The Progressive Movement and the Transformation of America  
[Antebellum Reform Review](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Antebellum-Reform-Review)

**AP FOCUS:**Progressives were interested in making and American industry more humane by curbing the effects of industrial capitalism and checking the power of monopolies. This does not refer to a particular movement, rather a broad set of ideas

**A Snapshot of America in the**[**Summer of 1900**](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/w/page/51303114/Summer%20of%201900)

**Who were the Progressives?**[**Progressive Reform Review**](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Progressive-Reform-Review)

Progressives were**j**ournalists,**i**ntellectuals, and **p**olitical reformers whose reform efforts were aimed at returning control of the people, restoring economic opportunities, and correcting injustices in American life. The progressives simultaneously sought two goals: to use state power to curb the trusts and to stem the socialist threat by generally improving the common  person’s conditions of life and labor

**The THREE main strands of the Progressivism**

The movement was a wide ranging series of reforms (political, social, economic) at the national –state-local level focusing on three main areas:

#1 Anti-monopolies  and a fear of consolidated power

#2 [Social bonds](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Social-bonds) – society is an interconnected whole - let's help each other

#3 Science, expertise, and efficiency (elitist) – Expertise by virtue of education, profession to scientific reforming of society

**The**[**Targets of Progressive Reformers**](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Targets-of-Progressive-Reformers)**(**Optimism and possibility of  improving society)

**The Geography of Progressivism  (where did the Progressive reformers do their work?)**

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| Working**within** the Government | Working **outside** the Government |
| Mayors and Governors: Thomas Johnson, “Golden Rule” Jones, Hazen Pingree, Seth Low, Charles Evans Hughes, Robert LaFollette | Journalists, [muckrakers](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/muckrakers), social scientists: Upton Sinclair,  Jacob Riis,[Ida Tarbell](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Ida-Tarbell), Ida Wells-Barnett,  [David Phillips](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/David-Phillips); [Lincoln Steffens](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Lincoln-Steffens) |

Both groups have similar belief that the only reforms that work are **structural r**eforms

**Why did the Progressive movement happen in the 1890’s?**

Early reform attempts had failed…Populists were dominated by a single monetary issue bimetalism. State government railroad reforms were shot down by Supreme Court (remember Munn and Wabash cases?)

#1 Wave of **corporate mergers** between 1897 and 1901 refocuses the US on the problem of **consolidated power** ([Horizontal and Vertical Immigration](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/w/page/49937739/Horizontal%20Integration))  Over 4,2000 companies are consolidated into 250 corporations  Example- US STEEL –1901  [Standard Oil Monopoly](http://ballstonapush.pbworks.com/w/page/49834694/Standard%20Oil%20Octopus)

#2 More and more Americans were going to **college**. This leads to an expanded middle class and professions in social work, psychology, and individual participation – avenues?. The national literacy rates had been steadily increasing and was at 92% for both men and women by 1910

#3 **Print Media** - accelerated development of technology that accompanied America's industrialization made newspapers and literature mass-producible items, and the consumer culture that accompanied such industrialization created a demanding market for published works.so the number of people that were reachable through writing was very high.

#4 Power of the [**Muckrakers**](http://youtu.be/hVNE0gc2MyY) – Keeping the evils of industrialization in the forefront of the American conscience. Editors and publishers were eager to provide support for muckrakers' efforts as a way to boost circulation numbers and profits.

Thus, the genre that emerged was a combination of investigation, advocacy, sensationalism, and yellow journalism.  Journalists, [muckrakers](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/muckrakers), social scientists: Upton Sinclair, Jacob Riis, [Ida Tarbell](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Ida-Tarbell), Ida Wells-Barnett, [David Phillips](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/David-Phillips); [Lincoln Steffens](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Lincoln-Steffens)

Modern Day Muckraker: [Sicko Trailer](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UReMPrjMT9E)

#5 **Religious Dimensions** – “Social Gospel” Religious communities were encouraging people of faith to intervene without chastising the downtrodden.

