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Chapter 16: The Postwar Period -- 1945-1980

Quick Notes

CHAPTER 16

THE POSTWAR PERIOD—

1945-1980

Section 1 [A Changing Culture](#)

Section 2 [The Cold War](#)

Section 3 [Economic Issues](#)


Section 4 [Civil Rights Movements](#)


SECTION 1


A Changing Culture


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The Rocking 1950s
Symbols of the 1950s



McDonalds


Suburbs


Radio


Transportation


Television


Rock and Roll

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The Rebellious 1960s
Symbols of the 1960s



The Rolling Stones



Peace symbol



Hippies



Music




Dress and Hair

The Forgotten 1970s




Lava lamps



Apollo 14 lands on the moon, on February 5, 1971




Disco



The Village People

Music



Rubik's cube

SECTION 2

The Cold War

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The Cold War...

- existed between the United States and the Soviet Union
- was a period of distrust and tension that lasted from the mid 1940s until the 1990s
- caused people in the United States to become fearful of anything that hinted of communism

To protect against possible nuclear attack, West Virginians...

- built bomb shelters
- held air raid drills in schools



The Greenbrier and the Cold War

A facility was built at the Greenbrier to house members of the United States Congress and their families in the event of a nuclear attack.



Between 1950 and 1979, the United States was involved in two armed conflicts,



Both conflicts occurred in Asia. Both were consequences of the Cold War.

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Korean Conflict



When North Korea (a communist nation) invaded South Korea (a democratic nation), the United States asked the United Nations to protect South Korea.

Troops commanded by the United Nations pushed the North Koreans back north of the 38th parallel, but, when the Chinese came to the aid of the North Koreans, the fighting became deadlocked.

The fighting lasted three years. A cease-fire signed on July 27, 1953, ended the fighting.

95,000 West Virginians served in the Korean Conflict

West Virginia suffered the greatest percentage of battle deaths of any state and was second in the number of wounded.

801 died in battle - 2,088 were wounded

The Vietnam Conflict



Vietnam was a divided nation which included North Vietnam (a communist nation) and South Vietnam (a democratic nation).

Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy sent "advisors" to Vietnam in an attempt to keep communism from spreading.

The "advisors" turned into almost 600,000 troops by 1964.

Approximately 36,578 West Virginians served in Vietnam.

711 were killed; 4,282 were wounded.

West Virginia had the largest number of deaths per 100,000 residents than any other state.



Television played an important role in the conflict in Vietnam.

The evening news provided graphic images of the fighting.

The country was divided in its support of the conflict in Vietnam.

Many young men fled to Canada to avoid the draft.



Many citizens, especially college students, participated in anti-war demonstrations.

President Richard Nixon began to withdraw United States troops from Vietnam after he was elected to office in 1968. The final evacuation occurred on April 30, 1975.



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SECTION 3

Economic Issues

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After World War II, West Virginia's economy was characterized by...

- Inflation
- High Prices
- Reduction in Production
- Population Loss





1950	2,005,552
1970	1,744,237



Economic Growth

1950s

Growth led to new highways (Interstate 64).
Coal and Chemical industries grew.





1970s

Emphasis on environmental concerns affected timber industry.

Electric Power industry grew.

Agricultural industry relied more on machines.



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Goals of Labor:

- to extend basic civil rights to minorities
- to provide assistance to the poor and unemployed



-to get compensation for workers suffering from silicosis

Buffalo Creek Disaster

February 26, 1972



A sludge pond owned by the Pittston Coal Company burst and released millions of gallons of water which quickly rushed through the communities along Buffalo Creek.



The flooding claimed 125 lives.

More than 1,000 houses were destroyed.

4,000 people were left homeless.

Buffalo Creek Disaster

The Oil Embargo

In 1948, the United States began to import more oil than it exported.

In the 1960s, environmentalists opposed drilling for oil in certain areas.

The opposition resulted in stricter controls and regulations on drilling.

As a result, the United States began buying foreign oil rather than producing local oil.

Then, in 1973, a war involving Egypt, Syria, and Israel resulted in an embargo on oil shipments to countries, like the United States, which supported Israel.

The embargo resulted in oil shortages which in turn resulted in a number of restrictions.



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Addressing the Oil Shortages

The oil embargo resulted in...

- ✓ reductions in the speed limit, to 55 miles per hour.
- ✓ the imposition of year-round Daylight Savings Time
- ✓ an increased cost in natural gas and oil.
- ✓ a shortened work week.



Section 4

Civil Rights Movements

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Civil Rights for Blacks

A number of national organizations were formed to work for civil rights for blacks. These included...

- NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)
- National Urban League
- CORE (Congress of Racial Equality)
- SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference)
- SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Conference)



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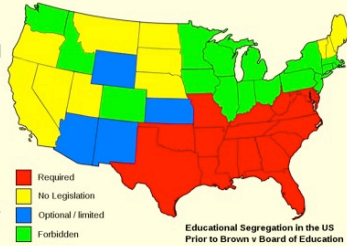
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Brown v Board of Education of Topeka

The case involved a young black girl whose parents sued the local school board in Topeka, Kansas, to allow her to attend a white school closer to her home.

The lower courts upheld the Topeka segregated school system based on the *Plessy v Ferguson* decision.



The case was appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled "separate-but-equal" facilities were equal in name only. Therefore, schools would be integrated.

The Court did not say how integration was to be achieved.

Integration in West Virginia

Two individuals played major roles in accomplishing integration in West Virginia's schools.

Governor William C. Marland proclaimed that schools should be integrated as soon as possible.



William W. Trent, Superintendent of Free Schools, oversaw the integration process during his last term in office.



Although most schools were integrated without issue, it took a number of lawsuits to accomplish integration in some southern counties.

Civil Rights Movement

Important milestones in the Civil Rights Movement occurred outside West Virginia. These incidents had a great influence on the state.

Leon Sullivan used the boycott to secure jobs for blacks in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Black college students in Greensboro, North Carolina, participated in sit-ins at lunch counters.



Rosa Parks refused to give up a seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.



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The Civil Rights Act of 1964

In June 1963, President John F. Kennedy proposed the passage of the strongest civil rights bill in history.



In August 1963, a march on Washington drew some 250,000 supporters, including a number of civil rights leaders from West Virginia.



In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act into law.

In November 1963, President Kennedy was assassinated.

Civil Rights for Women

In 1961 President John F. Kennedy created a Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity to achieve fair employment for all races.



In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson included a provision in the Civil Rights Act to require equal employment opportunity without regard to race, religion, or national origin.



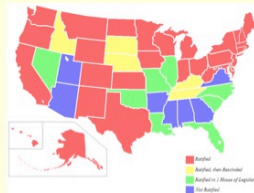
In 1968 **gender** was added to the protected categories of the Civil Rights Act.

Legal Actions

Equal Rights Amendment

A proposed amendment to the United States Constitution stated, "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Thirty-eight states were required to ratify the amendment before it could become law. Only thirty-five states, including West Virginia, approved the amendment.



Title IX

In 1972 Title IX required any educational institution—elementary through college—which receives federal funding to provide equal opportunities in educational activities and sports.

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Civil Rights for American Indians

In 1968, the Indian Civil Rights Act extended basic civil rights to Indians.

In 1975, The American Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act gave tribal governments the option to assume responsibility for tribal control over their resources.



End Chapter 16

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