

# The American Yawp

## VOLUME II: AFTER 1877

### Discussion Questions

#### **16. Capital and Labor**

- How did industrialization remake the American economy?
- Why were so working Americans discontented during the Gilded Age?

#### **17. Conquering the West**

- How would you describe the changes in the American West after Reconstruction?
- What obstacles confronted independent Native Americans after

#### **18. Life in Industrial America**

- How did Chicago represent industrial America?
- How did the era of industrialization transform American culture?

#### **19. American Empire**

- How did American foreign policy change?
- How was the question of immigration tied up with American imperialism?

#### **20. The Progressive Era**

- How did the idea of a Gilded Age prey upon Americans?
- What impulses animated American progressives?

#### **21. World War I & Its Aftermath**

- Why did the United States enter World War I?
- How did World War I transform American culture?

#### **22. The New Era**

- Were the 1920s a “return to normalcy,” as Warren G. Harding had advocated?
- Is it reasonable to describe the 1920s as a site of “culture wars”?

#### **23. The Great Depression**

- How did the New Deal reorient Americans’ relationship to government?

#### **24. World War II**

- World War II is often called “The Good War.” Was it?
- How did World War II transform America’s standing in the world?

### **25. The Cold War**

- What were the origins of the Cold War?
- How did the Cold War shape American life?

### **26. The Affluent Society**

- What were the contradictions of the Affluent Society?
- How did American life change in the 1950s?

### **27. The Sixties**

- How are the 1960s remembered?
- What animated so much of the energy of the 1960s?

### **28. The Unraveling**

- In what ways did the United States “unravel” during this time period?
- What became of the idealism of the 1960s?

### **29. The Triumph of the Right**

- Did the New Right accomplish its policy goals?
- How did the New Right shift political discourse in the United States?

### **30. The Recent Past**

- What are some major shifts in recent American history?
- What emerging trends have developed in recent American history?