

American History Chapter 27: A Crisis in Confidence 1968 – 1981

U.S. History Objectives, North Carolina SCS

11.03: Identify major social movement's including, but not limited to, those involving women, young people, and the environment, and evaluate the impact of these movements on U.S. society.

12.01: Summarize significant events in foreign policy since the Vietnam War

12.02: Evaluate the impact of recent constitutional amendments, court rulings, and federal legislation on U.S. citizens.

12.03: Identify and assess the impact of economic, technological, and environmental changes in the U.S.

In Chapter 27 you will be studying one of the most turbulent decades in American history. In 1972 President Nixon was reelected President in a landslide, two years later he became the first President to resign. You will discover what the Watergate scandal was and how it impacted upon American politics and government. President Nixon's administration brought about a crisis of confidence in our government. A new un-elected President was given the task to bring the nation together and insure that the Constitutional system really did work.

New leaders come into power and new challenges face our nation in economics and energy resources. Americans begin to move from the northern states to the "sunbelt" and demographics of the nation begin to change. With a new emphasis on human rights American foreign policy changes and relations with other nations begin to cool.

Section 1: Nixon and the Watergate Scandal:

- Use web links or your text book to define the following: silent majority, OPEC, executive privilege, affirmative action
- As you read section 1, create a chart like the one on page 914. Record Nixon's major domestic policies and goals.
- Analyze a Supreme Court decision regarding the application of executive privilege.

Section 2: The Ford and Carter Years

- Use web links or your text book to define the following: Christian fundamentalist, amnesty, televangelist, pardon
- Create an outline like the one located on page 923. As you read section 2, record the political, economic, and social problems of the era and their impact upon American society.
- Analyze how American society changed in the 1970's.

Section 3: Foreign Policy Troubles:

- Use web links or your text book to define the following: sanctions, Camp David Accords, Ayatollah Khomeini, Helsinki Accords, boat people
- Create a concept web like the one on page 931. Record on the web the main ideas and details about the foreign policies of Ford and Carter.
- Compare the policies of Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter toward the Soviet Union.