

*Unit 3 – From Jazz to Depression*

**DAY 2**



**THE  
SOCIAL  
REVOLUTION**

**BECAUSE WHEN ENTERTAINMENT  
CHANGES, SO DOES SOCIETY...  
JUST LOOK AT NETFLIX**

# OBJECTIVES

- Discuss major Culture Clashes of the Twenties
- Identify important Constitutional Changes that result
- Understand why prejudice would result from such changes
- *Terms:*
  - Prohibition
  - Bootlegging
  - Al Capone
  - Scopes Monkey Trial
  - Nativism
  - Ku Klux Klan
  - Jim Crow Laws
  - Tulsa Race Massacre
  - Suffrage

# REMIND ME...

- *What are some ways culture changed in America during the Twenties?*
- *Who were some of the big “players” in these changes?*
- *Now that America is becoming more “urban” what problems will result?*
- *What tensions arise from all this?*

# TEMPERANCE TANTRUM

- While the “Jazz Age,” Flappers, and Gatsby-like life were great in the cities, many in “Middle America” see crime, corruption, and immorality coming from the cities and want to fight it.
- One target, alcohol, was seen as a plague on society – whether religious reasons, health, or just the connection to crime...

# TEMPERANCE TANTRUM

- Prohibition was finally ratified in 1919 with the Eighteenth Amendment.
  - *Laws forbidding the making or selling of alcohol*
- The Nation became divided between “Dry” (those who supported Prohibition) and “Wet” (those who opposed it)
  - A “Dry Campus” or “Dry County” today still means alcohol is prohibited
- *But if it’s illegal, nobody will use it, right?*

# "WET" OR "DRY"

"VOTE WET  
FOR MY  
SAKE!"



# SHAKE THAT BOOTLEG

- As it turns out, the demand still existed, and people saw there was a LOT of money to be made in that industry, so became **bootleggers**

– Those who made or sold illegal alcohol

- The need to launder money and run this business created “organized crime”

- The most famous Crime Boss was **Al Capone**

- Chicago crime boss, bootlegger, and icon
- Brought “gangsters” into pop culture



# THE ORIGIN OF MAN

- While Darwin's "Origin of Species" was originally published in 1859, it was the Twenties that saw a resurgence in critical thinking and science teaching
  - *Why might that be?*
- Much like alcohol, many saw this new movement as immoral and destructive
  - *There was even a Fundamentalist Movement to interpret the Bible literally*
- Many areas even passed laws to limit what could be taught in schools.

# MONKEY-ING AROUND

- Tennessee passed just such a law, and a young high school teacher named John Scopes deliberately broke the law, teaching evolution, so that a trial could test the constitutionality of that law
- This became known as the “Scopes Monkey Trial”
  - Trial determining limits to government oversight in education
  - Became famous for the notion of “separation of church and state”
- *Scopes was actually found guilty and fined, but it was later overturned by the Supreme Court*

