

Student work:
1920's cultural
changes LED

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As America leaves the Gilded Age and is entering the Progressive Era of the early 1900s we see a lot of controversial topics reemerging. With certain movements like the Temperance Movement, the Nativist Movement, and the Abolitionist Movement that first came to light around the Second Great Awakening of the 1830's, they start to bring prevalent change in American societies. The stigma of these topics shaped how and why American society progressed the way it did. These debates evolved drastically on the account of discrimination, internal cultural conflicts, as well as the socio-economic burdens placed on society. All of these factors thrust America to be less afraid of addressing and attacking the taboo topics during the Roaring 20's, but that doesn't mean they were eliminated.

Excellent!

The anti-immigration hysteria can be traced back to as far as the early 1800's when the first wave of "old immigrants" arrived: the Germans and the Irish. The Irish here because of the Potato Blight in their land the Germans because of Civil War in Germany and both groups were highly despised. Then came the new immigrants part of whom being the Italians and the Chinese and there was so much prejudice towards the Chinese we passed the Chinese Exclusion Act of the 1880s restricting immigration of their kind. Then of course throughout all of this was the issue of slavery and the African Americans, shown intense discrimination with slavery, then sharecropping, then Jim Crow Laws, and even after the Great Migration to the North because they were seizing job opportunities because of WWI this change in demographics led to the Chicago Race Riots. Not to mention they weren't allowed to fight in WWI, and in the 1930's the emergence of the KKK becomes more powerful than ever. Then the last group being the Japanese ever since December 1941 they were public enemy number one. With the Espionage and Sedition Acts and Executive Order 9066 with the internment of Japanese Americans there was no end to the discrimination. America was anti-everyone even

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though there were some battles for rights like the references to the Reconstruction Amendments, but it wasn't enough. From the 1800s to the 1900s discrimination evolved to be more hostile.

Then taking race out of the picture there was a clash of cultures within America: Modernist vs Traditionalists. The Scopes Monkey Trial is the best example of the conflict of the two advocating either Fundamentalism or Evolution. The Traditionalist, Victorian Age, old school, tended to believe more in Fundamentalism and appreciated the past. But with the Roaring 20's the Modernist started to expand exponentially, looking to the future, relying more on science, and appreciating the new culture and technology. This clashing of ideas further divided America.

Lastly came the issue of Alcohol which had grassroots in the Temperance Movement originated in the Second Great Awakening. This movement actually had success and led to the Great Experiment, the 18th Amendment, the Prohibition of sale and consumption of alcohol. It failed. It was repealed by the 21st Amendment and in the years before the 21st Amendment it just created a black market for it: being Moonshining and Bootlegging. And so as a society we progressed and evolved to tackle these big issues; some had success, and some did not but these experiences helped shape America as a society.

The 1920's known as the Roaring 20's because of our economic stability and overall good feelings is similar to the time period of the Era of Good feelings taking place after the War of 1812. In both cases we just won a war, The War of 1812 and the Spanish American War of 1898, and so nationalism was high, economic and political conditions were high, and these both were times of American prosperity. The Nation was united and flourishing and everything was going good, well until Depression hits. WWI you mean. Still got point.