

# Bellwork: 12/9/2014

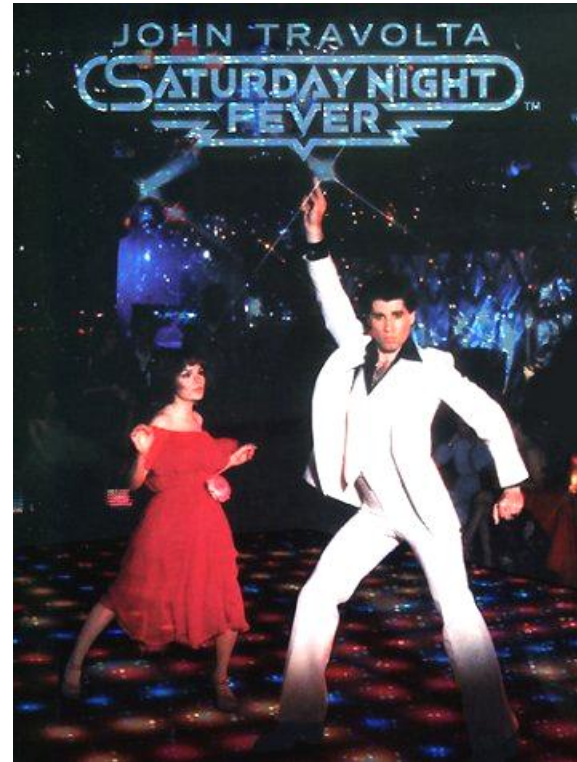
- As you come in, respond to the music you hear playing



# The 1970s

# The 1970s: Lost Decade?

- Typically thought of as “the morning after,” “the hangover”
- The 1960s....1980s
- Disco and drugs
- Sexual liberation
- Cultural confusion and depression
- The one Bright Spot - Mr. Hutchison born!



