Agents of Change

500 to 1492

700-800: The Golden Age of Chinese Art:
Chinese art, poetry specifically, witnesses a golden age under the Tang Dynasty.¹

1069-1076: Wang Anshi’s Reforms:
A member of the Chinese scholar gentry (highly educated government officials), Wang Anshi, is commissioned by the Song Emperor Shenzong to draft and implement wide-ranging socio-economic reforms. His ‘New Policies’ revamped several aspects of Chinese society, which included the re-organization of the military, increased importance of education, challenges to tax evasion by wealthy families, and interest-free loans to poor peasants.²

1492 to 1780

1500: The Italian Renaissance:
The Italian Renaissance reaches its peak, reshaping the intellectual critique of the natural world, which would later spread through Europe.³

1632: Galileo:
Galileo publishes *A Dialogue on the Two Great Systems of the World*, proving that the earth rotated around the sun and provoking a scientific and theological uproar within Europe. The author was forced to recant his findings by the Inquisition in Rome and spent the rest of his life under house arrest.⁴


1650-1800: The Age of Enlightenment:
During the Age of Enlightenment, which stretched from roughly the mid 17th Century until the end of the 18th Century, philosophers in Europe (especially France) challenged the status quo. This era had a huge influence on later ideas about world and government in general. The creation of the United States Government was greatly influenced by enlightenment scholars.

1679: Habeas Corpus:
The Habeas Corpus Act becomes law in England, ensuring that no imprisonment will be sentenced without a trial. 6

1706-1790: Life of Benjamin Franklin:
Benjamin Franklin was born in 17067 and throughout his life, he was an inventor, diplomat, great enlightenment thinker, and one of the founding fathers of the United States of America. 8

1725: Vivaldi’s Four Seasons:
Antonio Vivaldi composes his iconic Four Seasons. The music industry is born. 9

1751: The Encyclopedie:
The Encyclopedie is published in France, a leading reference for Enlightenment ideas. 10

1756-1791: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is one of the most famous composers and musicians in history. He began his performance career at the age of six and was well known for his work as a composer before he became a teenager. Although he died young (at age 35), throughout his lifetime he composed over 600 musical pieces. 11

1770-1827: Ludwig van Beethoven:
Ludwig van Beethoven was born in 1770 and became one of the most famous composers and musicians in history, before his death in 1827. 12

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1780 to 1860

1797-1883: Life of Sojourner Truth:
Sojourner Truth, famed abolitionist, women’s rights advocate, and a leader in the Underground Railroad lived from 1797 to 1883.13

1817-1862: Henry David Thoreau: Henry David Thoreau was born in 1817 and became an important American (U.S.) philosopher. Thoreau was also a scientist and wrote poetry that incorporated his scientific findings and philosophies on life. Much of his philosophy related the natural world to human life and spirituality, and stressed the importance of nature.14

1833: British Empire Abolishes Slavery:
The British Empire abolishes slavery.15

1848: 1st Women’s Rights Convention:
The first Women’s Rights Convention in the U.S. is held in Seneca Falls, New York.16

1848: Communist Manifesto:
Karl Marx publishes The Communist Manifesto, detailing the eventual empowerment of the working class. Although it is somewhat controversial, it brings attention to inequalities between social classes.17

1850: Harriet Tubman:
In 1850, Harriet Tubman (an escaped slave herself) returned to the Southern United States to assist other slaves in escaping. This was the beginning of her role in the Underground Railroad.18

1851: Uncle Tom’s Cabin:
In 1851, Harriet Beecher Stowe began publishing portions of the anti-slavery work, Uncle Tom’s Cabin, in the National Era. It was such a success that when the full book version was published soon after, it sold over 300,000 copies in the year after its release (in the United States alone).19

1859: Origin of Species:
Charles Darwin publishes, Origin of Species, an important work that outlines early theory of evolution.20

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1860 to 1900

1861: Emancipation of Russian Serfs:
In Russia, serfs are emancipated. Serfs were people who were required to work for lords through farm work, mining, or other manual labor in the lord’s territory.

1864: The Red Cross:
Henri Dunant establishes The Red Cross.

1863: Emancipation Proclamation:
In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln announced the Emancipation Proclamation, which granted freedom to all slaves in rebel states (states that had seceded from the Union). Although it did not free all slaves, it did allow them to join the Union army and rallied them behind the Union in the civil war.

1865: 13th Amendment:
The 13th Amendment prohibited slavery and involuntary servitude in the United States. The only exception to this was a person convicted of a crime and sentenced to labor.

January 4th, 1866: Lincoln University:
African American soldiers who fought in the civil war succeeded in founding the Lincoln Institute in 1866 to provide education for African Americans. In 1921, the Institute’s name was changed to Lincoln University.

1866: Civil Rights Act:
The Civil Rights Act of 1866 outlined important rights for United States citizens, including the right to buy and sell property, to make contracts, to sue, and to receive equal treatment in the legal system.

1868: 14th Amendment:
The 14th Amendment expanded the status of U.S. citizenship to all people “born or naturalized in the United States.” This included freed slaves. The amendment also defined due process and guaranteed all citizens equal protection of United States law.


1870: 15th Amendment:
The 15th Amendment was ratified in 1870, and was an important step in equality for all Americans.\(^{28}\) It states that all citizens shall be allowed to vote regardless of “race, color, or precious condition of servitude.”\(^{29}\)

1891: Antonio Gramsci is Born:
Great Italian philosopher Antonio Gramsci was born in 1891. Gramsci wrote many commentaries on Italian society, and the world in general. Even after his imprisonment by the fascist government, he continued to write about social issues. The writings he completed while incarcerated are some of his most famous and are titled, “The Prison Notebooks.”\(^{30}\)

1896: Nobel Prizes Funded:
Funding for annual prizes in the fields of peace, science, and literature are established in the will of Alfred Nobel.\(^{31}\)

1899: Peace Conference:
The first Peace Conference is held at the Hague.\(^{32}\)

1900 to 1950
1900: Women in the Olympics:
Women were first allowed to compete in the Olympics in 1900 (held in Paris).\(^{33}\)

1903: Helen Keller’s Story:
Helen Keller published her autobiography.\(^{34}\)

1904: IWSA:
The International Woman Suffrage Alliance was founded in 1904.\(^{35}\)


1909: The NAACP:
The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1909, in order to protect and advocate the rights of African Americans.36

1910: Birth of Mother Theresa:
Mother Theresa was born in Yugoslavia.37

1918-1937: Harlem Renaissance:
From around 1918 to 1937, the Harlem Renaissance took place in the United States. The Renaissance was a period of development and embracing of African American ideas, literature, art, heritage and culture. This was an important time because African Americans defined their own culture and identities, apart from stereotypes and roles forced onto them by the larger white society, and they were able to get these ideas out to the rest of the country. This revolution of thought was highly influential in later events, including the Civil Rights movement and in African American Art and Literature over time. 38

1919: Gandhi the Activist:
Mahatma Gandhi led his first non-violent protest in India, at which over 300 unarmed protestors were killed and 1200 were wounded by the British military. Gandhi was an important leader in the Indian Independence movement, and in non-violent protest around the world.39

1920: Women’s Suffrage:
In 1920, women in the United States gained the right to vote with the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.40

1934: Ruth Benedict & Cultural Equality:
Anthropologist Ruth Benedict highlighted cultural relativism and equality in her writing of Patterns of Culture41. The work expanded on the idea of cultural relativism put forth by Franz Boas the “father” of modern anthropology. The basic idea was that anthropologists (and people in general) could only understand other cultures based on their own experiences and culture, and so all studies were biased. Thus, statements of “superiority” or “primitivism” of specific cultures were relative, and would be viewed differently by people of different cultures. This idea became a huge influence on the way anthropologists and social scientists thought about non-western European cultures and their own roles in the world.

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1938: Fair Labor Standards Act:
In 1938, the Fair Labor Standards Act was passed. This act banned child labor, set standards for minimum wage and defined the maximum hours for a work week (in some industries).42

1939: The Grapes of Wrath:
American writer John Steinbeck published “The Grapes of Wrath” in 1939. It is perhaps the best known story written about the depression.43

1941: Rosie the Riveter:
Women entered the workforce in the United States in huge numbers in order to fill jobs left by men who joined the military and went away to fight in WWII. “Rosie the Riveter” became the face of the new role women could fill.44

1944: Women’s Suffrage in France:
In 1944, French women gained the right to vote.45

1948: UN Declaration on Human Rights:
The United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights was adopted in 1948. Its aim was to secure the rights of all humans wherever they lived in the world.46 This is still an important document today, as it influences international laws and treaties, and articulates that all human beings are equal and deserve equal rights and justice.47

1948: Separation of Church and State:
The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the teaching of religious tenants in public school is a direct violation of the separation of church and state outlined in the constitution.48

1950 to 2012

1953: Malcolm X:
Malcolm X gave up his old name of Malcolm Little while in prison, and became a leader for Black Muslims across the United States.49

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1954: Brown v. Board of Ed.:  
The Supreme Court outlawed segregation in schools with their decision on the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka case in 1954.50

1955: Rosa Parks & The Bus:  
In 1955, Rosa Parks refused to move to the back of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Her subsequent arrest sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott organized by Martin Luther King Jr. and Ralph D. Abernathy. This began a new and vital period in the fight for civil rights.51

1959: Humane Experimental Technique:  
In 1959, “The Principles of Humane Experimental Technique” outlined new goals in animal testing, to make testing more humane. This included reducing pain in experiments, using less animals in tests, and finding ways to use non-animal testing whenever possible.52

1961: Freedom Rides:  
In May of 1961, both black and white members of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) rode buses into the Southern U.S. to protest the segregation that was still prevalent in public transportation, despite a Supreme Court decision that called segregation unconstitutional. When some of the CORE members were beaten, people from the rest of the country rallied to their cause, and after several months of Freedom Rides on buses, trains, and planes, rules against segregation were instated by the Interstate Commerce Commission.53

1963: Martin Luther King’s Dream:  
Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous “I Have A Dream” speech on August 28th, 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. Tens of Thousands civil rights marchers were in attendance.54

1964: Civil Rights Act of 1964:  
In this important legislation, discrimination at work, in the education system, and in public places was outlawed and equal voting rights were reinforced with standards. The Act also outlined ways to punish breaches in the new policy.55


1964: Poll Tax Removed:
With the 24th Amendment to the United States Constitution, Poll Tax was prohibited and people no longer had to pay to vote in any state.56

1965: Medicare & Medicaid:
In 1965, President Johnson enacted two socialist programs to help United States citizens in need, Medicare and Medicaid.57

1966: Miranda v. Arizona:
In 1966, the “Miranda rules” were established through a Supreme Court case. The rules are important in upholding and enforcing a citizen’s right to fair treatment under the law and legal representation, and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure (under the 4th Amendment). 58

1969: House Made of Dawn:
N. Scott Momaday (Kiowa) is the first American Indian to win the Pulitzer Prize for his novel, “House Made of Dawn.”59

1970: Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee:
In 1970, Dee Brown published “Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee,” a novel depicting Westward Expansion with a more realistic look at the effects on American Indians.60

1976: Roots:
In 1976, Alex Haley’s novel based on the life of his enslaved ancestor Kunta Kinte was published. It became a TV mini-series the following year reaching millions of viewers.61

1978: Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute:
The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute was created in 1978, to help Latinos achieve the American Dream.62


