

Chapter Introduction

This chapter will focus on how reformers sought to solve the problems caused by industrialization, urbanization and immigration in the early 1900s.

- **Section 1:** The Drive for Reform
- **Section 2:** Women Make Progress
- **Section 3:** The Struggle Against Discrimination
- **Section 4:** Roosevelt's Square Deal
- **Section 5:** Wilson's New Freedom



Objectives

- Analyze Progressives' attitudes toward minority rights.
- Explain why African Americans organized.
- Examine the strategies used by members of other minority groups to defend their rights.



Terms and People

- **Americanization** – effort to replace immigrant customs with white, Protestant, middle-class practices and values
- **Booker T. Washington** – favored a gradualist approach for blacks to earn rights through economic progress and employment in the skilled trades
- **W.E.B. Du Bois** – demanded immediate and full rights for blacks as guaranteed by the Constitution

Terms and People (continued)

- **Niagara Movement** – opposed Washington’s approach; favored education in history, literature, and philosophy, not just in the trades
- **NAACP** – National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, viewed full legal rights as the only solution to racial discrimination
- **Urban League** – organization to assist working class African Americans with relief, jobs, clothing, and schools

Terms and People (continued)

- **Anti-Defamation League** – organization to defend Jews and others from false statements, and verbal or physical attacks
- **mutualistas** – Mexican American groups that provided loans, legal assistance, and disability insurance for members



What steps did minorities take to combat social problems and discrimination?

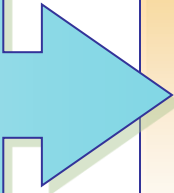
Prejudice and discrimination continued even during the Progressive era. Minorities, including African Americans, Latinos, Catholics, Jews, and Native Americans, worked to help themselves.

Their efforts paved the way for the era of civil rights several decades later.

Most Progressives were white, middle-class Protestants who held the racial and ethnic prejudices common in that era.

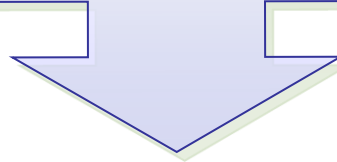


They envisioned a **model America** based on Protestant ethics and a white middle-class lifestyle.



As a result, they were often **hostile** to minority or immigrant cultures.

Progressives believed **assimilation** would turn immigrants into loyal and moral citizens.



- The results were well-intentioned, but often insensitive or racist **efforts to change the immigrants.**
- While teaching English they also advised immigrants **to replace their customs with middle-class practices and Protestant values.**
- Settlement houses and other civic groups played a prominent role in **Americanization** efforts.

Progressives saw many immigrant customs as moral failures.

Immigrant use of alcohol, such as the serving of wine with meals, alarmed some people.

This prejudice against immigrant customs and culture gave strength to the temperance movement.

Racial theories were also used to justify laws that kept blacks from voting. Many Progressives supported racial prejudices.

- The *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision furthered **discrimination** in the North as well as the South.
- By 1910, **segregation was the norm** nationwide.
- In 1914, even **federal offices were segregated** by Progressive President Woodrow Wilson.

African Americans were split over how to end racial discrimination.

Booker T. Washington

urged a patient, gradual effort based on earning equality through training and work in the skilled trades.

W.E.B. DuBois

demanded that African Americans receive all constitutional rights immediately.



In 1905, DuBois and William Monroe Trotter were concerned that all across the South, black men could not vote.

- Their **Niagara Movement** rejected the gradualist approach stating that trade skills “create workers, but cannot make men.”
- They also believed African Americans should learn how to think for themselves through the study of history, literature, and philosophy.



After a 1908 riot against African Americans in Springfield, Illinois, a number of white Progressives joined together with the Niagara Movement to help form the NAACP.

The **NAACP** or National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded to demand voting and civil rights for African Americans.

The NAACP aimed to help African Americans become *"physically free from peonage, mentally free from ignorance, politically free from disfranchisement, and socially free from insult."*

The NAACP attracted prominent Progressives to their cause.

| Supporters: | Their tactics: |
|---|--|
| <p>Jane Addams</p> <p>Ray Stannard Baker</p> <p>Florence Kelley</p> <p>Ida B. Wells</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used their newspapers to publicize the horrors of race riots and lynchings. • used the courts to challenge unfair housing laws. • promoted professional careers for African Americans. |

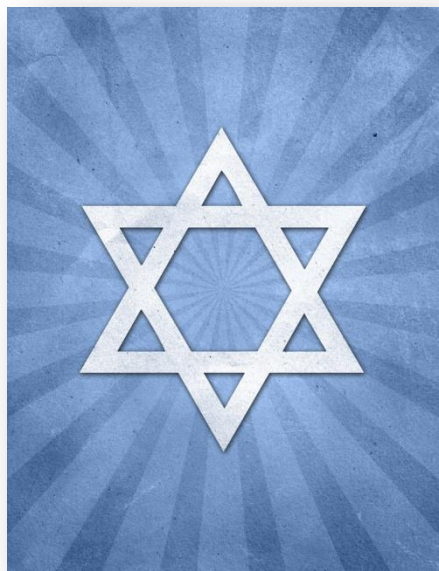
In 1911, the **Urban League** was formed to create a network of local clubs and churches to assist African Americans migrating to northern cities.

While the NAACP focused on political justice, the **Urban League** helped the poor find jobs, housing, clothing, and schools for their children.



Many ethnic groups formed self-help organizations to combat prejudice and protect their rights.

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| African Americans | NAACP |
| Jews | B'nai Brith |
| Mexican Americans | Mutualistas |
| Native Americans | Society of American Indians |



In 1843, Jewish families formed the B'nai B'rith to **provide religious education and self-help.**

In 1913, the **Anti-Defamation League** was formed to defend against physical and verbal attacks, false statements, and to *"secure justice and fair treatment for all citizens alike."*

Mexican Americans formed **mutualistas**, groups that provided legal assistance and disability insurance.



The Partido Liberal Mexicano in Arizona served a role similar to the Urban League for Mexican Americans.

Many Latinos were subject to unfair labor contracts, which the mutualistas helped to defeat.

Despite organized protests, Native Americans and Japanese lost their ownership of land.

In 1911, Carlos Montezuma helped form the Society of American Indians to protest federal policy.

Nevertheless, by 1932, two-thirds of all tribal lands had been sold off.

In 1913, California restricted **land ownership** to American citizens only, which **excluded the Japanese, who were not allowed to become citizens.**

In a 1922 decision, the Supreme Court allowed the limitation.