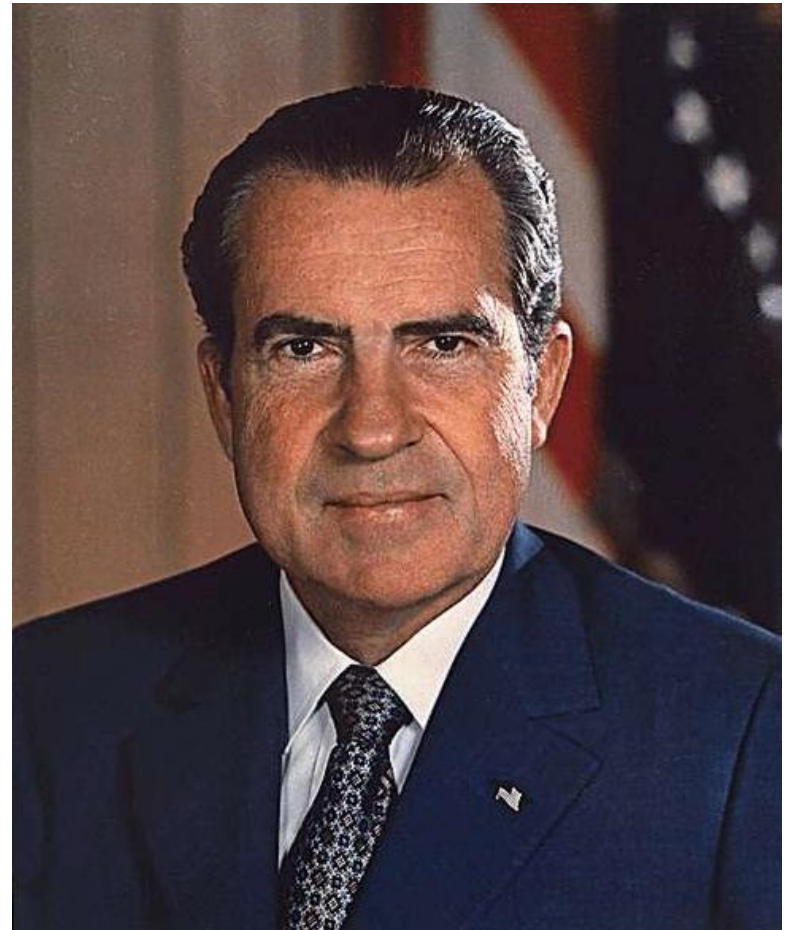
# Main Points and Issues



- End of Vietnam
- Social Protests, race, feminism
- Watergate
- National Debt & end of War on Poverty
- President Carter
- Environmentalism
- Rise of Conservatism

# Political issues

- **Nixon Administration – landslide reelection with promise to end Vietnam conflict**
- **Government debt and the cost of war both hot & cold taking its toll**
- **Price inflation begins and wages start to fall**



# Watergate

- Watergate Hotel, DC
- 1972 Campaign
- CREEP
- Special Investigation
- Perjury & blackmail
- 1974 Impeached
- Resigned in August
- Distrust of government & politicians



# Gerald Ford 1974-1977

- ◉ VP Ford takes over, pardons Nixon
- ◉ “Caretaker” president
- ◉ Inflation continues, WIN program
- ◉ Tensions mount in the Middle East with Yom Kippur War



# President Carter



- Jimmy Carter (D)
- Georgia governor
- Elected on moderate platform:
- Economic conservative
- Support for human rights stressed
- Friendship with Latin American countries – Panama Canal, highly criticized



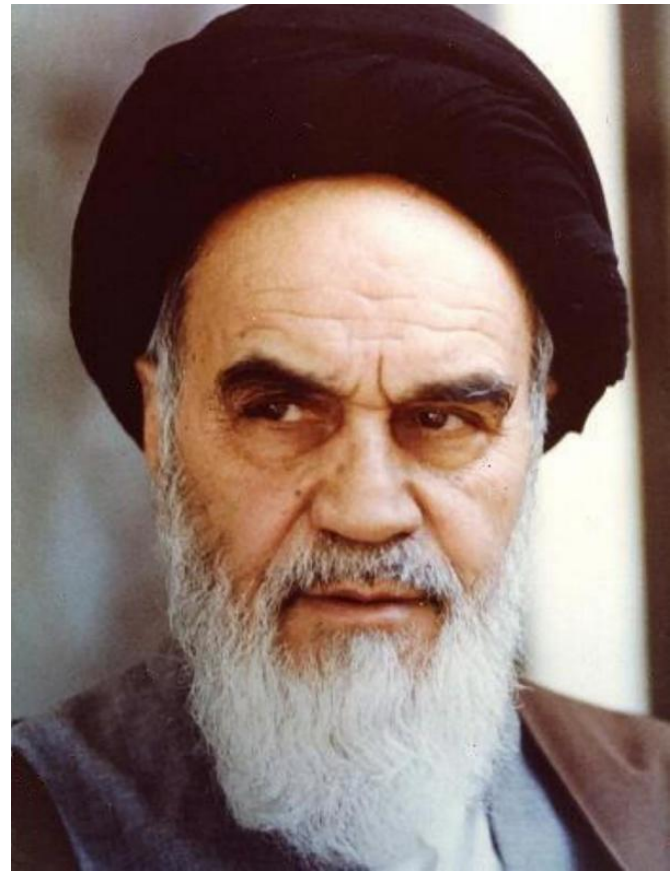
# Carter Continued

- Successes included the Camp David Accords effectively settling the Yom Kippur War
- Struggles emerged in relations with USSR and Latin America
- Energy policy largely seen as a failure



