

# of President ____39____ NAME: <u>Jimmy Carter</u>	
Dates in office: 1976-1980	
Early Career:	Evangelical "Born Again" Christian Personally moral Proud and upright Reflected high moral character of the American people • Carter was born and raised in Plains, Georgia, • Valedictorian of his high school • Graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1946 • United States Navy, serving in the nuclear submarine service. • Peanut Farmer • He then manifested his opposition to racial segregation, supported the growing civil rights movement, and became an activist within the Democratic Party. • Elected Georgia state senator from 1963 to • Governor of Georgia from 1971 to 1975
Political Party:	Political Philosophy: Democrat, Government as an agent for change/protection of civil rights, improve working class, expand social services.
Elections: Were there any notable elements/aspects to election (s)?	1976 Defeated Ford because of economy, "Stagflation" inflation and unemployment rates. Ford was criticized for pardoning Nixon Nixon, resigned because of Watergate. He undermined the 1972 Election, bribery, obstruction of justice, abuse of power (Corruption and criminal activity) The country rejected the Republicans Carter's triumph was mostly the result of his close victories in large Northern states like New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, as well as his near-total victory in the South (he only lost Virginia and Oklahoma) Election of 1980 - lost by a landslide to Reagan (Hostage crisis)
Scandals: Were there any controversies or scandals associated with this President?	Playboy Interview (he was seen as weird) Pardoned Vietnam War "Draft Dodgers" Blamed Americans for country's problems "Billygate" scandal, which involved the president's brother, Billy Carter. Billy Carter was found to have received payments from the Libyan government and was also accused of making inappropriate comments about Arab Americans. Bert Lance, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, who was accused of financial improprieties.
Legacy: What was this President known for?	His international reputation for fairness and integrity and philanthropy (Habitat for Humanity) A president defending human rights Criticized for his handling of the Iranian hostage crisis, which many saw as being too weak and ineffective. He was known as an American politician, Known for integrity/honesty/diplomacy/humanitarian/ causes businessman. Nobel Peace Prize 2002

Domestic Policies

Wanted to increase minorities and women in upper level management
Civil Rights Leader as UN Ambassador

Pardon the “Draft Dodgers” (early)

Economy

He came to presidency in an economy that was already struggling with rising inflation and high unemployment
Stagflation, 15% inflation rate 1980

Energy Crisis/Policy

Triggered by an **OPEC oil embargo**, increased demand for energy, and a lack of domestic energy production.

President Carter responded by launching an energy policy that focused on:

Speeches encouraging Americans to **conserve energy reduce their dependence on foreign oil**

Alternative energy sources

Increased energy production

Fuel efficiency standards for automobiles,

Solar power and wind power.

Created Department of Energy

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Nuclear Regulatory Commission to control use of nuclear energy

[Three Mile Island](#)

Energy crisis continued to worsen during Carter's presidency despite Carter's efforts, with high energy prices.

It contributed to inflation and economic recession, and was a major factor in Carter's defeat in the 1980

presidential election

Reagan used Carter's fails as points in his election

Had some long term effects, including increased investment in renewable energy and improvements in energy efficiency.

Healthcare reform (not successful)

Created the Department of Education

“Education is far too important a matter to be scattered piecemeal among various government departments and agencies, which are often busy with sometimes dominant concerns.” -Carter

US Embargos Oil from Iran

Environmental Protection (anti-pollution)

Love Canal Disaster

In 1978, a chemical waste dump in Love Canal, New York, was found to be leaking toxic waste into the surrounding area.

New Affirmative- Action:

Started In late 60's

Hiring—Education—Gov. Benefits

Priority for Women and Minorities

Whites complained about reverse discrimination

Bakke lawsuit

UC Davis- Med school- denied Bakke
Carter tried to suggest affirmative action
Through attorney general
But attorney general sided with Bakke
Ruling: 1. Affirmative Action was OK 2. UC Davis program was a quota and that is unconstitutional

women

ERA- Carter supported

Sent his wife to help

Abortion, Carter supported choice but limited Gov. funding ❗ incest, rape, life of mom

Right responded- cultural right

Jerry Falwell

“Moral majority”

Wilsonian open diplomacy

Ethics + Power

Willingness to help underdeveloped countries

Primacy of Human Rights in world affairs

"Carter contended that during the Cold War the United States wandered from its traditional values."

"For too many years, we've been willing to adopt the flawed... tactics, tactics of our adversaries... abandoning our own principles and values." (JC B 212)

Carter wanted to change the cold war to moral diplomacy

"The great democracies are not free because we are strong and prosperous because we are free." (JC)

"our policy must reflect our belief that the world can hope for more than simple survival and our belief that dignity and freedom and fundamental spiritual requirements."

"We are now free of that inordinate fear of communism which once led us to embrace any dictator who joined us... that is being changed." (JC B214)

"It is a new world that calls for a new American Foreign Policy, a policy based on decency in its values and optimism..."

Our policy is rooted in moral values our policy is designed to serve mankind." (JC B214)

He embraced Soviet dissidents

Signed UN Agreement on Civil Rights (214)

Cut aid to Argentina, Chile, Nicaragua

Economic Sanctions on South Africa (Apartheid white supremacist) also Uganda and Rhodesia

Panama Canal Treaty

US treaty gave control of Panama Canal to the government of Panama

Camp David Accords****

Israel and Egypt

One of Carter's biggest achievements was negotiating an **PEACE** agreement between the two countries.

Carter invited both countries' leaders to the presidential lodge Camp David in 1978

They couldn't agree on the Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank

Resulted in Egypt formally recognizing Israel, and the creation of an elected government in the West Bank and Gaza.

This resulted in the **Camp David Accords**, which ended the war between Israel and Egypt

South Africa: Human Rights

Supported efforts to address the ongoing **apartheid** regime in South Africa

Placed economic sanctions on the country in 1980 in order to pressure the government to change its policies

Iranian Hostage Crisis:

Iran Revolution, January 1979

Mohamad Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran

Left for Egypt

April Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini took over

Problem inflation hit high in 1980 90%

Food prices rising

Oil-Iran stopped producing during the revolution

Prices spiked up 17%

In 1979, Iranian militants took over the American embassy in Iran and took **52 American hostages**.

Carter authorized a **failed military mission to rescue the hostages in April 1980**

Ended in disaster when several American soldiers were killed in a helicopter crash

Carter also sanctioned Iran in an effort to pressure the Iranian government to release the hostages

Carter was unable to secure their release before the end of his term

The hostage crisis lasted for 444 days ending in 1981, just as Carter was leaving office

The crisis was seen as a major failure for Carter's foreign policy, and contributed to his defeat in the 1980 presidential election

Used by Reagan in political campaigning

Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan

December 1979, Soviets invade Afghanistan

Carter responds with economic sanctions (limiting trade and financial connections)

Boycott of Summer Olympics

Boycott of Grain shipments to Soviet Union

Nicaragua and the Sandinistas

Somoza Family since 1937

Earthquakes

Human rights abuses

Somoza did not allow elections supervised by OAS

Carter put economic sanctions

Kissinger and others supported Somoza

Sandinista leftist opposition

Were supported by Cuba

Sandinistas' forced Somoza to flee July 1979

Left criticized Carter

So did the right

Sandinistas were close to Cuba

Carter does not send troops to Nicaragua to support a dictator

SALT II 1979

SALT II: Second Strategic Arms Limitation Talks - cut back weaponry of the US and USSR due to the competition becoming too powerful for the rest of the world