1989: Berlin Wall Comes Down: 
In November of 1989, the Berlin Wall came down following pro-democracy demonstrations and the fall of the Honecker Government.63

1989: National Museum of the American Indian: 
In 1989 Congress passed legislation enabling the National Museum of the American Indian, a Smithsonian institution devoted solely to the history and culture of American Indians. 64

1995: Million Man March: 
In 1995 African American men from all over the United States gathered to bring attention to issues plaguing black communities, including violence, drugs, and unemployment. The march was meant to foster a sense of unity and peace between people of different religions, races, and backgrounds and also to encourage development of black communities and businesses. Speakers included Jesse Jackson, Rosa Parks, and Maya Angelou. 65

2001 Same Sex Marriage: 
The first country to legalize same sex marriage was the Netherlands, in 2001. Since then, Belgium, Canada, Spain, South Africa, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Iceland, and Argentina have all legalized same sex marriage.66

2009 President Barack Obama: 
Barack Obama was sworn in as the first African American President of the United States of America in January of 2009.67 The same year as his inauguration, President Obama won the Nobel Peace Prize for his “extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples. The Committee...attached special importance to Obama’s vision of and work for a world without nuclear weapons.”68

2010: The Arab Spring Begins: 
The Arab Spring refers to a wave of mass protests for democracy and better standards of living in the Middle East and North Africa. 69 The protests began with Tunisia in December 2010, and then spread to Egypt in January of 2011, Yemen in February 2011, and to other countries in the region including


Bahrain, Libya, and Syria. In some countries, oppressive governments were overthrown and new ones created, as in the cases of Tunisia and Egypt who held democratic elections.70

The People’s History

0 to 1492
600-900: Waabinakii Confederacy:
Many of the eastern North Atlantic peoples were allied in a great confederacy: the Waabinakii Confederacy. Waabinakii means “people from the daybreak land” in the Ojibwe language. All of the Algonquian-language-speaking tribes or nations were part of this great confederacy. It is the earliest recorded history of the Anishinabek.71

900: The Great Walk:
There were seven prophecies given to the Anishinabek, when we lived a peaceful life on the East Coast of North America. The prophecies were passed down from the prophets through our ancestors, and were carved in stone. In accordance with the prophecies, the Anishinabek began a Great Walk around 900 A.D. and continued on our journey for the next 500 years. Throughout our journey, the Anishinabek established new settlements at points marked by the sacred megis (cowrie) shell, finally stopping when we reached the “food that grows on the water,” our Manoomin (Wild Rice). Our seven stops on this journey are also called the seven fires.72

900: The “Anasazi”:
The “Anasazi” began building their extensive cliff dwellings in what is now the southern Colorado Plateau, and continued to do so for hundreds of years. As we do not know the name of these early American Indians they are called “Anasazi,” which means “ancient ones” in Navajo. The Anasazi built over 500 cliff dwellings in the Mesa Verde region, some with over 100 rooms. Many more Anasazi cliff dwellings exist in current day Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah.73

1000: Great Law of Peace:
The Great Law of Peace was created by the Iroquois Confederacy around 1,000 years ago and is the oldest known constitution in North America. The Great Law of Peace outlined participatory democracy, a new way of governing, and much of the United States Constitution was based on ideas from the Iroquois.74

1200-1300: 3 Fires Confederacy:
Sometime around 1200-1300 A.D. The Anishinabek formed the Three Fires Confederacy throughout what is now Michigan. The confederacy included the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi, and each member of the confederacy has their own special tasks and role.\(^75\)

1250: Height of Cahokia:
Cahokia was located in what is now southern Illinois, and was one of the greatest cities of its time. At the height of its existence, it had a population of over 20,000 people. This was larger than London was at the time, and no North American city became larger until Philadelphia in the 18\(^{th}\) Century. Cahokia also had a great pyramid and around 45 smaller pyramids and burial mounds, as well as a circular arrangement nicknamed “Woodhenge” by Archaeologists. “Woodhenge” was constructed around 1000 A.D., was 410 feet in diameter, and may have been a solar calendar.\(^76\)

1492 to 1780

1486-1502: Reign of Aztec Emperor Ahuizotl:
Aztec power was at its height in Mexico with the reign of Emperor Ahuizotl.\(^77\)

1492: How many American Indians were there?:
Estimates of the American Indian populations in the Western Hemisphere around 1492 range from a low 8.4 million to over 112 million people.\(^78\)

1523: First School for American Indians:
The first school for American Indians is founded in Texcoco, Mexico.\(^79\)

1622-1644: The Powhatan War:
The Powhatan War raged in the region surrounding Jamestown, Virginia from 1622-1644. By its conclusion, settlers had killed or driven away nearly all American Indians from their lands in the area.\(^80\)

1640s: Explorers & Missionaries Arrive in Anishinabe Territory:
European explorers and missionaries arrived in our territory at Baawaating (Sault St. Marie) in the 1640s. From that time on, European immigrants became a permanent part of our world.\(^81\)


\(^{80}\) Moore, Dan, ed., *Social Studies and Language: Southwestern Advantage* (Nashville: R.R. Donnelley) p. 27.

1637: The Pequot War in Connecticut:
Settlers slaughter nearly all Pequot peoples and seize their lands.82

1670-1690: Defeat of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois):
The Haudenosaunee had been trying to take over and monopolize the Great Lakes fur trade since 1650. Between 1670 and 1690, our people and other tribes who were enemies of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) joined with the French to push them out of Ontario and back to New York. Many of the settlements that the Haudenosaunee abandoned once again became Anishinabe villages.83

1675: King Phillips War in Northern New England:
After settlers executed three Wampanoag men for the murder of a Christian convert Indian, fighting between the two factions broke out. The war ended with the destruction of American Indian power in the region and subsequent colonial expansion.84

1711: The Tuscarora War in the Carolinas:
The Tuscarora were defeated and fled North, where they joined the Iroquois Confederacy.85

1715: The Yamassee War in South Carolina:
The Yamassee War in South Carolina begins well for Yamassee Tribe, though they are eventually defeated and retreat into Spanish-controlled Florida.86

1730s: Village at Lake St. Clair:
Nearly 300 of those Anishinabek who became known as the “Saginaw Chippewas” lived in a huge, beautiful village at the north end of Lake St. Clair.87

1763: Chief Pontiac’s Rebellion:
Chief Pontiac leads a rebellion against British settlers.88 Odawa and allied tribes capture eight British military outposts in the Ohio Valley, but are unable to withstand British reinforcements deployed to the region. Pontiac’s forces make peace with the British, who in turn ban colonial settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains (a prime motivator for the American Revolution).

1763: Sir Jeffrey Amherst & Biological Warfare:
Sir Jeffrey Amherst intentionally infected American Indian tribes with smallpox by giving them infected blankets from a smallpox hospital.89

1768-1813 Tecumseh:  
Tecumseh was a Shawnee leader, but was also the leader of an American Indian confederacy that fought to retain American Indian Territory at a time when settlers were encroaching more and more onto American Indian lands. His confederacy included Shawnees, Delawares, Wyandots, Odawas, Ojibwes, and Kickapoos. Tecumseh led and fought in numerous battles including The Battle of Tippecanoe, The Siege of Detroit and the Battle of Thames. During the War of 1812 Tecumseh and his confederacy fought with the British, and Tecumseh was made a Brigadier General. After struggling his whole life to maintain his people’s territory, and traditional lifestyle, Tecumseh fell in 1813 during the Battle of Thames. He remains a respected and revered American Indian leader.\(^90\)

1769: The California Mission System: 
In 1769, the first of 21 Spanish missions in California was founded. Once American Indians arrived at missions, either voluntarily or by force, they were most often forced to stay, work as manual laborers, and embrace Catholicism.\(^91\)

1780 to 1860  
1775-1783: American Indians in the Revolutionary War:  
American Indians fought in the Revolutionary War, mostly on the side of the British. This was in large part to suppress the encroachment of American settlers onto American Indian lands.\(^92\)

1784 -1786: Ensuring Our Lands:  
The treaties of Fort Stanwix (1784), Fort McIntosh (1785), and Fort Finney (1786) were signed between the U.S. Government and the Anishinabek to establish clear territorial boundaries. These treaties were meant to reduce conflict, but they were doomed from the start. Although U.S. representatives guaranteed they would stop settlers from entering Anishinabe territory, federal officials were unable or unwilling to do so.\(^93\)

1786-1866: Chief Seattle:  
Chief Seattle lived in the area around Seattle, Washington; the city named in his honor.\(^94\)

1787: Northwest Ordinance:  
The U.S. Government passed the Northwest Ordinance to preserve peace with the Anishinabek, who were becoming more and more fed up with government policies. This document repeated federal policy of “protecting” the Anishinabek from settlers’ encroachment on their territories. Despite this ordinance, thousands of settlers crossed the Ohio River boundary of our lands, and the government looked the other way.\(^95\)

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1789: The Treaty of Fort Harmer:  
The U.S. Government signed yet another agreement with the Anishinabek in hopes of averting all out war. The government would give up the Ohio River Valley, and pay the Anishinabek for any land we were willing to sell to the settlers. U.S. Secretary of War, Henry Knox, carried out his new policy with negotiations at Fort Harmer, New York in 1789. American frontiersmen continued to cross into our territory, and we continued to resist the incursions onto our native soil.96

1790: Trade and Intercourse Act:  
The Trade and Intercourse Act was created to regulate trade between American Indian nations and the United States Government.97

1794: The Jay Treaty:  
This treaty between the United States and Great Britain recognized the sovereignty inherent to American Indian tribes.98

1795: The Treaty of Greenville:  
The Treaty of Greenville was the first treaty with the U.S. Government made by the ancestors of those who are now known as the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. This document ended a thirty-year struggle for control of hunting territories in Ohio, and it was signed by the Three Fires Confederacy and almost every other tribe in the Ohio River Valley. Our spiritual leaders advised us that there would be other conflicts, and that we should be wary of becoming complacent.99 All treaties our ancestors signed from this point on concerned land ownership.100

1800: Population Decimation:  
By the beginning of the 19th century, the American Indian population that was over 5 million in the United States in 1492, was reduced to about 600,000 people.101

1801: Smallpox Vaccinations:  
The first American Indians were vaccinated against smallpox per order of President Thomas Jefferson.102

1804: Sacajawea: Sacajawea met Lewis and Clark in what would later become North Dakota. Over the next few years she led their expedition to the Pacific Coast, and then ensured their safe return.103


100 Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, *Diba Jimooyung: Telling Our Story*, (Mount Pleasant, MI: Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Ziibiwing Cultural Society, 2005) p. 33


1807: Treaty of Detroit:
When first invited to treaty negotiations in July of 1807, the Anishinabek refused to attend, as they had no wish to sell our lands. Governor Hull persuaded the Anishinabek to sell their land in Southeastern Michigan by giving them gifts of iron, farm tools, clothing, and tobacco, but our leaders were not convinced to give up the heart of our territory on the Saginaw River. Finally, the Anishinabek agreed to sell 5 million acres of rich farmland to the United States. The United States paid in cash and valuable provisions, and promised to station a blacksmith on the Saginaw River for Anishinabek access.104

1817-1819: Seminole War in Florida:
In retaliation for Americans not honoring treaties, Seminole Indians attacked Georgia settlers. General Andrew Jackson was deployed.105