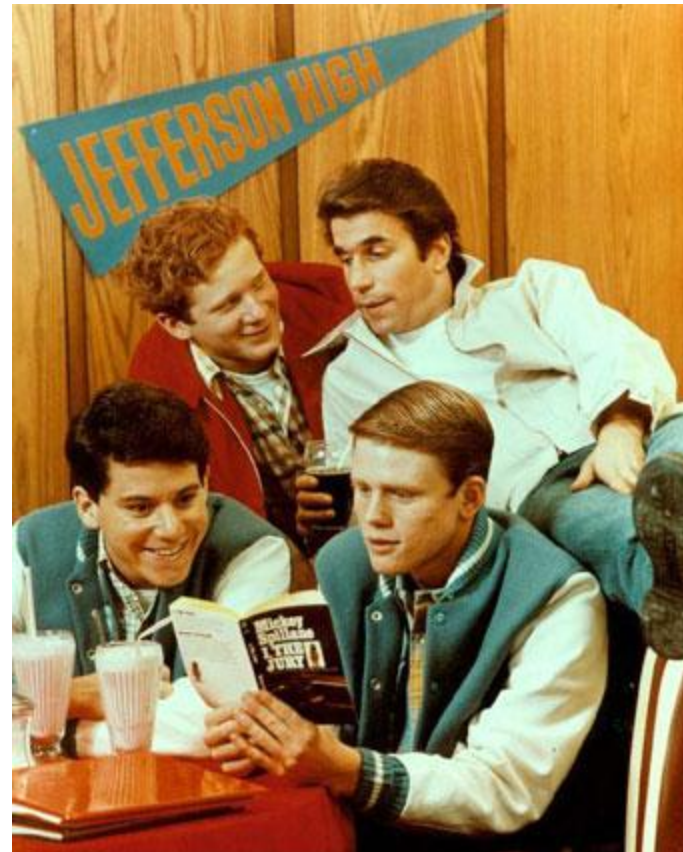
# Iran Hostage Crisis

- Revolution against Shah and secular rule
- Carter's negotiation strategy disregarded issues central to Iran's revolutionaries
- 444 days before release
- Failed rescue attempts made administration seem incompetent



# Cultural changes in America

- 1950's nostalgia
- Counterculture continues but begins to lose steam near the end of the decade
- Rise of consumerism and the “Me Generation”



# The End of an Economic Era

- Employment and wages stagnated
- Prices and interest rates increased
- Vietnam war spending and no new taxes, deeper into debt
- Interest rates hit 21%
- Inflation hit 18% by 1980
- Average wages dropped by 14%
- Poverty hit 15%

