

# THE PROGRESSIVE ERA



THE ORIGINS OF PROGRESSIVISM



Why did a Progressive Era emerge in the United States?

*Guiding Question*



WHAT DOES THE WORD  
PROGRESSIVE  
MEAN?

CHANGE



# GOALS OF PROGRESSIVISM



# GOAL #1: PROTECTING SOCIAL WELFARE

## EXAMPLES:

- ❖ Social Gospel, settlement houses inspire other reform groups
- ❖ **Florence Kelly**: helps pass law prohibiting child labor, limiting women's hours
- ❖ YMCA
- ❖ Salvation Army





## GOAL #2: PROMOTING MORAL IMPROVEMENT

### EXAMPLES:

- ❖ Some feel poor should uplift selves by improving own behavior
- ❖ Woman's Christian Temperance Union spearheads prohibition crusade





# GOAL #3: CREATING ECONOMIC REFORM

## EXAMPLES:

- ❖ **American Socialist Party**: 1893 panic prompts doubts about capitalism; many become socialists
- ❖ **Muckrakers**: journalists who expose corruption in politics, business

**MUCKRAKE ('mʌk, reɪk)**  
c.1600, "one who rakes muck,"  
from **muck** (n.) agent noun from **rake**  
(v.). *Muckrake* in sense "person who  
hunts scandal" is attested from 1872.  
Popularized by Theodore Roosevelt in  
his 1906 speech "The Man with the  
Muck Rake." Related: *Muckraking*



# GOAL #4: FOSTERING EFFICIENCY

## EXAMPLES:

- ❖ Many use experts, science to make society, workplace more efficient
- ❖ Scientific management—time and motion studies applied to workplace
- ❖ Assembly lines speed up production, make people work like machines





PRESIDENT  
TEDDY ROOSEVELT



# FIRST PROGRESSIVE PRESIDENT

## ❖ Administration = Square Deal

1. Trustbusting = breaking up trusts that hurt American people
2. Conservation = sets aside forest reserves, sanctuaries, & national parks
3. Meat Inspection & Pure Food & Drug Act = dictates sanitary requirements; creates federal meat inspection program





# FIRST MODERN PRESIDENCY

- ❖ Teddy Roosevelt had an active **executive** branch
- ❖ **Bully Pulpit** = using dynamic personality & media to sway an audience; charisma