1817-1865: Ponca Treaties:
Between 1817 and 1865, the Ponca Tribe signed four treaties with the United States Government, ceding most of their land in the process. As with many other treaties, the United States Government did not keep its promises, and ceded most of the land supposedly reserved for Poncas to the Sioux in a later treaty.106

1819: Treaty of Saginaw:
American Indians cede much of their lands in the middle of lower Michigan to the United States Government, but still retain some hunting and fishing rights.107

1821: Treaty of Chicago:
This treaty between the U.S. Government and the Ojibwes, Odawas, and Pottowatomis ceded lands in southwestern Michigan to the U.S. Government. Like the Treaty of Saginaw, this treaty still allowed American Indians certain hunting & fishing rights.108

1824: Bureau of Indian Affairs:
In 1824, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) was created to oversee the Federal Government's relationship with American Indians. Although the BIA's mission and policies are different today, from its inception, it was a tool of the U.S. Government to subjugate and assimilate American Indians, or to deal with the "Indian Problem."109

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1829-1909: Life of Geronimo:
Geronimo, or Goyathlay ("One Who Yawns"), was a military leader of the Chiricahua Apache, and a symbol of American Indian resistance to the takeover of Indian lands, and violence against American Indians by European powers and the United States Government.110

1830: The Indian Removal Act:
The Indian Removal Act forced many American Indian Tribes to move away from their ancestral lands. Because of harsh conditions during their moves, poor conditions on the new lands they were forced to live on, and clashes with the U.S. Government, many American Indians died because of this policy. Although American Indians were forced off their land before this Act was passed, removal of American Indians greatly increased after its passage.111

1831-1890: Tatanka Iyotanka (Sitting Bull):
Tatanka Iyotanka (Sitting Bull) was a Hunkpapa Lakota (Sioux) born sometime around 1831, and he began his life as a warrior at a young age. Over time his bravery and wisdom gained him a great deal of respect, and after leading his people in several military campaigns, he became the head Chief of the Lakota sometime around 1868.112 Tatanka Iyotanka is most famous for defeating General Custer at the Battle of Little Bighorn. Years later, on December 15th, 1890, Sitting Bull was killed by Lakota policemen. The police were sent to prevent Tatanka Iyotanka from joining the Ghost Dance movement that was taking place on numerous reservations in the area and causing increased resistance to the United States Government. Sitting Bull’s death played a large part in the lead up to the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890.113

1831: Worcester vs. Georgia:
This Supreme Court case was important in defining the relationship between The United States Government and American Indian Tribes. The case articulated that treaties made between the U.S. Government and American Indian Tribes took precedence over state laws and jurisdiction.114

1836: Treaty of Washington:
This treaty ceded much of Northern Michigan to the United States, but American Indians still retained their rights to hunt, fish, and gather in the ceded territory.115

1838: The Trail of Tears:
The Cherokee people were forcibly removed from their lands in the 1838 Trail of Tears. Conditions were so horrible that between 4,000 and 8,000 Cherokee died as a direct result of the Trail of Tears. 116


1839: *Crania Americana*:  
A medical student named Samuel Morton measured the capacity of Caucasian and American Indian skulls, and lied about the results to “prove” the inferiority of American Indians. He claimed that since their skulls were smaller, their brains must also be smaller, and so they were not as intelligent.\(^{117}\) This is an example of scientific racism, or trying to prove racial superiority or inferiority with science.

1842: Treaty of LaPointe:  
This Treaty between the Ojibwes and the U.S. Government cedes more lands in the western part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. American Indians still retain rights to hunt, fish, and gather in the ceded territory.\(^{118}\)

1844: Death of Omaha Chief Washinga Sakba:  
George Catlin (an artist) reported that the Omaha Chief Washinga Sakba (the blackbird) succumbed to smallpox. Catlin also confessed that he had secretly stolen the chief’s skull from his burial site to add to other American Indian skulls he had “collected”.\(^{119}\)

1850-1868: California Indian Slaves:  
American Indians were forced into slavery in California under the “Act for Government and Protection of Indians,” also known as the Indian Slave Act. American Indian women and children were often abducted from their homes to work as slaves.\(^{120}\)

1860 to 1900  

1862: U.S. Dakota War:  
In 1862, after years of broken promises from the U.S. Government and settlers of the area, Dakota Sioux struck back, attacking multiple settlements in the Minnesota region. Fighting between the Dakota, white settlers, and the U.S. military went on for 6 weeks, at which time the Dakota were defeated. In response, the U.S. Government hanged 38 Dakota men, in the largest mass hanging in U.S. history. At the end of the war, 1,600 Dakota people were interned in a concentration camp, and over 300 Dakotas died over the course of the winter they were imprisoned. The Dakota were eventually released, but forced to move to reservations in Nebraska and Dakota Territory. Although the war was over, tensions and breakouts of violence in the area continued.\(^{121}\)

1863: Bear River Massacre:  
In the winter of 1863, U.S. Colonel Patrick Edward Conner and a band of volunteers attacked a Shoshone village (in present day Utah), in order to punish them for fighting back against settlers’ encroachment on  

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\(^{120}\) California State University Sacramento: California Indians Memorial, Dr. Diana G. Tumminia.  

their lands and resources. After the Shoshones ran out of ammunition, the troops continued to attack, killing around 250 people. Soldiers went into the village to kill the wounded by bashing their heads in, and to rape the surviving Shoshone women. About a third of the Shoshones killed were women and children.\textsuperscript{122}

\textbf{1863-1865: Company K:}
This special American Indian sharp-shooter unit fought for the Union in the Civil War, and was made up of around 150 American Indians, mostly Ojibwes and Odawas from the state of Michigan.\textsuperscript{123} These members of Company K fought in the Civil War before they were even considered U.S. citizens.

\textbf{1864: Sand Creek Massacre:} At Sand Creek, Colorado, militia massacre over 100 Cheyenne and Arapaho, mostly women and children.\textsuperscript{124}

\textbf{1871: Indian Appropriations Act:}
The Indian Appropriations Act stated that American Indian Tribes would no longer be treated as sovereign nations, and that American Indians would be considered “wards” of the United States Federal Government.\textsuperscript{125}

\textbf{1871: End of Treaty Era:}
The U.S. Congress ends treaty making with American Indians, but asserts that past treaties will be honored.\textsuperscript{126}

\textbf{1875: Pratt’s “Experiment”:}
In 1875, Captain Richard Pratt used Apache prisoners of war to conduct a social experiment on American Indians. He took them far from their homes, cut their hair, forced them to wear uniforms, and made them follow strict rules and schedules. Some of the men committed suicide, but most of them survived and learned the English language and a more “American” culture. This first experiment by Captain Pratt became the model for American Indian Boarding Schools, to which American Indian children were forcibly taken in an attempt to “Kill the Indian. Save the Man.”\textsuperscript{127}

\textbf{1876: Battle of Little Bighorn:}
After gold was found in the Black Hills in 1874, and the Sioux refused to sell their sacred land, federal troops arrived in the area in 1876 to force the Sioux onto reservations. In June of that year, U.S. troops led by General Custer attacked a group of around 6,000-7,000 Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Sioux, on the


\textsuperscript{123} LeBeau, Partick Russell, \textit{Rethinking Michigan Indian History} (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 68.


\textsuperscript{127} The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, \textit{American Indian Boarding Schools! An Exploration of Global Ethnic & Cultural Cleansing}, (Mount Pleasant, MI: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, 2011) p. 5.
Little Bighorn River. All of the attacking U.S. troops (over 200 men) were killed in the battle, and the Indian forces staged a counterattack that killed over 50 more soldiers, and wounded 60.\(^{128}\)

**1877: Death of Crazy Horse:**
Lakota leader Tashunca-uiitco (Crazy Horse) was killed by a soldier’s bayonet in 1877, during his arrest for leaving the reservation without permission. Crazy Horse was an important leader in the struggle to preserve American Indian culture and traditions. Crazy Horse led his people in many decisive victories against U.S. forces, including the victory against General Custer at Little Bighorn, in which he allied with Sitting Bull and Chief Gall.\(^{129}\)

**1879: Carlisle:**
Carlisle Indian Industrial Boarding School was the first American Indian Boarding School. It was established in 1879 by Lieutenant Richard Pratt, and was used as a model for future American Indian Boarding Schools. Children sent to American Indian Boarding Schools were often taken far from their homes, and were not allowed to see their families, speak their own languages, or practice their own traditions and religions.\(^{130}\)

**1879: Standing Bear v. Cook:**
The decision of Judge Elmer Dunty in the 1879 Case of Standing Bear (Ponca Chief) v. Cook was important in the recognition of American Indians as people with rights under the law. The judge found that Indians are people under the law, General Cook was holding the Ponca illegally, that there was no rightful authority to remove the Indians from their lands, and that Indians had the right to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” The judge also ordered that the Poncas be released.\(^{131}\)

**1885: Indian Major Crimes Act:**
This Act puts major criminal offenses that occur on Indian reservations under jurisdiction of the federal government.\(^{132}\)

**1886: Outlawed Languages:**
United States policy outlaws instruction in any American Indian language, and prohibits use of books in American Indian languages.\(^{133}\)

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1887: The Dawes Act:
Also known as the General Allotment Act, this Act divided American Indian lands by allotting a specific amount to individual American Indians, and selling off the "surplus." American Indians were allowed to own their own homesteads as long as they did not engage in any "Indian" activities such as speaking their own languages or practicing their own religions.

1890: Wounded Knee:
U.S. Troops massacred around 300 Lakota people, mostly women and children.

1892-1900: 33 Children Die:
Between 1892 and 1900, 33 children died at the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School.

1893: Removal of Our Children:
The United States Congress allowed the Bureau of Indian Affairs to withhold food rations and supplies from American Indian parents or guardians who refused to enroll (and keep) their children in boarding school. Children were often hidden from government officials to avoid their forceful removal from their families and communities. The main goal of boarding schools was to assimilate American Indian children into what was seen as the "superior" American/European lifestyle. This included a conversion to Christianity, and churches often played a large role in the funding and running of American Indian Boarding Schools.

1893-1934: Mount Pleasant School:
Although the United States Congress established the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School and appropriated $25,000 for land and buildings in 1891, official operation of the school was from 1893 to 1934 (although some students were brought to the school before the official opening date). The school consisted of 37 buildings on 320 acres of land, and had an average enrollment of 300 students per year. Daily life was very regimented, and included work like laundry, cleaning, farm work and other manual labor. Students also received other academic instruction for a portion of the day. Instruction also included religion and prayer, and students were taught that the teachings, practices, and languages of their own cultures were wrong, and even "savage."

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137 Information from list compiled by the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways including: Death Certificates, MIIBS Microfilm and other original documents from Ziibiwing Archives, and Michigan GenWeb [http://www.migenweb.net/county_list.htm](http://www.migenweb.net/county_list.htm).


1900 to 1950

1900: Losing More of Our People:
The American Indian population declined even further during the late 19th Century, decreasing from around 600,000 in 1800 to approximately 250,000 in 1900. This was a loss of over 40% of the American Indian population.¹⁴⁰

1901-1916: 71 Children Die:
Between 1901 and 1916, 71 more children died at the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School.¹⁴¹

1902: More Boarding Schools:
By 1902 there were 25 federally funded non-reservation schools across 15 states and territories, and over 25,000 American Indian children were enrolled.¹⁴²

August 29, 1911: Ishi:
An American Indian man was cornered by dogs in Oroville California. As the man could not communicate in any known language, and was on the brink of starvation, Anthropologist Alfred Kroeber employed by the University of California “took charge” of him. They named him Ishi, meaning “man” in the Yana language and he was taken to the Museum at the University of California to live.¹⁴³ He was identified as the last Yahi, and embodied the idea of “The Vanishing Indian” that many Americans believed in at the time. The concept was basically that American Indian cultures would eventually die out, and had to be recorded before they were gone.