# Scopes Monkey Trial



**Defendant**

John Scopes



**Defense**

Clarence Darrow

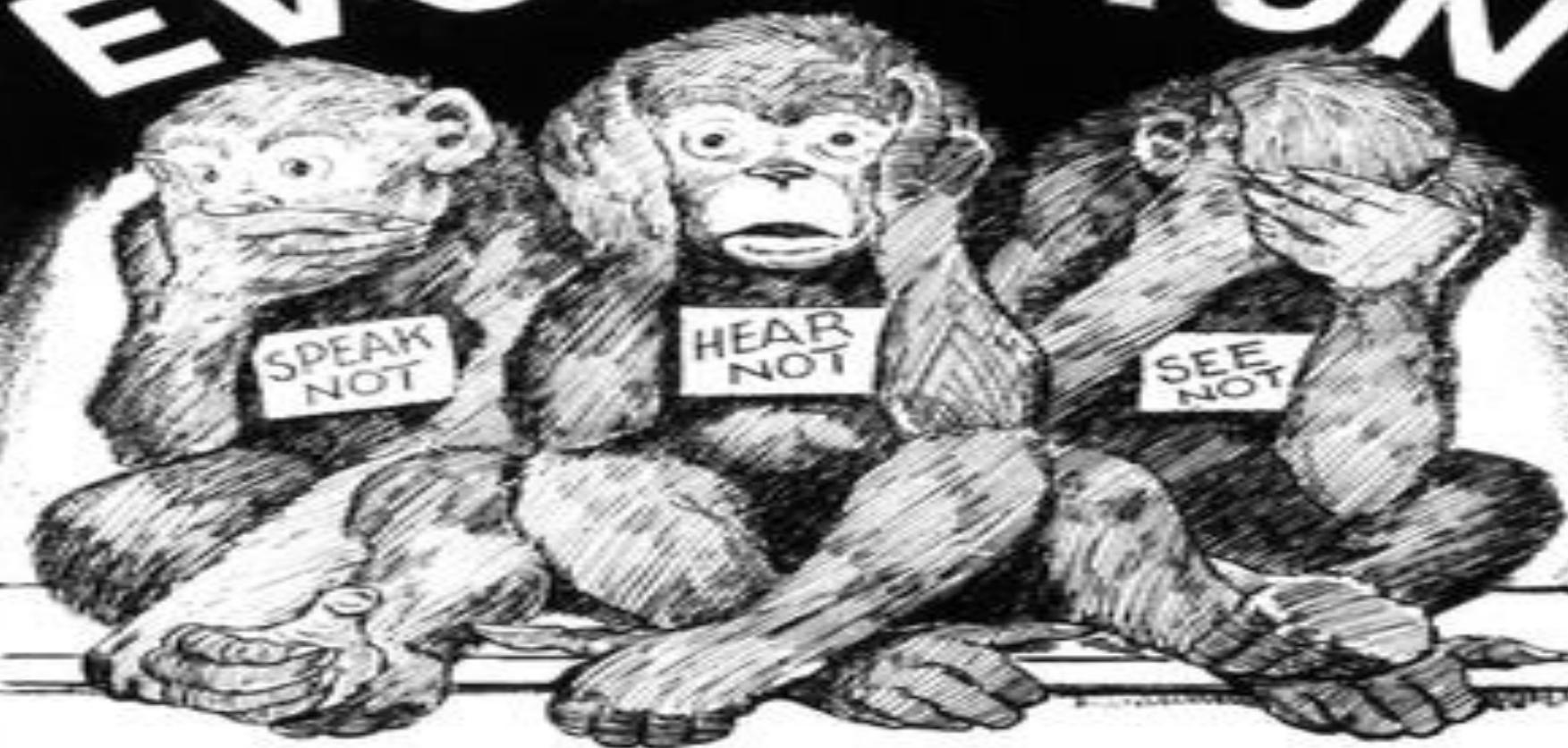


**Prosecutor**

William Jennings Bryan

GUILTY!

# EVOLUTION



## SCOPES TRIAL

# NATIVE-ITY

- *Another way many “Middle Americans” protested the cultural changes they didn’t like took the form of prejudice*
- **Nativism** rose to prominence
  - Belief that native-born Americans are superior to foreigners and immigrants
- *Anyone else see the irony in this?*
- *In addition, groups that just didn’t like new people moving into an area, or new ideas, music, etc. gained in popularity*
  - *Where might THAT be an issue?*



# KLASH OF KLANS

- *While it had originally been organized to protest Reconstruction post-Civil War, in the Twenties the Ku Klux Klan gained popularity, again, but changes targets*
  - Hate group organized to protest social reforms and changes
  - Originally targeted blacks, but eventually broadened to include Catholics, Jews, and Immigrants
  - *In Utah, they opposed the LDS Church*
  - *Made their new charge to target all “un-American” activities*





*Salt Lake Theater "Birth of a Nation". Courtesy of Utah State Historical Society*

# WHITE-WING POLITICS

- *Sadly, the Klan (and similar groups) succeeded in lobbying efforts in many Legislatures.*
- *They were able to pass so-called*

## Jim Crow Laws

- Laws that enforced segregation (*separation based on race*)
- Included things like transportation, housing, education, military service, and more
- The phrase “separate but equal” became legal justification
- *They existed prior to this era, but more were passed during this time, and enforced than any other*

PARAMOUNT THEATRE  
COLORED ENTRANCE

*Enjoy Good Shows in Comfort*

DRINKING FOUNTAIN  
WHITE      COLORED

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

14 JULY 40



WE SERVE  
WHITE'S <sup>only</sup>  
NO  
SPANISH <sup>or</sup> MEXICANS

# A SPARK IGNITES A FIRE

- *One of the worst examples of how groups like the KKK, plus Jim Crow laws, led to horrific acts happened in during the Tulsa Race Massacre (May 31-June 1, 1921)*
- *Following a run-in between a black teenager and a white female elevator operator several hundred angry people surrounded the courthouse in an attempted lynching*
  - When they were unsuccessful, they turned on the “colored” area of Tulsa, known as Greenwood
- **Black homes and businesses were destroyed by angry white mobs.**  
**35 sq. blocks destroyed,**  
**800+ injured and between**  
**36-300 killed. No charges were ever brought. Total number still unknown**



Image Credit: Greenwood Chamber of Commerce



Image Credit: United States Library of Congress



# SUFFRAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

- *Finally, there's one other very important social change that came about in 1920*
- Long before the Twenties, women like Susan B. Anthony (1850-1900) fought for Suffrage *BUT, now, inspired by Flappers and bucking trends, women were successful in lobbying in the Twenties*
  - The right to vote
  - Specifically, women gaining the right with passing of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - This would drastically change politics, and demographics.



# AND SO...

- While the Twenties and “Jazz Age” saw great economic growth, and “advances” in culture, music, arts, and pop culture, they also saw culture clash with those who opposed change, integration, or a new definition of what “America” is
  - *Not so different from now, is it?*
- While much of it is negative, there is also much to celebrate.
- *I, for one, am glad women have a voice in politics... now if only we could get a good one elected President ☺*
- *And now, a music video...*



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