explain what they thought of Prohibition and could lose votes as a result if they said they did not want alcohol banned! America's entry in the war 1917 also gave Prohibition a big boost (American brewers were often of German descent!).

### Gangsters

They brought hundreds of breweries and transported illegal beer in armoured lorries

They saw themselves as business men and when faced with competition took over their rivals with violence.

They were famous for their use of the Thompson Machine guns nicknamed the 'Chicago Piano' They were involved in illegal 'rackets'

## Key Vocabulary

### Temperance

Not drinking alcohol

### The Volstead Act

The name of the Prohibition law

### Moonshine / Bathtub gin

Illegal alcohol

### Moonshiner

Someone who made illegal alcohol

### Speakeasies

Illegal bars

## Key events

### Prohibition

Prohibition was the period of time between January 1920 and December 1935 when it was illegal to make, sell or transport alcoholic drinks in the USA.

### St Valentines Day Massacre

Bugs Moran had killed one of Al Capone's friends so in retaliation seven members of Moran's gang were killed by Capone's men disguised as police officers

# The USA 1910-1919: Was the 1920s a decade of organised crime and corruption? 2. GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION

## Timeline / Chronology

1920	Warren Harding was elected President of the United States of America.
1921	Albert Fall was appointed Secretary of the Interior
1921	Albert Fall allowed Edward Doheny & Harry Sinclair lease the oil fields at Teapot Dome, Wyoming & Elk Hills
1922	The Teapot Dome scandal hit the newspapers
1923	Warren Harding died and Calvin Coolidge became POTUS
1927	The Supreme Court ruled that the oil leases had been corruptly obtained and invalidated the leases.
1929	Albert Fall was found guilty of bribery, fined \$100,000 and sentenced to one year in prison.

## Key Quotes

"I have no trouble with my enemies. I can take care of them. It is my friends that are giving me trouble."  
Warren Harding (POTUS)

"Albert Fall is the kind of public servant of whom all Americans should feel proud." Theodore Roosevelt (26th POTUS)

## Key People

Warren Harding  
Albert B Fall  
Harry Sinclair  
Edward Doheny  
Calvin Coolidge

## Key ideas

### The Ohio Gang

President Harding appointed many of his close friends to the cabinet from Ohio. They became known as the Ohio Gang. Many used their position to line their pockets with money.

The Head of the War Veteran's Bureau was fined and sent to jail for selling off veteran hospital supplies for personal profit. Another colleague resigned in disgrace and two committed suicide rather than admit the scandals they had been involved in.

## Key Vocabulary

### POTUS

President of the United States of America

### The Ohio Gang

Warren Harding's friends and colleagues from Ohio who became members of the Cabinet.

### The Supreme Court

The highest federal court in the USA, It contains nine judges chosen by the President who make sure that the President and Congress obey the rules of the Constitution.

## Key events

### The Teapot Dome scandal

In 1922 one of the President's cabinet Ministers, Albert Fall, leased government oil fields to his wealthy friends in secret ( at areas called Teapot Dome and Elk Hill Reserves)

The oil fields were supposed to be kept for special reserves in times of national emergency. Fall received about \$400,000 in cash and gifts from the people he had leased the fields to. His actions were revealed by newspapers in 1922 and Fall claimed he had done nothing wrong and was keeping the deals secret in the interests of national security. President Harding initially supported him.

But the Senate began an investigation and ruled the leasing of the oil fields had been corrupt and invalid and had not allowed US oil companies to openly bid for the leases. Faith in government had been damaged.

After the enquiry Albert Hall was found guilty of bribery and fined \$100,000 and sentenced to one year in prison. He was the first ever US government official to be imprisoned.

# The USA 1910-1919: What were the causes of the economic boom experienced in the 1920s?

## Timeline / Chronology

1914-1918	First World War
1920s	Widespread use of electricity
1922	Fordney-McCumber tariff
1926	451 million shares were sold
1927	63% of American homes had electricity
1929	Investors had borrowed \$8.5 billion to buy on the margin 1.1 billion shares were sold in the USA

## Key Quotes

"The chief business of the American people is business." Calvin Coolidge

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." Henry Ford

"In America today, we are nearer a final triumph over poverty than is any other land." Herbert Hoover

## Key People

Henry Ford  
Warren Harding  
Calvin Coolidge  
Herbert Hoover

## Key ideas

### Mass Production

The manufacture of goods on a large scale. Pioneered by Henry Ford using his assembly line. Mass production was used in Henry Ford's factory to make Model T Ford cars (Tin Lizzies).

### Laissez-Faire

The Republican government believed that they should be involved as little as possible in the day to day running of the country.. This meant that there were low taxes and few business regulations..

### Buying on the margin

Borrowing money to pay for shares then selling the shares in a couple of weeks once their value had risen. The speculator would then pay off their debt and still make a profit.