1912: Jim Thorpe at the Olympics:
Sauk and Fox athlete Jim Thorpe won both the decathlon and the pentathlon in the 1912 Olympics held in Stockholm. He later went on to play professional baseball and football.¹⁴⁴

March 25, 1916: Death of Ishi:
Ishi died of tuberculosis on March 25, 1916 after living at the University of California Museum for four and a half years.¹⁴⁵

1917-1933: 50 Children Die:
Between 1917 and 1933, 50 more children die at the Mount Pleasant Indian Boarding School, bringing the total of deaths at the school to 154.¹⁴⁶


¹⁴¹ Information from list compiled by the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways including: Death Certificates, MIIBS Microfilm and other original documents from Ziibiwing Archives, and Michigan GenWeb http://www.migenweb.net/county_list.htm.


1917: American Indians in WWI:
Over 12,000 American Indians served in the United States military in WWI.\textsuperscript{147}

1924: Indian Citizenship Act:
Most American Indians did not become United States citizens until this act was passed.\textsuperscript{148}

1924: Whipping Pupils:
In 1924, the Superintendent of the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School is warned about whipping pupils.\textsuperscript{149}

1925: No Going Home:
In 1925, the Department of the Interior chastised the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School for not allowing children to return home at the end of their enrollment periods.\textsuperscript{150}

1928: The Merriam Report is Published:
The Merriam report recognized the Dawes (General Allotment) Act as a substantial reason for poverty on American Indian Reservations.\textsuperscript{151} The report also found that American Indian Boarding Schools were grossly overcrowded, children were provided with inadequate food and basic supplies, and that unsanitary conditions fostered the spread of diseases that were not appropriately treated by school administrators. The report also questioned whether the American Indian Boarding Schools were in violation of child labor laws.\textsuperscript{152}

1934: Indian Reorganization Act:
The General Allotment Act is reversed, and tribes are allowed to collectively own land. Tribal councils take over management of Tribal lands and monies.\textsuperscript{153}

\textsuperscript{146} Information from list compiled by the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways including: Death Certificates, MIIBS Microfilm and other original documents from Ziibiwing Archives, and Michigan GenWeb http://www.migenweb.net/county_list.htm.


\textsuperscript{151} LeBeau, Partick Russell, Rethinking Michigan Indian History (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 102.

\textsuperscript{152} The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, American Indian Boarding Schools! An Exploration of Global Ethnic & Cultural Cleansing, (Mount Pleasant, MI: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, 2011) p. 15

\textsuperscript{153} LeBeau, Partick Russell, Rethinking Michigan Indian History (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 102.
1937: Saginaw Chippewa Reorganization:
On March 27th, 1937, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan was reorganized under the Indian Reorganization Act, and we ratified our new constitution.\(^{154}\)

1941-1945: American Indians in WWII:
More than 44,000 American Indians served in the military in WWII (this was over 1 in every 10 American Indians serving). In addition, Over 40,000 more American Indians left their reservations to help in the war effort by working in war industry factories and ordinance depots.\(^{155}\)

1944: NCAI:
The National Congress of American Indians is established.\(^{156}\)

1946: Indian Claims Commission:
The Indian Claims Commission was created in 1946 to deal with disputes over illegally seized Indian lands.\(^{157}\)

1950 to 2012
1952-1957: Urban Indian Relocation Program:
The federal government instituted the Urban Indian Relocation Program in 1952 because there was such a shortage of jobs and an excess of poverty on most reservations. Offices set up in major cities across the United States were supposed to assist American Indians in finding jobs and housing, and in adjusting to their new lives. They also provided small stipends for them to start out on. Unfortunately not all offices ran as they were intended to, and it was often still difficult for American Indians to find jobs (especially with reasonable pay) and decent housing because of enduring discrimination.\(^{158}\) Around 17,000 American Indians were relocated to urban areas during this time period.\(^{159}\)

1953: Termination:
The United States Congress “terminates” the unique relationship between the federal government and certain American Indian Tribes.\(^{160}\)


\(^{159}\) LeBeau, Partick Russell, Rethinking Michigan Indian History (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 102.

1953: Public Law 280:
In 1953 Public Law 280 was passed, allowing some states to have criminal jurisdiction over people on reservations, including tribal members. This law violated tribal sovereignty, and no tribes were consulted in the decision to pass it.\textsuperscript{161}

1965-1973: American Indians in Vietnam:
Over 42,000 American Indians served in the military during the Vietnam War. American Indians have consistently had the highest rate of military service per population size of any ethnic group in the United States.\textsuperscript{162}

1968: American Indian Movement:
The American Indian Movement was founded in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1968. It began as a local organization to protect the American Indian Community, mostly from racist police practices, and evolved into a nationwide civil rights organization.\textsuperscript{163}

1968: End of Termination? :
President Johnson proposes to end termination of American Indian programs, but the program remains in place until 1988.\textsuperscript{164}

1968: American Indian Civil Rights Act:
The Bill of Rights is expanded to include American Indians living on reservations.\textsuperscript{165}

1969: Canada- Schools Close:
Canada begins to close Indian Residential Schools. Although the Canadian Government decided to close Indian Residential Schools in 1969, the last school didn’t close until 1996. The residential schools began in Canada before it was an independent nation, and were a common practice through the 1950s.\textsuperscript{166}

1969-1971: Occupation of Alcatraz:
In 1969 American Indians occupied the island of Alcatraz for 19 months. The goals of occupying Alcatraz Island were to bring attention to the inequalities American Indians faced. The activists requested that the government give them the abandoned prison (Alcatraz) to create a cultural and learning center. Although the FBI, the Coast Guard, Special Forces, and Federal Marshals succeeded in ending the occupation in 1971, the event helped to spark American Indian Activism in the United States.\textsuperscript{167} American Indians still


\textsuperscript{166} The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, \textit{American Indian Boarding Schools! An Exploration of Global Ethnic & Cultural Cleansing}, (Mount Pleasant, MI: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, 2011) p. 13.

visit the island every year on Thanksgiving as a remembrance of the occupation of Alcatraz and American Indian activists who have fought for American Indian rights.  

**1970: MIIBS Reunion:**
In 1970, a Michigan Indian Industrial Boarding School reunion was held in Hart, Michigan.  

**1971: Michigan v. Jondreau:**
The Michigan Supreme Court upholds the fishing rights of Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Members without regard to Michigan fishing regulations.  

**1972: Trail of Broken Treaties:**
In 1972 AIM (The American Indian Movement) organized a cross country caravan to bring concerns over American Indian issues to lawmakers in Washington D.C. American Indians from over 200 tribes participated. When the group arrived in Washington D.C., and leaders refused to see them, they reacted by taking over the Bureau of Indian Affairs Building until officials agreed to set up a task force to address their demands. Although they did receive some travel money in cash, the U.S. Government later rejected all twenty demands put forth by AIM.  

**1973: The 2nd Wounded Knee:**
Because of horrible conditions on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, including a corrupt Tribal President backed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, leaders from the American Indian Movement (AIM) were asked for help by Oglala Sioux Tribal members. The Oglala members opposed to the corrupt tribal government chose to protest at the site of the 1890 Wounded Knee Massacre, where their people had been wronged before. AIM agreed to support them. With tensions high in the area, U.S. Marshalls and FBI agents surrounded the group within a few hours. Thus began a highly publicized 71 day siege. The occupiers of Wounded Knee asserted that they were establishing a sovereign Sioux Nation in accordance with a treaty made with the United States Government in 1868. The siege ended with the occupiers surrender on May 18th and a number of arrests were made. Although this was a defining moment for the American Indian Movement that brought attention to issues facing American Indians, AIM continued the struggle for American Indian rights. There are still active chapters of AIM today.  

**1974: U.S. v. Washington State:**
United States district court asserts that the State of Washington must uphold the rights of American Indian Tribes to fish and run fisheries.  

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169 Ziibiwing Center Archives. *Delores LeBan Photo Collection*  


1975: Self-Determ. & Education Acts:
The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Acts enable American Indian Tribes to run federal programs if they so choose.175

1976: MI Indian Tuition Waiver:
American Indians in Michigan won the fight for free public education guaranteed to us in treaties with the United States Government. This includes free tuition at state-supported colleges and universities. American Indians who can prove Indian blood quantum in accordance with U.S. Government stipulations are entitled to attend Michigan colleges and universities tuition free, although not all colleges/universities honor this right.176

1978: Religious Freedom Act for American Indians:
Until this point, American Indians were not allowed to legally practice their own religions.177

1979: High Stakes Gaming:
In 1979, the Seminole Tribe opened the first American Indian Casino with high-stakes bingo. In 20 years, there were over 150 tribes with high-stakes bingo and other gaming operations.178

1981: United States v. Michigan:
The United States District Court – Western District of Michigan reaffirms the fishing rights of Bay Mills, Sault Ste. Marie, and Grand Traverse Band of Michigan Indians in the Great Lakes area. This decision is based on the Treaty of Washington (1836).179

1985: Indian Gaming Assoc.:
NIGA (The National Indian Gaming Association) was founded in 1985. It began with 168 members which included tribes, Indian nations and other members, all aiming to advance the lives of American Indians and self-sufficiency of tribes.180

1987: California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians:
The United States Supreme Court maintains the rights of the tribe to hold high stakes bingo on their reservation.181

1988: End of Termination: 
The 1953 termination policy is finally repealed by Congress.\textsuperscript{182}

1988: Indian Gaming Act (IGRA): 
The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) established the National Indian Gaming commission to clear up questions of who had jurisdiction over Indian gaming.\textsuperscript{183}

1990: Native American Language Act: 
The Native American Language Act of 1990 reversed policies to suppress and abolish American Indian languages and cultures.\textsuperscript{184}

1990: NAGPRA: 
The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA): requires American Indian human remains, associated funerary objects, objects of cultural importance, and sacred objects be returned to associated tribes.\textsuperscript{185}

1993: Nunavut Land Claims Agreement: 
In 1993, the Canadian Government provided title of 352,240 square kilometers of land to the Inuit peoples of Nunavut, and it became Canada’s largest (and newest) territory. This agreement was based on the sovereign land claims of the Inuit people.\textsuperscript{186}

1998: Statement of Reconciliation: 
The Canadian Government issues a ‘Statement of Reconciliation’ in 1998. This statement included a formal apology to those American Indian students who were sexually or physically abused while attending Canadian Residential Schools. The Aboriginal Healing Foundation was also established and received $350 million to fund community healing projects. In some instances the Canadian Government paid financial damages directly to the people who suffered abuse at the Indian Residential Schools.\textsuperscript{187}

June, 17 2009: Journey for Forgiveness: 
In 2009 White Bison, a national organization focused on healing the legacy of boarding schools, partnered with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan to lead a local march. Hundreds of Native and non-Native people participated in a full day of listening to survivors’ stories and participating in healing ceremonies on the grounds of the closed Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School. The City


\textsuperscript{184} LeBeau, Partick Russell, Rethinking Michigan Indian History (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 103.

