



E PLURBIUS UNUM, CONTRADICTIONS & COMPLEXITIES: THE MYTHICAL AMERICA

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The purpose of this factsheet is to encourage reflection on a selected timeline of historic U.S. events. The timeline begins with the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and ends with the insurrection at the U.S Capitol on January 6th, 2021. How does an individual's race, identity, and/or socio-economic status influence how that individual was impacted by these events? Consider these questions as you observe the timeline:

1700s

- Is there a Mythical America we have embraced because it anchors our view of the world?
- What are the conflicting myths and memories that led to Jan. 6, 2021?
- Are their founding contradictions of our country or imagined communities that affect the way you move through American society?

1776 // DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE https://www.ushistory.org/declaration 1787 // CONSTITUTION OF AMERICA O The declaration of independence was a major art of this https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/our-government/ country historically as it symbolized the foundation of this the-constitution country and a democracy. After the war ended and declaring its independence from Great Britain and with the articles of confederation proving to be a 1791 // BILL OF RIGHTS failure. The founding fathers created the constitution which would https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-whitebe the law that ultimately governed the land of the new country. house/our-government/the-constitution Over time this part of our history has been crucially criticized based on perspective as to whether the constitution was meant O 1791-1794 // THE WHISKEY/ANTI-TAX REBELLION to evolve the country depending on the circumstances or stick 1800s with the founding fathers' original intentions. O 1803 // THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE 1830 // INDIAN REMOVAL ACT O https://www.infoplease.com/history/us/us-history-a-newnation-1800-1849 1850'S // DRED SCOTT DECISION "President Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act, which https://www.oyez.org/cases/1850-1900/60us393 authorizes the forced removal of Native Americans living in the eastern part of the country to lands west of the Mississippi River. O 1861-1865 // THE CIVIL WAR By the late 1830s the Jackson administration relocated nearly 50,000 Native Americans". O 1861 // EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION 1865 // ENDING OF SLAVERY/ 13TH AMENDMENT RATIFIED O https://www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/emancipation-proclamation & https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=-Civil rights act of 1875 false&doc=34&page=transcript https://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/common/generic/Civil-RightsAct1875.htm 1877 // THE END OF RECONSTRUCTION AND THE LOST CAUSE https://www.britannica.com/event/Reconstruction-United-States-history/ 1898 // SPANISH AMERICAN WAR O The-end-of-Reconstruction & https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/ lost-cause-definition-and-origins 1900s 1917-1918 // U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN WW1 O-**─○ 1919** // RED SUMMER OF 1919 https://www.history.com/news/red-summer-1919-1920 // 19TH AMENDMENT WAS INTRODUCED: O riots-chicago-dc-great-migration **WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE** -O 1932 // BONUS ARMY MARCHES https://www.nps.gov/articles/bonus-expeditionary-forces-march-on-1941-1945 // U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN WW2 •• washington.htm Bonus Army, gathering of probably 10,000 to 25,000 World War I veterans (estimates vary widely) who, with their wives 1942 // ROOSEVELT ISSUED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 and children, converged on Washington, D.C., in 1932, https://www.archives.gov/historical-docs/todays-doc/?dod-date=219 demanding immediate bonus payment for wartime services to alleviate the economic hardship of the Great Depression. President Franklin Roosevelt signed an order that authorized the evacuation of all persons deemed a threat to national security from the west coast to relocations centers further inland. 1947-1991 // THE COLD WAR Those who were incarcerated were Japanese Americans, German Americans, and Italian Americans in the U.S 1954 // BROWN V BOARD OF EDUCATION concentration camps. https://www.oyez.org/cases/1940-1955/347us483 This was a landmark court case that related to the segregation of public school based on race. Many African- Americans and other people of color were denied entrance in certain schools solely 1956 // VOTING RIGHTS ACT O because of their race. It was argued that this violated the 14th amendment and schools were desegregated after this decision. 1960s // ANTI-VIETNAM WAR PROTESTS O 1964 // CIVIL RIGHTS ACT 1968 // ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING • 1973 // ROE V WADE 2000s 2001 // SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS O 2003-2011 // THE IRAQ WAR 2008 // THE GREAT RECESSION 2015 // U.S SUPREME COURT ALLOWS SAME-SEX O **MARRIAGE UNDER U.S. LAW** 2016 // ELECTION OF DONALD TRUMP 2021 // THE INSURRECTION AT THE U.S. CAPITOL