### Rugged Individualism

Some Republicans liked Herbert Hoover believed that people achieved success with their own hard work.

### Protectionism

The Republican government put tariffs on imported goods in order to limit the competition from foreign imports. Imports became more expensive to American-made goods. This encouraged people to buy American goods which helped the economy thrive.

### Fordney-McCumber Tariff

This raised import duties on goods coming into the USA.

## Key Vocabulary

### Isolationism

USA stayed out of foreign affairs

### Consumerism

High spending on consumer goods

### Credit / Hire Purchase

Borrowing money to buy goods now and paying back later in instalments.

### Speculation

Buying and selling shares on the Stock Market

### The Stock Market

Where stocks and shares were bought and sold

### Bull Market

A time when share prices were rising.

## Key events

### World War I

Isolationism benefited US economy as US firms supplied war-torn Europe with food, munitions, raw materials and manufactured goods. US firms took the lead on technological advances like Bakelite (plastic). Increased mechanisation and mass production made US goods more attractive and more affordable to European countries. US farmers sold surplus goods to Europe and US banks lent money to European countries to help finance their war effort.

# The USA 1910-1919: What factors led to the end of prosperity in 1929?

## Timeline / Chronology

Late 1920's	US struggled to sell goods to Europe
1926	The boom in property prices collapsed and left many Americans in negative equity
Summer 1929	Financial experts warn of fall in prices
September 1929	Investors begin to worry and start to sell their shares. This panics all investors and people rush to sell.
24th October 1929	12.8 million share traded. Stock market began to collapse as prices tumbled.
29th October 1929	Black Tuesday 16 million shares change hands at very low prices. The stock market had crashed.

## Key Quotes

"You can get pretty discouraged and your soles can get pretty thin after you've been job hunting a couple of months." Unemployed man in Minnesota

I'm the only person of distinction who has ever had a depression named for him. Herbert Hoover

## Key events

### Over Production in Industry

Late 1920's: The US market was saturated by unsold consumer goods/ The supply of goods outstripped demand, Manufacturers did not cut back on production and continued to flood the market.

### Over Production in Agriculture

New efficient farming techniques meant overproduction of farming goods.. After sanctions by other countries after the Fordney-McCumber tariff, US farmers could not export their goods abroad. Farmers cut their prices and many farmers were put out of business as too much competition made life hard.

### Fall in Trade

In the late 1920's the US struggled to sell goods to Europe because of the Fordney-McCumber tariff. Trade was reduced and European countries could not pay back US loans and debts to US banks.

### Boom in Property and Land Prices

After 1926 the boom in property prices collapsed and left many Americans in negative equity. Many Americans owned homes worth more than what they paid for them.

### Falling Demand For Consumer Goods

Wealth in US society was unevenly distributed meant poor people could not buy consumer goods but companies ignored this and continued to overproduce. Companies could not sell their leftovers to Europe because Europe was struggling to pay back US loans. High tariffs on foreign goods meant foreign governments did the same on American goods. Demand for goods therefore fell.

### Too many small banks

Too many small banks which would not be able to cope when people rushed to take out their money in October 1929.

## Key Vocabulary

Saturated

Flooded / Too many

Negative Equity

Houses are worth less than the owner paid for it.

The Fordney-McCumber tariff

Made it difficult for

Black Tuesday

The worst day of the crash

## Key ideas

### Rise of Stock Market and over-Speculation

Many bought shares with borrowed money ('On the margin') in the belief that share prices would rise. 75% of purchase price of shares was borrowed. As prices rose people speculated by gambling with even bigger sums of money But when companies were selling fewer goods, share sales slowed and confidence disappeared

Loss of confidence

Financial experts warned of fall in prices. Investors began to worry and started to sell their shares. This panicked all investors and people rushed to sell. This created an atmosphere of uncertainty and small investor rushed to sell shares.

# The USA 1910-1919: How did popular entertainment develop during this period?

## Key events

### Silent Film

Until 1927 all films were silent and the only sound came from a piano accompaniment. There was fast music for chase scenes and romantic for love scenes.

### The Radio era

This was a huge influence on society, by 1930 there were 600 radio stations in USA. Mass production meant lots of families could afford radios. People could listen to sporting events, adverts, the news, jazz.. It became the main source of family entertainment. By end of 1920's the radio reached more than 50 million people. It helped to create sporting heroes and helped to increase people's political and social awareness.

### The Jazz Age

Jazz originated from Black Slaves, it was based on improvisation as many black Americans had not been able to read music. This made the music attractive because it was unpredictable. The music was renamed Jazz by white Americans. It became popular with young, middle class white Americans. Many disapproved but this only made it more popular. Jazz was played in nightclubs and speakeasies and on the radio. Louis Armstrong was one of the most famous Jazz artists. The most famous Jazz club was the Cotton Club in New York.