\textsuperscript{185} LeBeau, Partick Russell, Rethinking Michigan Indian History (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 103.


\textsuperscript{187} The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, American Indian Boarding Schools! An Exploration of Global Ethnic & Cultural Cleansing, (Mount Pleasant, MI: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, 2011) p. 19.
of Mt. Pleasant Government and Central Michigan University officials, staff, and students took part in the activities acknowledging this painful era.188

2010: 5.2 Million American Indian & Alaska Natives:
In the 2010 Census, there were a reported 5.2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States. Around 22% of American Indians/Alaska Natives live on reservations, in Alaska Native Villages, or other American Indian/Alaska Native Areas (as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau). Michigan is one of the 10 states with the highest American Indian/Alaska Native populations.189

U.S. History

1492 to 1780

1520: Smallpox Reaches North America:
Smallpox, the first Old World disease to reach the Americas, is estimated to have reached North America sometime between 1520 and 1524.190

1565: St. Augustine, Florida Founded:
St. Augustine, Florida is founded by the Spanish.191

1585: Colony at Roanoke Island:
English settlers established a colony on Roanoke Island. When a supply ship returned in 1591, there was no trace of the colonists. All that was found was the word, “Croatoan,” carved into a tree.192

1607: Jamestown:
Jamestown, Virginia is founded by English settlers under the leadership of John Smith. He is allegedly taken prisoner by the Powhatan Tribe, then spared by the pleadings of the chief’s daughter, Pocahontas.193 After less than two decades of peace and assistance from the Powhatan Tribe, the settlers begin to systematically wipe them out.

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188 The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, American Indian Boarding Schools: An Exploration of Global Ethnic & Cultural Cleansing, (Mount Pleasant, MI: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, 2011) p. 20


1607-1732: Establishment of the 13 Colonies:
The thirteen colonies were founded in what would later become the United States of America. Jamestown (in Virginia Colony) began the founding of the colonies, while the Charter for the colony of Georgia allowed for the establishment of the 13th colony in 1732.194

1620: Plymouth:
The Mayflower lands195 and Plymouth, Massachusetts is founded by English Pilgrims, led by William Bradford.196

1628: Salem:
Salem, Massachusetts is established by English Puritans under the leadership of John Winthrop.197

1632: Boston the Capital:
Boston becomes the capital of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, a strict Puritan theocracy.198 Theocracy: A government or entity that is ruled by religious beliefs or religious leaders.

1634: Maryland:
George Calvert (aka, Lord Baltimore), a Catholic convert, worked to establish the colony of Maryland with the aim of creating a home for Catholics from Britain. Although George died before the Charter was approved, his sons took over the overseeing of the area.199

1636: Harvard is Founded:
Harvard was founded through a vote of the Great and General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the year 1636.200

1750: Growth of the Colonies:
The population of the 13 Colonies grew from zero in 1492 to approximately 1.25 million in 1750.201


1754-1763: The French and Indian War:
The French and Indian War (aka the Seven Years War) began in 1754. After determined fighting by both sides in the Ohio River Valley, British forces captured Quebec and Montreal. The treaty signed between Britain and France gave all French held lands east of the Mississippi to the British, with the exception of New Orleans. However, a subsequent peace treaty made between the British and Chief Pontiac prohibited settlement of this area.

1775: Revolutionary War:
Colonial Militia engage British Regulars at Lexington, firing the first shots of the Revolutionary War.

1776: Declaration of Independence:
The Declaration of Independence is adopted by the Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

1777: Articles of Confederation:
Adoption of the Articles of Confederation.

1778: Franco-American Treaty:
The Franco-American Treaty of Alliance is signed in Paris. A French fleet under the command of Comte d’Estaing is deployed to the New York Coast later that year. French ground forces arrive to support the Continental Army in 1780.

1780 to 1860
1783: Revolutionary War Ends:
The United States and Great Britain sign a peace treaty in Paris, marking the end of the Revolutionary War and recognition of U.S. sovereignty.

1787: The U.S. Constitution:
The U.S. Constitution is drafted and adopted.

1789: Our 1st President:
On April 30, 1789, George Washington was sworn in as the first president of the United States of America. Washington was a military man who distinguished himself as a delegate for Virginia at the Second Continental Congress, and as the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. He was President for two terms. Washington died of a throat infection in 1799.


1791: Bill of Rights:
Pushed by Thomas Jefferson and other Anti-Federalists, the Bill of Rights are added to the U.S. Constitution to protect civil liberties.\textsuperscript{210}

1791-1794: Whiskey Rebellion:
The Whiskey Rebellion erupts in western Pennsylvania over a federal law that taxed whiskey makers. President George Washington is forced to send 13,000 Federal troops to the region to put down the insurrection.\textsuperscript{211}

1794: Cotton Gin:
Eli Whitney patents the cotton gin to separate seeds from the crop. This was previously done by hand.\textsuperscript{212}

1800: Left & Right Shoes:
In Philadelphia, William Young creates shoes specifically designed for the left and right feet.\textsuperscript{213}

1803: Louisiana Purchase:
The U.S. government purchases all French held lands between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains from Napoleon for $15 million. The Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the U.S.\textsuperscript{214}

1804: Burr & Hamilton Duel:
Over accusations of slanderous comments made by Alexander Hamilton during Aaron Burr’s failed bid for governor of New York, Burr challenges the fellow statesman to a duel. Burr shoots Hamilton in the abdomen, the latter dies of his wounds the following day.\textsuperscript{215}

1808: American Fur Company:
John Jacob Astor founded the American Fur Company in 1808. By his death in 1848 he was a multi-millionaire, and the wealthiest man in North America. As a New York businessman, his fur trade with American Indians greatly shaped the early economy of New York City. He traded furs all over the world that were originally acquired from American Indians. His trade with China, a country rich in gold and silver, was especially important to his success.\textsuperscript{216}

1812-1814: War of 1812:
The War of 1812 is waged in North America.\textsuperscript{217}

\textsuperscript{210}Moore, Dan, ed., \textit{Social Studies and Language: Southwestern Advantage} (Nashville: R.R. Donnelley) p. 68.

\textsuperscript{211}Moore, Dan, ed., \textit{Social Studies and Language: Southwestern Advantage} (Nashville: R.R. Donnelley) p. 86.


1820: Missionaries in Hawaii:
Missionaries from the U.S. make first landing in the Hawaiian Islands.\textsuperscript{218}

1823: Doctrine of Discovery:
In the 1823 \textit{Johnson v. M’Intosh} case, the Doctrine of Discovery was confirmed as legitimate by the U.S. Supreme Court, after already being adopted into United States Law. The doctrine was the legal basis that supported the idea of Manifest Destiny, which is the concept that American (U.S.) peoples were destined to spread across North America from ocean to ocean. This affirmed the belief that Americans had the God given right to expand into American Indian lands.\textsuperscript{219}

1825: Erie Canal:
The 363-mile Erie Canal is built, linking Buffalo and Albany.\textsuperscript{220}

1836: The Republic of Texas:
Settlers in Texas declare independence. This led to the Mexican siege of the Alamo and the Battle of San Jacinto. The area then became the Republic of Texas until the peaceful annexation by the U.S. in 1846.\textsuperscript{221}

1837: State of Michigan:
Michigan joins the Union and becomes the 26\textsuperscript{th} state.\textsuperscript{222}

1844: First Electric Telegraph:
The first message sent via electric telegraph, on an experimental line from Washington D.C. to Baltimore, is made by Samuel F.B. Morse.\textsuperscript{223}

1846: Sewing Machine:
The sewing machine is patented by Elias Howe.\textsuperscript{224}

1846-1848: Mexican-American War:
After the United States annexed Texas in 1845, tensions grew over boundary issues between the United States and Mexico. When the Mexican President, José Joaquín Herrera, refused to meet with a U.S. negotiator charged with buying up more Mexican land, U.S. troops were deployed to disputed territory and the war began soon after. The war ended in 1848 with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, under which


\textsuperscript{222} LeBeau, Partick Russell, \textit{Rethinking Michigan Indian History} (East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2005) p. 100.


the United States paid a large sum of money ($15,000,000) to Mexico for much of what is now New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California, Texas, and western Colorado.  

1849: 1st American Female Doctor:  
In 1849, Elizabeth Blackwell became the first American woman to earn an M.D. She also went on to found an infirmary for women and children in 1857.  

1853: Forced Trade with Japan:  
Japan is forced to open to U.S. trade, after Commodore Matthew Perry arrives in Edo Bay with four steam-powered warships, bringing the implication of hostilities if trade is not an option.  

1857: Dred Scott v. Sandford:  
The U.S. Supreme Court rules that a slave is not a citizen in the case Dred Scott v. Sandford.  

1860 to 1900  
1860: Pony Express:  
The Pony Express begins work, carrying mail from Missouri to California.  

1861-1865: United States Civil War:  
The United States Civil War raged from 1861 to 1865.  

1862: Homestead Act:  
The Homestead Act of 1862 encouraged westward expansion into American Indian lands, and was intended to encourage the establishment of small family farms and homesteads. The Act granted land to settlers as long as they resided on the land for 5 years, and “improved” it, by constructing buildings on it. Unfortunately, much of the land claimed was already occupied by American Indians. Another problem with legislation was that ranchers, miners, lumber men, and railroads often used loopholes in the act to acquire land that was intended for small farms. 

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225 Encyclopedia Britannica: Mexican-American War.  

226 National Library of Medicine: Changing the Face of Medicine: Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell.  


231 National Archives. 100 Milestone Documents: Homestead Act (1862).  
1865: Lincoln Assassinated:
On April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot in the head by John Wilkes Booth at Ford’s Theater (in Washington D.C.). President Lincoln died early the next morning.  

1867: Purchase of Alaska:
The U.S. purchases Alaska from Russia for $7.2 million.

1869: Transcontinental Railroad:
With passage of the Pacific Railway Act in 1862, two companies began constructing cross-country railroads aided by special government subsidies (assistance). Although both railroads faced many challenges, the first transcontinental railroad was completed in Utah on May 10, 1869.

1871: P.T. Barnum’s Circus:
In New York, P.T. Barnum’s circus makes its first performance. Billed as “The Greatest Show on Earth.”

1871: Chicago Fire:
The Chicago Fire burns down much of the city and results in 250 deaths.

1874: Gold in the Black Hills:
In 1874, gold was discovered in the Black Hills by the United States Army.

1878: Electric Light Bulb:
Thomas Edison invents the electric light bulb.

1885: The Statue of Liberty:
The Statue of Liberty arrives in New York as a gift from the French.