# De-industrialization & Urban Blight



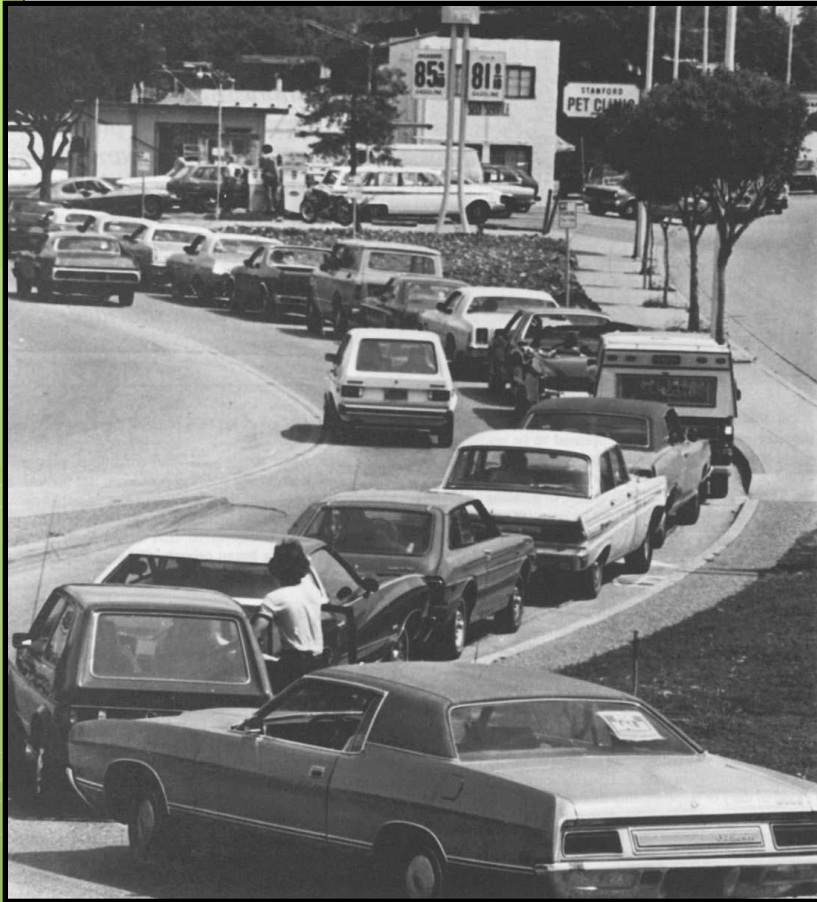
# Domestic and Global Changes

- Rise of Japan and Germany
- U.S. imports passed exports
- Deindustrialization
  - Eastern US factories closed
  - Moved south, southwest
  - Mexico and Maquiladoras
  - Union jobs declined
  - Layoffs, firings, etc

# Oil Embargo

- Oil Producing and Exporting Countries
- Saudi Arabia and others refused to sell oil to U.S. due to its policies in Middle East
- Economic disaster, gas lines, riots
- Illustrated short-sighted policy based on non-renewable energy controlled by foreign countries

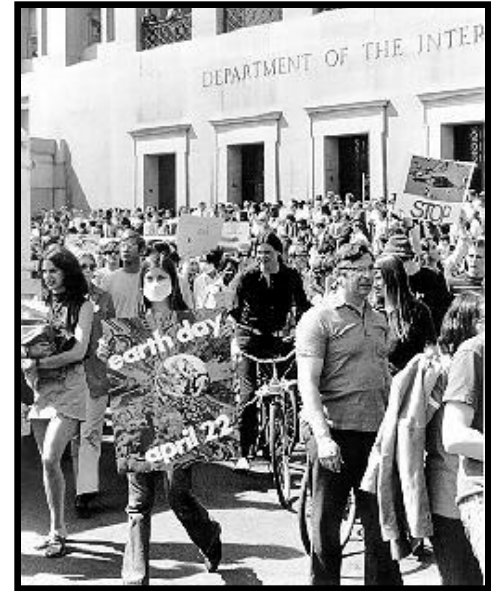
# Fuel Shortages





# Environmentalism

- Cold War
- Pollution
- Oil Dependency
- Sierra Club
- National Environmental Protection Agency
- Love Canal ('76) & Three Mile Island ('79)
- Earth Day



# Carter and the Environment

- **Attacked Oil Crisis**
- **Reduce dependency**
- **Increase conservation**
- **Department of Energy**
- **Alaska preserves**



# Women's Liberation



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- Women's rights
- Personal and political
- Education, family, employment
- NOW
- Planned Parenthood
- 2-person family incomes
- Affirmative Action

# Equal Treatment for Women

- Title IX and women in college sports
- *Roe v. Wade* (1973)
- Constitutional right to privacy
- Women in politics
- Women's Liberation



## Conservative Reaction Grows

- **1978: *Regents of U.C. v. Bakke***
- **1976: Hyde Amendment limited Medicaid funds for Abortion**
- **Moral Majority, 1978**
- **1978: Proposition 13 & taxpayer revolt**
- **Southern Democrats become Republicans**
- **Creationism, “family values,”**

# Conclusions

- **“The 70’s” were an era of great political, cultural, and economic change**
- **Left and right wing radicalism**
- **Mistrust of government and authority**
- **Declining American global power**
- **Advances for women**
- **Mistaken belief that racial problems ended**
- **Growing conservative reaction to changes in American society**