### Dancing / Dance marathons

Dances like the Charleston, Black Bottom, Shimmy, Vampire and Turkey Trot became famous. These shocked the older generation and many considered them immoral and scandalous. Craze for dance marathons grew.

## Key ideas

### The Growth of Cinema

Cinema became popular after WW1. There were 17,000 cinemas by 1926. By the 1920's the cinema was the main form of entertainment. Every small town had a picture house and Americans visited a few times a week as they had enough money because of the economic boom.

### Criticism of cinema

Not everyone welcomed film. Critics complained that films were too shocking and lowering moral standards. Scandals in the lives of movie stars shocked critics. Hollywood attempted to stamp out criticism by creating rules and regulations about what could be shown on screen.

### Movie Stars

Movie Stars became very famous. Everyone wanted to read about them in magazines and they came to symbolise the new fashions of the Roaring Twenties. Stars made huge amounts of money. 1917 Charlie Chaplin signed \$1 million contract.

## Key Quotes

"Words are cheap. The biggest thing you can say is 'elephant'." Charlie Chaplin

"Man, if you gotta ask you'll never know" Louis Armstrong

## Key People

Rudolph Valentino/ Charlie Chaplin  
Clara Bow / Louis Armstrong / Laurel & Hardy

## Key Vocabulary

### Hollywood

Hollywood developed as the centre of the film industry instead of NY. It began producing films like westerns, crime stories, romantic tales and slapstick comedies.

### Paramount, Warner Brothers, and MGM

Film Companies who through mass marketing and advertising built up the reputations of their movie stars.

### The 'Talkie'

Speaking movies not silent movies.

### Hays Code

No screen nudity, screen kisses must not last, adultery must not be presented as attractive, producers must avoid low, disgusting, unpleasant characters, members of the clergy could not be comics or villains, murder, arson and smuggling must be shown as evil

## Timeline / Chronology

1920	303,000 cinemas in the USA
1926	Rudolph Valentino died
1927	End of Silent movie era / Talkies begin
1930	40% of US homes had a radio

# The USA 1910-1919: How did the lifestyle and status of women change during this period?

## Timeline / Chronology

1914-18	The First World War gave women opportunity to enter the workplace and do jobs previously done by men.
1920	Nineteenth Amendment
1924	Anti-Flirt League set up
1929	10 million women in jobs 200,000 divorces processed

## Key Vocabulary

### Jazz Age

Cultural changes in the 1920s founded on jazz music

### The Anti-Flirt League

An American club active in Washington, D.C., during the early 1920s. The purpose of the club was to protect young women and girls who received unwelcome attention from men in automobiles and on street corners.

## Key People

Clara Bow  
Joan Crawford  
Louise Brooks

## Key ideas

### Women's lives before WW1

They were expected not to wear make-up. Their relationships with men were strictly controlled. They had to have a chaperone with them when they went out with a boyfriend. They were expected not to take part in sport or to smoke in public. In most states they could not vote. They had to wear very restrictive, long clothes and behave politely. Most women were expected to be housewives. Very few paid jobs were open to women. Most working women were in lower-paid jobs such as cleaning, dressmaking and secretarial work.

### Flappers

Middle Class women in northern states challenged the traditional values. Women wore more daring clothes. They smoked in public and drank with men, in public. They went out with men, in cars, without a chaperone. They kissed in public. They wore trousers, bobbed their hair, danced in speakeasies and had fun.

## Key Quotes

"The parties were bigger. The pace was faster, the shows were broader, the buildings were higher, the morals were looser, and the liquor was cheaper." Life was a dream and everything was possible." F. Scott Fitzgerald 'The Great Gatsby'

"Recipe for being a Flapper: Take two bare knees, two rolled stockings, two flapping galoshes, one short skirt, one lipstick, one powder puff, 33 cigarettes and a boyfriend with flask. Season with a pinch of salt and dash of pep and cover all with some spicy sauce and you have the old-time flapper." A Connecticut damsel

## Key events

### Nineteenth Amendment

This gave women the vote.

### Social changes for women after WW1

The consumer boom brought labour saving devices and allowed women more leisure time. The Jazz Age influenced changes in entertainment like cinemas, dance halls and radio. This brought leisure opportunities and influenced fashion and created role models.

### Employment

Women took on jobs – particularly middle-class women. They typically took on jobs created by the new industries. There were 10 million women in jobs in 1929, 24 per cent more than in 1920.

### Marriage

Women were less likely to stay in unhappy marriages. In 1914 there were 100,000 divorces; in 1929 there were twice as many. Married women had fewer children.

### Spending Power

With money of their own, working women became the particular target of advertising. Some say it was pressure from women that forced Henry Ford to offer other colours than Black in his car.