

AMERICAN HISTORY

THE PROGRESSIVES POSITION STATEMENT

APRIL 2017 - MR. ABRAHAM

"Progressivism was the reform movement that ran from the late 19th century through the first decades of the 20th century, during which leading intellectuals and social reformers in the United States sought to address the economic, political, and cultural questions that had arisen in the context of the rapid changes brought with the Industrial Revolution and the growth of modern capitalism in America. The Progressives believed that these changes marked the end of the old order and required the creation of a new order appropriate for the new industrial age"

- Schambra, William A., and Thomas West. "The Progressive Movement and the Transformation of American Politics." *The Heritage Foundation*. N.p., n.d. Web. 28 Mar. 2017.

TOPIC: _____ "The Progressive Movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries represented real and lasting change in American Society."

"As we view the achievements of aggregated capital, we discover the existence of trusts, combinations, and monopolies, while the citizen is struggling far in the rear or is trampled to death beneath an iron heel. Corporations, which should be the carefully constrained creatures of the law and the servants of the people, are fast becoming the people's masters."

"Grover Cleveland." *State of the Union 1888*. N.p., n.d. Web. 04 Apr. 2017.

"The question will arise and arise in your day, though perhaps not fully in mine: Which shall rule — wealth or man? Which shall lead — money or intellect?"

"Congressional Record." *Google Books*. N.p., n.d. Web. 04 Apr. 2017.

"The supreme duty of the Nation is the conservation of human resources through an enlightened measure of social and industrial justice. We pledge ourselves to work unceasingly in State and Nation for ... the protection of home life against the hazards of sickness, irregular employment and old age through the adoption of a system of social insurance adapted to American use."

"Theodore Roosevelt, "Conservation as a National Duty," Speech Text." *Voices of Democracy*. N.p., n.d. Web. 04 Apr. 2017.

"When anyone asserts that the class of skilled and unskilled manual laborers of the United States is worse off now in respect to diet, clothing, lodgings, furniture, fuel, and lights; in respect to the age at which they can marry; the number of children they can provide for; the start in life which they can give to their children, and their chances accumulating capital, than they ever have been at any former time, he makes a reckless assertion for which no facts have been offered in proof."

Burns, William E. "'The Absurd Effort to Make the World Over'." *Defining Documents in American History: The Emergence of Modern America (1874–1917)*. Ed. Michael Shally-Jensen. Hackensack: Salem, 2014. n. pag. *Salem Online*. Web. 04 Apr. 2017. <<http://online.salempress.com>>.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Choose from one of the quotes above to defend regarding the Progressive Movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
2. All position statement papers will be 2-3 pages long with the first paragraph being the “grabber” that gets the reader’s attention. An example of a strong “grabber” would be referencing a primary source such as a quote from an authoritative source.
3. You will be provided with some background articles that all students will be required to read and then you will be required to use an additional 2-3 reliable sources to support your position.
4. All position statement papers must use MLA in-text and works cited format.
5. All position statement papers will be due on **Monday, 17 April** at the start of class. In the event the paper is not turned on time there will a loss of 10 points for each day late. **Please submit all papers through the “Assignment Collection Form” link on our class blog page under the “Helpful Links” heading.**