**The Power of Ideas** - The progressive movement is compatible with the emergence of the social sciences.  Sociology, psychology and political science are coming on the scene.  These social scientist gather data and are patient and reflective about changing the world in a rationale way.   Have we seen this before?[Social Thought Review](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Social-Thought-Review)

**The Progressives in Government**



518 History - [Teddy Roosevelt becomes President](http://ballstonapush.pbworks.com/w/page/51348753/Ballston%201901)  
Vibrant, Visible, and Accessible

“Let the watchwords of all our people be the old familiar watchwords of honesty, decency, fairness, and commonsense… we must treat each man on his worth and merits as a man. We must see that each is given a square deal, because he is entitled to no more and should receive no less.” The welfare of each of us is dependent fundamentally upon the welfare of all of us.”-TR

**City Reforms**  
Progressive reform began at the local or city level because it was easier to implement than at the vast state or national level. Urban corruption from political machines was a major focus, resulting in the reorganization of local government using the commissioner-and city-manager-styles of management.

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| City Commissioner Plan | Cities hired experts in different fields to run a single aspect of city government.  For example, the sanitation commissioner would be in charge of garbage and  sewage removal.  [Connection  - City Commisioner Plan Galveston Texas](http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/moc01) |
| City Manager Plan | A professional city manager is hired to run each department of the city and report directly  to the city council. [Connection Troy - Michigan](http://troymi.gov/managers)  [Saratogian News Story on City Managers](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Saratogian-News-Story-on-City-Managers) |

**State Reforms**  
Reform governors such as **Theodore Roosevelt** of New York, [**Robert LaFollete**](http://apushcanvas.pbworks.com/Robert-LaFollete)of Wisconsin, and **Woodrow Wilson** of New Jersey, all helped get reforms passed in their respective states. In addition, reforms first proposed by the Populist Party were enacted in order to make state governments more responsive to the needs of the people.

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| [**Secret Ballot**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secret_ballot) | Privacy at the ballot box ensures that citizens can cast votes without party bosses knowing how they voted. |
| **Initiative** | Allows 5% of voters to petition state legislatures in order to consider a bill desired by citizens.  [Connections - ballot intiatives](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/Why_is_a_referendum_related_to_direct_democracy) |
| **Referendum** | Allows voters to decide if a bill or proposed amendment should be passed.  [Connections - Ballston Facilities Referendum](http://www.theballstonjournal.com/2010/10/facilities-improvement-bond-referendum-passes/) |
| **Recall** | Allows voters to petition to have an elected representative removed from office.    Connections - [California Recall 2003](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California_gubernatorial_recall_election,_2003) |
| **Direct Primary** | Ensures that voters select candidates to run for office, rather than party bosses. |

**Federal Reforms**  
During the Progressive Era, the Federal Government passed an enormous amount of legislation designed to conserve the environment, tighten past economic regulations, preserve the health and safety of American citizens, and generally provide needed capitalist reforms.

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| **Newlands Reclamation Act** (1902) | Encouraged conservation by allowing the building of dams and irrigations systems using money from the sale of public lands. |
| **Elkins Act** (1903) | Outlawed the use of rebates by railroad officials or shippers. |
| **Pure Food and Drug Act** (1906/1911) | Required that companies accurately label the ingredients contained in processed food items. |
| **Meat Inspection Act** (1906 | In direct response to Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*, this law required that meat processing plants be inspected to ensure the use of [good meat and health-minded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EGWqwYP1dcA)procedures. |
| **Hepburn Act** (1906) | Strengthened the Interstate Commerce Commission, allowing it to set maximum railroad rates. |
| **Federal Reserve Act** (1913) | Created 12 district  Federal Reserve Banks, each able to issue new currency and loan member banks funds at the prime interest rate, as established by the Federal Reserve Board. |
| **Clayton Antitrust Act** (1914) | Strengthened the Sherman Antitrust Act by outlawing the creation of a monopoly through any means, and stated that unions were not subject to antitrust legislation. |
| **Federal Trade Act** (1914) | Established the Federal Trade Commission, charged with investigating unfair business practices including monopolistic activity and inaccurate product labeling. |