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1885: Huckleberry Finn:
In 1885, Mark Twain published the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. ²⁴¹

1885: AT&T:
In 1885, the American Telegraph and Telephone Company began.²⁴²

1895: Disappearing Buffalo:
Buffalo populations reached an all time low of 1,000 in North America. In pre-contact times the Buffalo population was estimated to be around 60 million. The Buffalo of North America were purposely exterminated to make way for westward expansion and to sell for economic gain. This extermination of buffalo also led to starvation and drastic lifestyle changes for many American Indian Tribes.²⁴³

1896: Republic of Hawaii:
Hawaii becomes a Republic in 1896.²⁴⁴

1898: Spanish-American War:
The Spanish-American War erupts over the mysterious explosion of the U.S.S. Maine in Spanish-held Cuba. The four-month war effectively ended Spain’s declining role as an imperial power and brought about independence in Cuba (with the U.S. acquiring Guantanamo Bay), as well as the U.S. seizure of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines (resulting in a fairly brutal occupation).²⁴⁵

1900 to 1950
1900: Population Growth:
By 1900 the total population of the United States had reached over 75 million people. ²⁴⁶

1900: U.S. Hall of Fame:
In 1900 the United States Hall of Fame for Great Americans was established. It was the first “Hall of Fame” in the world.²⁴⁷


1900-1901: Hay-Pauncefote Treaties:
In 1900 and 1901, the United State signed two Hay-Pauncefote Treaties with Great Britain. The combined treaties secured the sole right of the United States to build a canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (the Panama Canal).248

1901: McKinley Assassinated:
In September of 1901 President William McKinley was assassinated. The presidency was taken over by his vice-president, Theodore Roosevelt.249

1903: First Flight:
The Wright Brothers flew the first airplane in North Carolina, and were in the air for 12 seconds.250

1907-1932: Ziegfeld Follies:
The Ziegfeld Follies were a string of Broadway shows put on by Florenz Ziegfeld from 1907 until 1932.251

1908: The FBI:
The Federal Bureau of Investigation was founded in 1908 (under the name U.S. Bureau of Investigation).252

1908: The Model T:
The Model T Ford was released in the American market (by Henry Ford).253

1912: President Wilson:
In November of 1912, Woodrow Wilson defeated Teddy Roosevelt and William Taft in the presidential election.254

1913: The Assembly Line:
The Assembly line was put into practice by Henry Ford in 1913. The system changed how goods were manufactured around the world. 255


1914: Chaplin's 1st Film:
In 1914, Charlie Chaplin made his first film. It was a short film called "Making a Living." Chaplin went on to make over thirty more short films that year, and eventually became one of the biggest stars of the film industry.256

1920-1933: Prohibition:
Alcohol was outlawed in the United States by the 18th Amendment, an Amendment supported by the Volstead Act of 1920.257

1925: The Great Gatsby:
F. Scott Fitzgerald published The Great Gatsby in 1925.258

1927: Talking Pictures:
In 1926, Don Juan became the first movie with a pre-recorded score and sound effects, but The Jazz Singer, released in 1927, was the first with people speaking. The Jazz singer changed the movie industry forever.259

1927: Babe Ruth's Record:
Babe Ruth set the home run record at 60 home runs while playing for the New York Yankees. His record held until 1961.260

1929: Stock Market Crash:
The Great Depression was triggered by the stock market crash of 1929.261

1929: Tremont Hotel: Plumbing:
In 1929, the Tremont Hotel (in Boston) became the first hotel with indoor plumbing. 262

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1931: Dracula:  
The movie Dracula (based on Bram Stoker’s novel) is released, with Bela Lugosi playing the lead role.263

1932-1934: Bonnie & Clyde:  
Famous crime duo Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow went on a crime spree of robberies and murders.264 They were killed in a shootout with police in 1934.265

1933: White House Air:  
In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had air-conditioning installed in a portion of the White House. He also had a special swimming pool built, in part as therapy for his polio.266

1934: Detroit Lions:  
The Detroit Lions began in Detroit in 1934. Prior to this, the team was known as the Spartans, and was based out of Ohio.267

1937: Memorial Day Massacre:  
Chicago Police killed 10 union workers protesting the Republic Steel Company.268

1940: The First McDonalds:  
The first McDonalds food was served from a hamburger stand built in California in 1940.269

1942: Internment of Japanese Americans:  
President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the imprisonment of over 100,000 Japanese Americans in U. S. concentration camps in 1942, despite their status as United States citizens. This decision was due to the growing anti-Japanese sentiments sparked by WWII (especially the attack on Pearl Harbor).270


1943: Race Riots:
In 1943, racial tensions were brought to a head in many U.S. cities. Hundreds were injured and over 20 people died in the Detroit riots alone. Other riots took place in New York, L.A., and other cities across the country.271

1944: GI Bill of Rights:
In 1944, the U.S. Congress put the GI Bill of Rights into law. This important legislation was designed to provide benefits for veterans, including funding for college educations.272

1947: The Truman Doctrine:
In March of 1947, President Harry S. Truman asked congress to financially aid Greece and Turkey in combating communism in their respective countries, and established a policy to support anti-communist efforts around the world. This policy, known as the Truman Doctrine, was a model for United States foreign policy for years to come, especially in the Cold War era. The main tenet behind the creation of this policy was the idea that the more communism in the world, the more of a threat it posed to American democracy.273

1947: Roswell Crash:
In 1947, an unidentified aircraft crashed at Roswell New Mexico and sparked conspiracy theories about UFOs and alien life forms visiting the area. The United States Air Force originally identified it as a weather balloon, and later (in 1994) identified it as an experimental spy craft, but theories of aliens and UFOs still persist. Interestingly enough, the same year, the Air Force started Project Blue Book, a project whose purpose was to research reports of UFOs and other unexplained incidents happening in the skies.274

1949: NBA:
In 1949 the National Basketball Association began and went on to help basketball become a top sport in the United States.275

1950 to 2012
1950: Color TV:
Television broadcasts in color became a regular occurrence in the United States.276

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273 National Archives. 100 Milestone Documents: Truman Doctrine (1947). 


1951: Dennis v. United States:
The U.S. Supreme Court legitimized the prosecution of 11 American communist leaders by upholding the Smith Alien Registration Act of 1940, despite the freedom of speech and freedom of expression guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution.\(^{277}\)

1951: Computers on the Market:
The Universal Automatic Computer (UNIVAC) was the first computer available for business and organizational use. It was released to the market in 1951.\(^{278}\)

1954: Army-McCarthy Hearings:
In 1954, Senator Joe McCarthy’s shady methods of accusing spies and “dangerous communists” came to light in the Army-McCarthy hearings, and he was censured by the U.S. Senate.\(^{278}\)

1956: Elvis:
In 1956 at the age of 21, Elvis Presley broke into the Rock and Roll scene, and began his rise to become the King of Rock and Roll.\(^{280}\) In 1956, Elvis recorded songs for his first album titled “Elvis Presley,” including Heartbreak Hotel, for which he received a Gold Record.\(^{281}\)

1957: Roth v. United States:
In 1957, the Supreme Court limited the 1\(^{st}\) Amendment, by defining obscenity, and declaring that it is not protected by the 1\(^{st}\) Amendment. This allowed for people to be prosecuted for obscenity.\(^{282}\)

1958: Mackinac Bridge:
In 1958 the Mackinac Bridge was finished, allowing passage between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas of Michigan. It was designed by engineer, Dr. David B. Steinman, and included the world’s longest suspension bridge at the center of its structure.\(^{283}\)

1960: To Kill A Mockingbird:
In July of 1960, To Kill A Mockingbird was released by U.S. author Harper Lee.\(^{284}\)


1960: 1st Televised Debate:
The first televised Presidential Debate between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon was broadcast on September 26, 1960.  

1962: Cuban Missile Crisis:
In 1962, President John F. Kennedy received information that the Soviet Union was building secret missile installations in Cuba. Even though the Soviet Union denied the allegations, President Kennedy stated that any attack from Cuba would be considered an attack by the Soviet Union and ordered a naval blockade of Cuba to prevent any more weapons from reaching its shores. After threats that the U.S. would invade Cuba, the leader of the Soviet Union negotiated that all missiles in Cuba would be dismantled, as long as the United States agreed not to invade.

1965: U.S. in Vietnam:
U.S. military involvement in the Vietnam War began in 1965 with over 100,000 troops deployed to the country.

1966: The Black Panthers:
The Black Panther Party was a civil rights organization founded in Oakland, California in 1966 to fight for African American Rights. Some of the rights the Panther Party called for in their party platform were the right to full employment for the people, the right to decent housing, the right to education, and the right to live free from violence and murder by police. Over the years, the Black Panthers created and participated in many projects to better communities, including: drama, GED, and health classes; numerous free programs such as a free ambulance service, free breakfast for children program, free dental program, free food program, free health clinics, free housing cooperatives, and many more; and aid and instruction programs for youth, students, prisoners, and others. Despite these positive social programs, the Panthers are mostly remembered for violence, and as an extreme radical group. This is due mostly to violent clashes with police and other groups, and also to the way the Panthers portrayed themselves as a militant group both in the media and public sphere.

1969: Woodstock:
In August of 1969, the Woodstock music festival took place on a farm in New York. The four day festival had over 30 musical groups, including super stars like Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, and The Grateful Dead. Over 500,000 people attended. Because of the festival’s message of peace, openness, and personal

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freedom, its sheer size, and its embodiment of the hippie era culture, the festival is perhaps the most famous in history. 292

1969: First Men on the Moon:
In 1969, Americans Neil Armstrong, and Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon in their Apollo 11 lunar module. They were the first men to walk on the surface of the moon, and Neil Armstrong issued his famous quote “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”293

1970: Kent State Shootings:
National Guard members fired on a group of protesters at Kent State University on May 4th, 1970. Students around the country were protesting the Vietnam War, but the National Guard was called to Kent State due to ongoing protests in the surrounding area, including a fight between police and protesters on May 1st. A protest rally scheduled for noon on May 4th was banned on campus, so the National Guard was sent in to disperse the crowd of more than 5,000 students. Although stories differ on the exact details of the shooting, at some point guardsmen fired into the crowd, killing four students and wounding nine. The shooting at Kent State had a major impact on politics and life in the United States. 294

1973: U.S. Leaves Vietnam:
In 1973 the Vietnam War ended for the United States with the Paris Peace Accords, although civil war continued in the region for another two years.295

1974: Nixon Resigns:
President Nixon resigned in 1974, due to the Watergate scandal and impeachment charges that followed.296

1975: Personal Computers:
Personal Computers (PCs) became available in 1975. The new computers were more reasonably priced and were designed for everyday people to use at home and work.297

1977: Star Wars:
The first Star Wars movie was created by American writer-director George Lucas in 1977.298


1982: Thriller:
In 1982 Michael Jackson released the album Thriller.\(^{299}\) It would go on to become the “Biggest Selling Album of All Time,” according to the Guinness Book of World Records. Michael Jackson was also recognized as “The Most Successful Entertainer of All Time,” and had a huge influence on music, music videos, and general pop culture since his childhood.\(^{300}\)

1986: Challenger Explosion:
In January of 1986 the United States “Challenger” space shuttle exploded shortly after take-off, killing its seven crew members. Billions of people around the world watched the event on live television.\(^{301}\)

1990: Persian Gulf War:
When Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, the United Nations responded quickly by imposing sanctions on Iraq, and American forces and their allies began bombing Iraq in January of 1991. By the end of February Iraqi forces had been pushed out of Kuwait, but Saddam Hussein was left in power.\(^{302}\)

1992: L.A. Riots:
In 1992, four police officers were acquitted of beating Rodney King, an African American man, despite the video footage of the beating that was aired around the world. Following the acquittal, race riots and looting went on for days in the Los Angeles area. During the riots over 50 people were killed, 4,000 were injured, and 12,000 arrested.\(^{303}\)

1993: Trade Center Bombing:
In February of 1993, Muslim extremists bombed the World Trade Center in New York City. Through expansive investigations the FBI traced the bomb to a rental van, and uncovered a complex plot with 7 identified suspects, and numerous targets besides the trade center. Six of the suspects were apprehended and convicted. One of the plotter's uncles was involved in the World Trade Center bombing in 2011.\(^{304}\)

