

Reform Movements

As the new nation grew in the early 19th century, many reform movements developed in an attempt to improve the nation. This web of reform movements originated from a revival of religion, the emergence of the Industrial Revolution, the desire to live up to the ideals of our founding, and the increasing sectional fights between the sections of the country. These varied reform movements helped define the era and gave women, African Americans, and other minorities a voice in a democracy where they didn't have suffrage. Some reformers saw change in their lifetime. Others like Susan B. Anthony would spend a lifetime fighting and never see they change they envisioned. All of these movements helped push America towards a more equal and just society.

Directions: Use the content from the Bee in a Box website to help answer the following questions:

PEOPLE

Susan B. Anthony

- 1) Why do you think Susan B. Anthony believed voting was “the right which woman needed above every other?”
- 2) How did Susan B. Anthony fight for her right to vote?

Frederick Douglass

- 1) Why was Frederick Douglass' autobiography *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* significant?

Angelina Grimke

- 1) Of all the actions Angelina Grimke took to fight for abolition, which do you think had the most impact on the movement and why?

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

- 1) How did Elizabeth Cady Stanton's early life impact her views on women's rights and suffrage?

Harriet Beecher Stowe

- 1) How did Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* impact history?

Henry David Thoreau

- 1) How did Henry David Thoreau live a life based on transcendentalist principles?

DOCUMENTS

Civil Disobedience

- 1) Why did Henry David Thoreau refuse to pay a Massachusetts poll tax?
- 2) What did Henry David Thoreau mean by the concept of civil disobedience?

EVENTS

Industrial Revolution & Transportation Revolution

- 1) How did the Transportation Revolution and the Industrial Revolution change American society?

Seneca Falls Convention

- 1) Why did the organizers of the Seneca Falls Convention model the Declaration of Sentiments after the Declaration of Independence?

Education Reform Movement

- 1) Why were people like Horace Mann pushing for the reform and expansion of public education?

Temperance Movement

- 1) Why were women a huge part of the Temperance Movement?

Labor Reform Movement

- 1) Why were labor unions forming during the Industrial Revolution?

Advent of Technological Innovations

- 1) How did technological innovations positively and negatively impact society?

Contributions of Art, Music, and Literature on American Culture

- 1) Which artist, musician, or author from this era do you believe best captured America in their work and why?

Spread of the Abolition Movement

- 1) Frederick Douglass and William Lloyd Garrison were both abolitionists. Explain similarities and differences between both men.

Hospital and Prison Movement

- 1) Why was Dorothea Dix shocked when she visited jails?

Emergence of Transcendentalism

- 1) How did a Transcendentalist choose to live their life and why?

CONNECTION QUESTIONS:

- 1) In your opinion, which person fighting for reform had success in this era? Explain your answer.
- 2) In your opinion, which person fighting for reform had limited success in this era? Explain your answer.
- 3) Which reform movement from this time period has the most impact on your life today and why?
- 4) Which reformer do you most identify with and why?