

Responses to Immigration in the Gilded Age

Theme: Migration and Settlement

Learning Objective 6.G: Explain the various responses to immigration in the period over time.

Backlash Against Immigration

KC-6.2.1.C Increasing public debates over assimilation and Americanization accompanied the growth of international migration...

- Nativist backlash seen through organizations like _____ and _____
 - Further fueled by racial theories and _____
- Labor Unions dislike immigrants, claiming _____
- Industrialists dislike immigrants claiming they brought radical ideas

Backlash Against Immigration

KC-6.2.1.C Increasing public debates over assimilation and Americanization accompanied the growth of international migration...

- _____, those in the US allowed to remain
 - _____ 1898 - people born in the US are citizens regardless of race parent status
- Definition of “_____”
 - Convicts, “lunatics”, prostitutes, “those likely to become a _____” and anyone with contagious disease.
Later anarchists and illiterate
- _____ opened in 1892 to apply new laws

Assimilation

KC-6.2.1.C ...Many immigrants negotiated compromises between the cultures they brought and the culture they found in the United States.

- Immigrants concentrated in ethnic neighborhoods, ex. _____
 - Helped retain language, cultural practices
 - Eased political organization with Political Machines, ex. _____
- Theory of the _____ implies people assimilate into American culture
- Assimilation happened most often with young immigrants or _____.

Settlement House Movement

KC-6.3.II.B.i Many women, like Jane Addams, worked in settlement houses to help immigrants adapt to U.S. language and customs.

- _____ acted as community centers that helped immigrants acclimate to new setting
 - Services varied by location
 - Paradigm: _____ in Chicago started by _____
 - Often had to contend with slumlords, political machines, lack of funds

Popular Social Theories

KC-6.3.I.A Social commentators advocated theories later described as Social Darwinism to justify the success of those at the top of the socioeconomic structure as both appropriate and inevitable.

- _____ based on Darwin's Theory of Evolution from *On the Origins of the Species* (1859)
 - British Philosopher _____ applied more broadly, coined "_____"
 - Later applied to business and eugenics

Recap

- Immigrants faced backlash as they continued to come in large numbers
- Legislation was passed to limit immigration from China and identify "excludable" aliens
- Assimilation happened though mostly in later generations
- The settlement house movement helped acclimate immigrants to new locations
- New theories used in justifying business success extended into racial theories

Part II

Short Answer Questions

Answer the following in AT LEAST three sentences.

1. Explain the various responses to immigration in the period over time.

Jane Addams, “The Subjective Necessity for Social Settlements” (1892)

Retrieved from: <http://www.americanvawp.com/reader/20-the-progressive-era/jane-addams-the-subjective-necessity-for-social-settlements-1892/>

It is not difficult to see that although America is pledged to the democratic ideal, the view of democracy has been partial, and that its best achievement thus far has been pushed along the line of the franchise. Democracy has made little attempt to assert itself in social affairs. We have refused to move beyond the position of its eighteenth-century leaders, who believed that political equality alone would secure all good to all men. We conscientiously followed the gift of the ballot hard upon the gift of freedom to the negro, but we are quite unmoved by the fact that he lives among us in a practical social ostracism. We hasten to give the franchise to the immigrant from a sense of justice, from a tradition that he ought to have it, while we dub him with epithets deriding his past life or present occupation

... Our consciences are becoming tender in regard to the lack of democracy in social affairs. We are perhaps entering upon the second phase of democracy The social organism has broken down through large districts of our great cities. Many of the people living there are very poor, the majority of them without leisure or energy for anything but the gain of subsistence. ... Practically nothing is done to remedy this. ... Their ideas and resources are cramped. The desire for higher social pleasure is extinct. They have no share in the traditions and social energy which make for progress. Too often their only place of meeting is a saloon, their only host a bartender; a local demagogue forms their public opinion. Men of ability and refinement, of social power and university cultivation, stay away from them. Personally, I believe the men who lose most are those who thus stay away. But the paradox is here: when cultivated people do stay away from a certain portion of the population, when all social advantages are persistently withheld, it may be for years, the result itself is pointed at as a reason, is used as an argument, for the continued withholding.

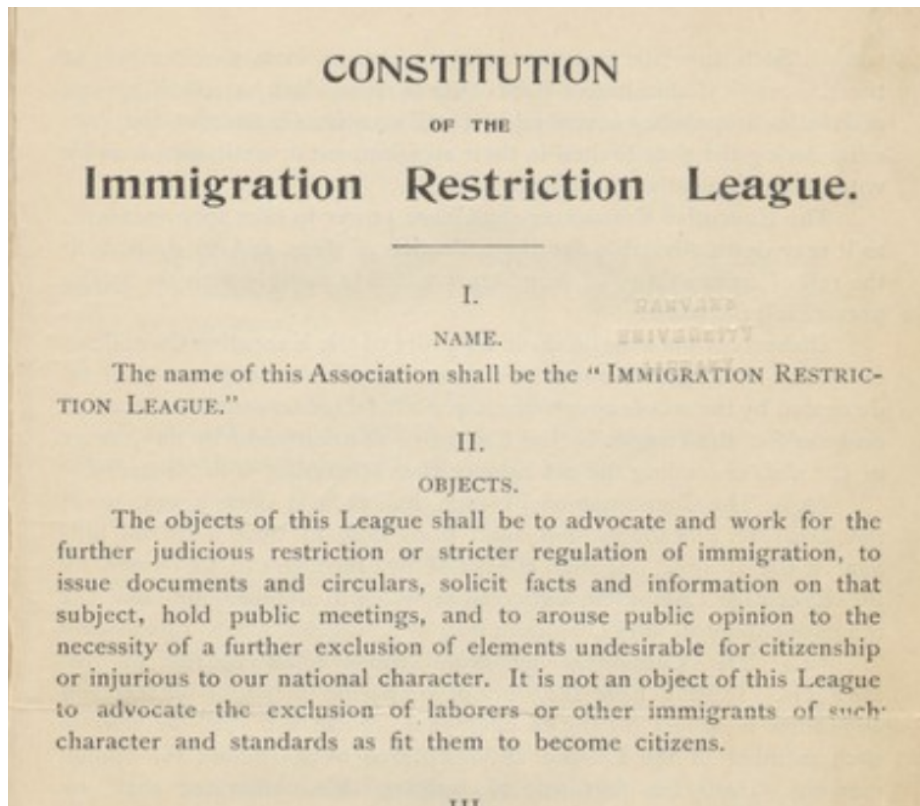
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4. **Give an A-C-E response on a piece of outside evidence that is relevant to the document and topic of the thesis**

Constitution of the Immigration Restriction League



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