1995: Oklahoma City Bombing:
On April 19\(^{305}\), 1995 Americans Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols succeeded in an extremist plot to blow up the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. 168 people were killed in the explosion. McVeigh was later executed, and Nichols was sentenced to life in prison.\(^{305}\)


1998: Clinton Impeached:
President Bill Clinton was impeached by the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998, due to a scandal involving White House Intern Monica Lewinsky. Clinton was only the second President to be impeached. The Senate found him not guilty of the charges against him, and he finished out the rest of his elected term as President.306

1998: Google:
Google starts up in a garage in Menlo Park, California. In June of 2000, Google became the World’s largest search engine.307

1999: Columbine:
In April of 1999, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold attacked Columbine High School near Denver, Colorado. The two teens were students at the High School, and brought firearms to school where they went on a shooting rampage, killing 13 people, and then themselves.308 The incident at Columbine raised awareness of school violence around the country (along with other incidents of school violence over the next few years), and changed the way schools deal with security.309

2001: September 11th, 2011:
On September 11th, 2001, a coordinated terrorist attack was executed against the United States. Two hijacked airplanes crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City, one crashed into the Pentagon, and the fourth plane crashed in Pennsylvania, failing to reach its destination of Camp David. Both towers of the World Trade Center collapsed, with devastating effects.310 2,977 people were killed in the attacks, as well as the 19 hijackers.311

2003: Iraq War:
The United States invaded Iraq in March of 2003, and although they took control of the capital city, Baghdad, rather quickly, American troops stayed in the area to control looting and violent attacks by insurgents.312 In 2009, President Barack Obama announced that U.S. troops would withdraw completely

by 2011. The last U.S. Troops withdrew in December of 2011. From 2003 to December 2011, there were 4,801 U.S. and Coalition deaths.

2005: Hurricane Katrina:
Hurricane Katrina developed in the Bahamas around August 23rd, 2005, and first hit land in Florida on August 25th, with over 80 mile per hour winds. On the 29th, winds reached over 190 miles per hour in some areas, and the hurricane hit hard in Louisiana and areas of Alabama, and Mississippi. The city of New Orleans saw the worst devastation. The floodwalls failed, and much of the city was under 20 feet of water. Millions of people were left without power, and a vast amount of people lacked sources of drinking water. In the aftermath of Katrina, the U.S. government was criticized for inadequate preparation for an emergency of Katrina’s scale, and the Government and other emergency service organizations began improving emergency plans. Although no exact number of deaths due to Katrina has been arrived at, it is generally agreed to be over 1,300.

World History

500 to 1492
605: The Grand Canal:
In China, Yangdi, second emperor of the Sui Dynasty, orders the construction of the Grand Canal. The 1,500 mile feat connected Beijing to Hangzhou. Although the costs of construction did much to undermine the short-lived Sui Dynasty, the lasting impact of the canal fueled much of the successes of the following Tang Dynasty.

1000: Norsemen in the Western Hemisphere:
Sometime around 1000 A.D. Norsemen from Scandinavia visited the Western Hemisphere, around 500 years earlier than Columbus. They established settlements in Greenland, and made multiple trips to Newfoundland and the surrounding region over the next few hundred years.

317 MSNBC. Death toll from Katrina likely higher than 1,300. Last updated 02/10/06. http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/11281267/ns/us_news‐katrina_the_long_road_back/t/death‐toll‐katrina‐likely‐higher. (Accessed May 10th, 2010).
1044: First Compass:
The first compass is developed in China. It was comprised of a magnetized iron fish that floated in a bowl of water, indicating the direction of South.\(^\text{320}\)

1044: Recipe for Gunpowder:
The Song Dynasty publishes the formula for gunpowder. A Daoist text from the 9\textsuperscript{th} Century had detailed the exact ingredients for making gunpowder, but did not specify the formula.\(^\text{321}\)

1045-48: First Moveable Type:
The first printing system that used movable type is invented in China by Bi Sheng. It allowed for much easier production of different books by the same printer.\(^\text{322}\)

1348: The Black Death:
In 1348 the Black Death, also known as the Bubonic Plague, began to spread in Europe. Over the next few years, it spread throughout the region. The plague killed around 30\% of the population,\(^\text{323}\) but in some towns and villages up to 90\% of the population. The plague returned over the next several decades, but with less devastating effects.\(^\text{324}\)

1436: Gutenberg Printing Press:
The Gutenberg Printing Press revolutionized the way that information was recorded and distributed. Books became accessible to more people. Because information was more easily distributed; science, art, and ideas in general were able to spread around the world much more quickly.\(^\text{325}\)

1492 to 1780

1492: Spanish Drive the Moors From Spain:
King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella drive the Moors from Spain at the Battle of Granada.\(^\text{326}\)

1492: Columbus’ 1\textsuperscript{st} Journey:
Columbus embarks on his first and iconic journey from Palos, Spain.\(^\text{327}\)

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1501-1505: David:
The famed sculpture, “David,” is created by Michelangelo.328

1503: The Mona Lisa:
Leonardo da Vinci paints “Mona Lisa.”329

1517: Martin Luther:
Martin Luther publicly criticizes the indulgences of the Church through his posting of the 95 theses in Wittenberg, Germany, beginning the Reformation.330

1519-1521: Magellan:
Ferdinand Magellan sets sail from Seville to be the first explorer to circumnavigate the globe. Although he is killed on one of the Pacific islands of Ladrones, one of his ships, under the command of the Basque, Juan Sebastian del Cano, completes the voyage back to Seville.331

1519-1550: Spain in the Americas:
With forces under Cortez moving north through Mexico and forces of Pizarro moving south along the Western Andes, Spain conquers much of South America (excluding Brazil), Central America, and large swathes of what would become the southern United States. A ruthless suzerainty ensues.332

1526: The Moguls Invade India:
Under the command of Babur, the Moguls invade India.333

1533-1584: Ivan the Terrible:
Ivan the Terrible rules Russia.334

1554: Sao Paulo:
Sao Paulo is founded in Brazil.335

November 17th, 1558-1603: Reign of Elizabeth I:
Elizabeth Tudor became Queen of England in November of 1558, and ruled until her death in 1603.336


1559: Tobacco:
Tobacco from the Americas is introduced to the European market.\textsuperscript{337}

1600: Tokugawa Shogunate in Japan:
Tokugawa Ieyasu completed the unification of Japan, thereby ending the Sengoku Period (over a century of near-perpetual warfare) and established the Tokugawa Shogunate.\textsuperscript{338}

1600: Hamlet:
Hamlet is written by William Shakespeare.\textsuperscript{339}

1608: Quebec Established:
Quebec, the first city in Canada, is established by Samuel de Champlain.\textsuperscript{340}

1612: Formal Government in Canada:
Formal government is established in Canada with Louis de Bourbon, nephew to French King Louis XIII, appointed as Governor of New France.\textsuperscript{341}

1616: The Blue Mosque:
Construction of The Blue Mosque is completed in Istanbul, Turkey.\textsuperscript{342}

1618-1648: The Thirty Years War:
The Thirty Years War rages in Europe.\textsuperscript{343}

1644: Collapse of the Ming Dynasty in China:
The Ming Dynasty in China collapses under the weight of rebellions. Instead of allowing rebels to take the capital, a Ming general allows Manchu armies in from the North. They defeat the rebels and establish the Qing Dynasty.\textsuperscript{344}

1652: Cape Town:
Cape Town is founded by the Dutch in South Africa.\textsuperscript{345}

\textsuperscript{336} Folger Shakespeare Library. Queen Elizabeth I: Fun Facts. \url{http://www.folger.edu/template.cfm?cid=1257}. (Accessed June 18\textsuperscript{th}, 2012).


1690: The English in India:
The English establish a trading post in Calcutta, India.346

1701: Great Peace of Montreal:
The Great Peace of Montreal is signed, ending hostilities between the Iroquois and the French in Canada.347

1707: The United Kingdom:
England, Scotland, and Wales are unified under the Act of Union, thereby establishing the United Kingdom.348

1730: Maratha Confederacy Fights Mogul Empire in India:
In India, the Maratha Confederacy begins to wrestle control from the weakening Mogul Empire.349

1755: University of Moscow:
The University of Moscow is founded in Russia.350

1756-1763: The Seven Years War:
The Seven Years War (known as the French and Indian War in North America). Arguably the First World War, it was fought between Britain and Prussia against France, Spain, Austria, and Russia. At its end, several territories across the globe switched hands between these colonial powers.351

1760-1850: Industrial Revolution:
The Industrial Revolution began in England in the late 1700s and spread to change the way people lived all around the world. New technologies changed the way people grew agricultural products, manufactured goods, communicated and travelled. Metal farm tools and machinery, mechanized production of fabrics, improvements in the production of iron and coal mining, and the steam engine were all changes that affected the way people worked and lived. This period marked a notable shift from people working mainly from their homes, to people travelling to work at large scale farming and manufacturing operations.352


1762: Invention of the Sandwich:
The sandwich is invented in England and named after the Earl of Sandwich.353

1769: The Steam Engine:
James Watt, a Scottish machinist, patents the modern steam engine.354

1778: La Scala Opera House:
In 1778, La Scala Opera House opened in Milan, Italy.355

1780 to 1860
1788: Prisoners Arrive in Australia:
The first ships carrying prisoners arrive at Botany Bay, Australia.356

1796: Edward Jenner’s Smallpox Experiment:
In 1796, Edward Jenner performed his first experiment with Smallpox vaccinations. Over the next few years, he duplicated the vaccination, and his work was finally accepted and published in 1798. Today he is sometimes called the “father of immunology.”357

1799-1815: The Napoleonic Wars:
After taking power in 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte began expanding the French Empire, leading to The Napoleonic Wars.358

1806: Napoleon Dissolves the Holy Roman Empire:
The Holy Roman Empire is dissolved by Napoleon.359

1811-1819: Spanish Expelled From South America:
Simon Bolivar wages war against the Spanish in South America, eventually expelling them from the continent.360


1822: Royal Academy of Music:
The Royal Academy of Music is opened in London, England.\textsuperscript{361}

1823: Water-Proof Clothing:
Water-proof clothing is invented by the Scottish chemist, Charles Mackintosh.\textsuperscript{362}

1825: Brazilian Independence:
Portugal recognizes Brazil’s independence.\textsuperscript{363}

1832: Electromagnetic Telegraph:
In 1832, Samuel Morse came up with the idea of the electromagnetic telegraph. It took a few years to perfect the design and to set up the necessary connections, so the first commercial telegraph was not put to use until 1846.\textsuperscript{364}

1838: Spark of the Opium Wars:
In China, Lin Zexu is dispatched by the Qing government to seize all illegal Opium and destroy it. In response, the British launch the first Opium War (1839-42), ending in the Treaty of Nanjing and beginning the Century of Humiliation for China, in which foreign powers increasingly forced China into unequal treaties.\textsuperscript{365}

1840: The Only Treatment:
Because of its effectiveness, by 1840 Edward Jenner's treatment for smallpox was the only method the British Government allowed for treatment of the disease.\textsuperscript{366}

1845-1846: Potato Famine in Ireland:
The Potato Famine in Ireland results from a blight on the crop. A million citizens starve, while a million more flee the beleaguered country (most emigrate to the United States).\textsuperscript{367}

