

8.12 Youth Culture of the 1960s

Theme: American and Regional Culture

Learning Objective 8.H: Explain how and why opposition to existing policies and values developed and changed over the course of the 20th century.

Anti-War Protests

KC-8.1.II.B: Although anti-communist foreign policy faced little domestic opposition in previous years, the Vietnam War inspired sizable and passionate anti-war protests that became more numerous as the war escalated and sometimes led to violence.

- _____ generation coming of age
 - College students face draft after graduation
 - _____ (SDS), New Left, _____
- War protests included sit-ins, burning _____
 - 200+, with 40,000 participants in 1968
 - Some violently put down ex. _____

Criticism from the Left

KC-8.2.III.D: Some groups on the left also rejected liberal policies, arguing that political leaders did too little to transform the racial and economic status quo at home and pursued immoral policies abroad.

- Democratic National Convention of 1968 ignores “_____” and anti-war factions
 - Protests outside erupt into _____
- _____ begins to use violence and terrorism
 - Splintered from the SDS
- Extremism hurt cause, led to rise of _____
 - Nixon’s “Law and Order” campaign

Counterculture

KC-8.3.II.B.ii: Young people who participated in the counterculture of the 1960s rejected many of the social, economic, and political values of their parents' generation, introduced greater informality into U.S. culture, and advocated changes in sexual norms.

- _____ and "flower children"
 - Long hair, beards, jewelry
 - _____ and _____ music (Woodstock 1969)
- _____, marital infidelity, _____ more prevalent than previously thought
 - Alfred Kinsey's studies on sex
- Behaviors may not have changed as radically as the visibility of _____

Recap

- Baby Boomers in college began to join movements opposing the Vietnam War
- Some offshoot groups turned to violence and stressed drug use, leads to backlash against their larger causes
- Hippies and flower children made up the counterculture

Part II

Short Answer Questions

Answer the following in AT LEAST three sentences.

1. Explain how and why opposition to existing policies and values developed and changed over the course of the 20th century.

The Port Huron Statement (1962)

Retrieved from: <http://www.americanvawp.com/reader/27-the-sixties/the-port-huron-statement-1962/>

We are people of this generation, bred in at least modest comfort, housed now in universities, looking uncomfortably to the world we inherit.

When we were kids the United States was the wealthiest and strongest country in the world; the only one with the atom bomb, the least scarred by modern war, an initiator of the United Nations that we thought would distribute Western influence throughout the world. Freedom and equality for each individual, government of, by, and for the people—these American values we found good, principles by which we could live as men. Many of us began maturing in complacency.

As we grew, however, our comfort was penetrated by events too troubling to dismiss. First, the permeating and victimizing fact of human degradation, symbolized by the Southern struggle against racial bigotry, compelled most of us from silence to activism. Second, the enclosing fact of the Cold War, symbolized by the presence of the Bomb, brought awareness that we ourselves, and our friends, and millions of abstract “others” we knew more directly because of our common peril, might die at any time. We might deliberately ignore, or avoid, or fail to feel all other human problems, but not these two, for these were too immediate and crushing in their impact, too challenging in the demand that we as individuals take the responsibility for encounter and resolution.

1. **Provide an Attribution for the document:**
2. **Use the document to support the thesis: “The Baby Boomer generation which came of age in the 1960s developed new values and cultural norms based in opposition to what they viewed as failing policies of the leaders in power”**
3. **Choose one of the analysis topics from HAPP and provide a 2 sentence analysis of the document.**
4. **Give an A-C-E response on a piece of outside evidence that is relevant to the document and topic of the thesis**

Me and Bobby McGee, Janis Joplin, 1971

Busted flat in Baton Rouge, waitin' for a train
When I's feelin' near as faded as my jeans
Bobby thumbed a diesel down just before it rained
And rode us all the way into New Orleans

I pulled my harpoon out of my dirty red bandana
I's playin' soft while Bobby sang the blues
Windshield wipers slappin' time
I's holdin' Bobby's hand in mine
We sang every song that driver knew

Freedom's just another word for nothin' left to lose
Nothin', it ain't nothin' honey, if it ain't free
And feelin' good was easy, Lord, when he sang the blues
You know feelin' good was good enough for me
Good enough for me and my Bobby McGee

From the Kentucky coal mines to the California sun
Yeah, Bobby shared the secrets of my soul
Through all kinds of weather, through everything we done
Yeah, Bobby baby kept me from the cold

One day up near Salinas, Lord, I let him slip away
He's lookin' for that home and I hope he finds it
Well, I'd trade all my tomorrows for one single yesterday

To be holdin' Bobby's body next to mine

Freedom's just another word for nothin' left to lose
Nothin', and that's all that Bobby left me
Well, feelin' good was easy, Lord, when he sang the blues
And feelin' good was good enough for me
Good enough for me and my Bobby McGee, yeah

La da da, la da daa, la da daa da daa da daa
La da da da daa dadada Bobby McGee-ah
La li daa da daa daa, la da daa da daa
La la laa la daada Bobby McGee-ah yeah
La di da, ladida la dida la di daa, ladida la dida la di daa

Hey now Bobby now now Bobby McGee yeah
Lo lo lo lolo lo lo laa, lololo lo lolo lo lolo lo lolo lo laa
Hey now Bobby now now Bobby McGee yeah
Lord, I called him my lover, I called him my man
I said I called him my lover, did the best I can
C'mon, hey now Bobby now, hey now Bobby McGee, yeah
Lo lo Lord, a Lord, a Lord, a Lord, a Lord, a Lord, a Lord, oh
Hey, hey, hey, Bobby McGee, Lord

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Jimi Hendrix Star Spangled Banner and Interview, Woodstock 1969

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3-b3ViNTMI>



Dick Cavett (DC): What was the controversy about the national anthem and the way you played it?

Jimmi Henrix (JH): I don't know man, All I did was play it. I'm American so I played it. I used to sing it in school, they made me sing it in school so it's a flashback. [laughter] There's nothing about it

DC: This man was in the 101st Airborne, so when you write your nasty letters in...

JH: Nasty letters? Why...

DC: Well when you mention the national anthem and talk about playing it in any unorthodox way you immediately get a guaranteed percentage of hate mail that say...

JH: It wasn't unorthodox. It's not unorthodox.

DC: It isn't unorthodox?

JH: Naw, Naw, I thought it was beautiful. There you go. [applause]

DC: Don't you find that there's a certain mad beauty in unorthodoxy?

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