1850: Taiping Rebellion in China:
Claiming to be the brother of Jesus Christ, Hong Xiuquan begins the Taiping Rebellion in China. The war rages until 1864 and with over 20 million dead, it is largely considered the bloodiest civil war in human history.\textsuperscript{368}


1857: Sepoy Rebellion in India:
The Sepoy Rebellion begins in India when local soldiers of the British East India Company’s private army mutiny.369

1860 to 1900
1869: Completion of the Suez Canal:
The Suez Canal is completed, linking the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, as well as shortening the travel distance from Britain to India by 4,000 miles.370

1871: The German Empire:
Otto von Bismarck becomes the chancellor of the newly formed German Empire.371

1875: The Telephone:
Alexander Graham Bell invented the Telephone in 1875.372

1877: Satsuma Samurai Rebellion:
Angered by the Meiji Emperors abolition of samurai’s elite status in Japan, remaining samurai of the Satsuma Clan rebel. The Satsuma Rebellion marked the end of the samurai in Japan.373

1879: The Zulu War:
The Zulu War in South Africa between the British Empire and the Zulu Kingdom.374

1888: Jack the Ripper:
London is terrorized by Jack the Ripper.375

1895: Cuban Revolt Against Spain:
Cubans revolt against Spanish rule.376

1896: Resurrection of Olympics:
The Olympic Games are resurrected in their international forum and are held in Athens, Greece.\(^{377}\)

1900 to 1950
1900: Labour Party:
In 1900 the Labour Party was formed in England in order to represent the working class in the House of Commons.\(^{378}\)

1901: Transatlantic Radio:
The first transatlantic radio signal was sent from England on December 12\(^{th}\), 1901.\(^{379}\)

1901-1904: Picasso’s “Blue Period”:
Spanish artist Pablo Picasso was in his “Blue Period” from 1901 to 1904.\(^{380}\)

1905: Einstein’s Theory of Relativity:
Einstein’s Theory of Relativity was released in 1905.\(^{381}\)

1910: Akira Kurosawa Born:
In 1910 film writer and director Akira Kurosawa was born in Japan. He would go on to become one of the most famous movie directors in history.\(^{382}\)

1912: Sinking of the Titanic:
In April of 1912, the British ship Titanic sunk, killing over 1,500 people.\(^{383}\)

1914-1918: WWI:
World War I (also known as the Great War) began in 1914, with the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Throne. Originally, Russia, Great Britain and France were allied against Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey. The United States joined the war in 1917.\(^{384}\)

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1917: NHL:
The first season of the National Hockey League was in 1917.385

1919 - 1921: Irish War of Independence:
The Irish Republican Army fought for Irish independence against the British army and Irish Protestants.386

1920: CCP: Communist Party of China:
The Communist Party of China (CCP) was founded in May of 1920.387

1923: Assassination of Pancho Villa:
Francisco "Pancho" Villa, a general and great leader of the Mexican Revolution and Mexican Civil War was assassinated in 1923.388

1928: Penicillin:
In 1928 Alexander Fleming (Scottish bacteriologist) discovered Penicillin by accident.389 The medicine eventually changed the treatment and survival chances of certain illnesses drastically. Penicillin was first used on a large scale during WWII, and became available to the public soon after.390

1928: Joseph Stalin:
In 1928 Joseph Stalin took control of the Soviet Union.391 Stalin was a ruthless dictator who executed thousands of Soviets, and sent millions more to slave labor camps (gulags). Despite the atrocities he committed on his own people, he played an important role in the defeat of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis, although it cost the Soviet Union millions of lives.392

1929-1939: The Great Depression:
Although the Great Depression was triggered by the 1929 crash of the Stock Market in the United States, it quickly spread around the world, and continued until around 1939.393

1936-1939: The Spanish Civil War:


The government forces of the Second Spanish Republic fought fascist Francisco Franco in the Spanish Civil War from 1936 to 1939. Franco was supported by Hitler and Mussolini, and eventually won out over the elected government’s forces, beginning his fascist reign that lasted until 1975.394

1936: Picasso’s Guernica:
Pablo Picasso painted his well known painting Guernica, inspired by the violence of the Spanish Civil War.395

1937: The Hobbit:
The Hobbit was published by J.R.R. Tolkien.396

1937: The Hindenburg:
The German Hindenburg, a hydrogen filled zeppelin (blimp), exploded in New Jersey.397

September 1, 1939: WWII Begins: After Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, other countries around the world began to take sides either with Germany (the Axis) or against them (the Allies). Tens of millions of military personnel and civilians lost their lives in this war. At least 6 million of the casualties were Jews killed in the Holocaust.398

1944: D-Day:
Allied forces landed in Normandy on June 6th, and eventually swept across the region to liberate multiple European cities, including Paris and Brussels.399

1945: Hiroshima and Nagasaki:
In 1945, the United States used atomic bombs to decimate the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing hundreds of thousands of Japanese. Hundreds of thousands more were injured. The effects of these nuclear bombs were still killing Japanese in the area decades later.400

1945: The United Nations:
The United Nations Charter was signed by 50 countries in June of 1945, and was signed by Poland shortly after. United Nations day is celebrated on October 24th because that is when the United Nations officially began as an organization.401 The charter states:

“The Purposes of the United Nations are:

1. To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace;
2. To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace;
3. To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion; and
4. To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.”

Over the years, the United Nations has grown from 51 original members to 193 members in 2011.403

1946-1949: Civil War in Greece:
Communist forces in the region took over much of Greece in 1946. The Greek civil war lasted from 1946-1949.404

1947: India & Pakistan:
In 1947, the independent nations of India and Pakistan were formed by dividing the former country of India. Over 500,000 people died due to violence between factions. Conflict between the two nations still exists today.405

1948: South African Apartheid:
In 1948, the newly elected government of South Africa began apartheid, a racist system of segregation. The practices of the government soon evolved into a police state that crushed any opposition to the new rule. This violent National Party government system ruled for over 40 years.406

1949: People’s Republic of China:
The Communist faction beat the Kuomintang in China, and won the Chinese Civil War in 1949. The People’s Republic of China was born, and still persists today.407

1949: The Cold War:
Although it actually began earlier, The Cold War began in earnest in 1949 with the detonation of a Soviet atomic bomb.408

1950 to 2012
1950-1953: Korean War:
In 1950, North Korea attacked South Korea, and sparked a war that would eventually include the United Nations and United States troops fighting on the side of South Korea, and China fighting alongside North Korea.409

1953: DNA Structure:
In 1953 two Scientists, American James Watson and British Francis Crick, figured out the way DNA is structured, an important step for genetic research.410

1954-1975: Vietnamese Civil War:
The Vietnamese Civil War began in 1954 with North Vietnamese (Viet Cong) guerilla warfare in South Vietnam.411

1956: Tunisian Independence:
Tunisia became an independent nation in 1956 with the French withdrawal.412

1957: First Satellite in Orbit:
In 1957, the first satellite to orbit the Earth (Sputnik 1) was launched by the Soviet Union, and the first dog to travel in space was launched in Sputnik 2.413 In the midst of the cold war, the Soviet Union and the U.S. competed to develop both military and space technology. This competition was known as the “space race.”414 The first American satellite to orbit Earth (Explorer 1), was launched in 1958.415

1957: Birth of The Beatles:
The Beatles transformed the music world, but started modestly in 1957 Liverpool. In 1957, George Harrison, John Lennon, Paul McCartney, and Pete Best started a band that would transform the world.


Ringo Starr replaced the drummer in 1962, and history was made. To date the Beatles have sold over 1 billion records around the world, and they still have the highest record sales of any artist in the United States.416

1958: Castro in Cuba:
Fidel Castro and his guerilla army took control of Cuba in 1958, and Castro became Prime Minister in 1959.417

1959: Exile of the Dalai Lama:
The 14th Dalai Lama fled into exile after a Tibetan revolt against the Chinese government.418

1961: The Berlin Wall:
On August 13th of 1961, East Germany (controlled by the Soviet Union) began building a boundary between East and West Berlin, and by August 23rd, all citizens were restricted to their side of the wall.419 The wall was built because the Soviet Union had strict control over a portion of Germany, while the U.S., France, and Great Britain held the rest of the country. In the midst of the Cold War, the Soviet Union felt the need to cut off their portion of Berlin from the rest of the city.420

1969: Muammar al-Qaddafi:
In 1969, Muammar al-Quaddafi became dictator of Libya and ruled for over 40 years. Throughout his reign he ruled his people with an iron fist, and was linked to terrorist attacks around the world. He was killed by a Libyan uprising in October 2011.421

1972: Hutu Massacre:
Over 100,000 Hutus were massacred by Tutsis in Burundi Africa.422

1979: Margaret Thatcher:
In 1979, Margaret Thatcher became the first female prime minister of Great Britain.423

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1979: Cellular Phones:
Cellular phone networks began in Japan and the United States. They became more widely used in the early 1980s.424

1981: AIDS Awareness:
In 1981, AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) was first identified as a distinct disease, allowing for the eventual study of its causes, symptoms, and possible cures.425

1982: CDs:
Compact Discs (CDs) were introduced in 1982.426

1985: Chernobyl:
In 1985, there was a nuclear reactor meltdown at the Chernobyl power station in the Ukraine (then part of the Soviet Union). With excessive radiation released into the area, dozens of people died from acute radiation poisoning shortly after the accident, and over 100 were diagnosed with radiation poisoning. Over 100,000 people were evacuated from the area immediately following the accident, and another 200,000-plus people from areas a little further out were relocated over the next few years. More recently, some areas near the Chernobyl disaster are being opened up for resettlement, but radiation levels are still elevated in the area.427

1989: Tienanmen Square:
In 1989, students and workers demonstrated for weeks in China, demanding political changes. On the evening of June 3rd, around 40,000 troops were sent in to end the protests at Tienanmen Square in Beijing. Up to 7,000 people were killed by the military, and another 20,000 wounded. 40-50,000 people were arrested following the incident, and dozens were executed.428

1991: End of the Soviet Union:
The Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, amidst a failed government coup. Boris Yeltsin was key in defeating the communist insurgency, and remained the head of the new Russian nation. Russia and other nations that were part of the Soviet Union formed a new organization: the Commonwealth of Independent States.429

1994: Rwandan Genocide:
In 1994, after a long history of ethnic tension between the Hutus and the Tutsis, around 800,000 Rwandans were killed in an atrocious campaign of ethnic cleansing. The 100 day stretch of violence was sparked by the death of the Rwandan President, who was also a Hutu. Eventually the Tutsis took control

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and many Hutus fled to the Democratic Republic of Congo. Despite the change in power, violence still persists in the region today, with an estimated 5 million deaths in the area.\textsuperscript{430}

**1997: Hong Kong, China:**
In 1997 the United Kingdom gave control of Hong Kong back to China, after being in control of the island for 150 years.\textsuperscript{431}

**1998: India & Pakistan Nuclear Tests:**
In May of 1998, India conducted nuclear tests, spurring Pakistan to do the same two weeks later. The two countries have a history of rivalry and intense animosity since the dissolution of the Indian Empire in 1947, and the testing of nuclear weapons capabilities sent the world into a state of alarm, with the United States and NATO threatening Pakistan with sanctions.\textsuperscript{432}

**2000: New Millenium:**
The new Millenium is celebrated around the world.

**2008: Australian Government issues Formal Apology:**
In February of 2008 the Australian Government issued a formal apology to the survivors and families negatively affected by their Residential School system.\textsuperscript{433}


