

CHAPTER 20 Section 2 (pages 679–683)

The New Frontier

TERMS AND NAMES**New Frontier** The name given to Kennedy's domestic program**mandate** An overwhelming show of support by voters**Peace Corps** A program that enlisted volunteers to help in poor countries**Alliance for Progress** A program that supplied aid to Latin America**Warren Commission** The body that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy**BEFORE YOU READ**

In the last section, you read about how President Kennedy dealt with explosive foreign matters.

In this section, you will read about Kennedy's domestic agenda and how his presidency—and life—was cut short.

AS YOU READ

Use this diagram to take notes about Kennedy's New Frontier programs.

PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION
<i>deficit spending</i>	<i>government spends more than it has in order to boost economy</i>

The Promise of Progress

(pages 679–682)

What were Kennedy's domestic plans?

President Kennedy called his domestic program the **New Frontier**. However, Kennedy had a difficult time getting Congress to support his program. Conservative Republicans and southern Democrats blocked many of his bills. These included bills to provide medical care for the aged, rebuild cities, and aid education.

One reason for Kennedy's difficulties was that he was elected by a small margin. As a result, he lacked a popular **mandate**, or a clear indication that the voters approved of his plans. Because he

lacked overwhelming support, Kennedy rarely pushed hard for his bills.

Kennedy did succeed with some proposals. To help the economy grow, the Kennedy administration used deficit spending. This occurred when the government spent more money than it received in taxes. Kennedy hoped that increased spending on defense would help boost the economy.

Kennedy also introduced the **Peace Corps**. This was a program of volunteers working in poor nations around the world. The purpose of this program was to decrease poverty *abroad*. It was also meant to increase goodwill toward the United States. The Peace Corps was a huge success.

People of all ages and backgrounds signed up to work for the organization. By 1968, more than 35,000 volunteers had served in 60 nations around the world.

Another program was the **Alliance for Progress**. This program gave aid to Latin American countries. One reason for this program was to keep communism from spreading to these countries.

In 1961 the Soviets launched a person into orbit around the earth. The news stunned America. A space race began between the United States and Soviet Union. President Kennedy pledged that the nation would put a man on the moon by the end of the decade. That goal was reached on July 20, 1969, when Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon.

The space race affected American society in many ways. Schools taught more science. Researchers developed many new technologies. The space race also contributed to economic growth.

The Kennedy administration also tried to solve the problems of poverty and racism. In 1963, Kennedy called for a national effort to fight American poverty. He also ordered the Justice Department to investigate racial injustices in the South.

1. Name two successful programs of the Kennedy administration.

Tragedy in Dallas (pages 682-683)

Who killed President Kennedy?

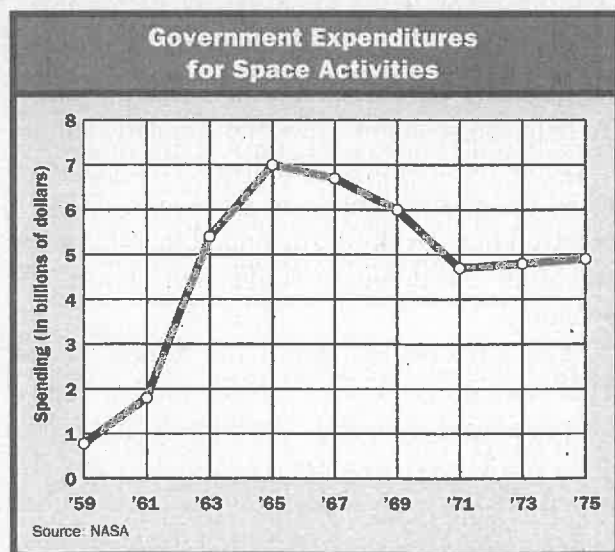
On November 22, 1963, President and Mrs. Kennedy arrived in Dallas, Texas. Kennedy had come there to improve relations with the state's Democratic Party. Large crowds greeted the Kennedys as they rode along the streets of downtown Dallas. Then, rifle shots rang out. Kennedy had been shot. The president died about an hour later at a nearby hospital.

The tragic news spread across the nation and then around the world. Millions of Americans sat glued to their televisions over the next few days. They watched on live television as a gunman shot and killed the president's accused killer, Lee Harvey Oswald.

The events seemed too strange to believe. Many people wondered if Oswald had acted alone or with others. Chief Justice Earl Warren headed a commission to investigate the assassination. The **Warren Commission** determined that Oswald acted alone. However, many people continue to believe that Oswald was part of a *conspiracy*.

The assassination taught Americans that their system of government could survive an upset. Lyndon Johnson took office on Kennedy's death and promised to carry on his programs.

2. What did the Warren Commission determine?



Skillbuilder

Use the chart to answer these questions.

1. Between which two years was there a dramatic rise in government expenditures for space activities?

2. How much was spent in 1965?

CHAPTER 20 Section 3 (pages 686–693)

The Great Society

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about President Kennedy's domestic programs.

In this section, you will read about Lyndon Johnson's bold plan to reshape America.

AS YOU READ

Use this diagram to take notes about President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programs.

TERMS AND NAMES

Lyndon Baines Johnson 36th president of the United States

Economic Opportunity Act Act that created numerous antipoverty measures

Great Society Name given to Johnson's domestic agenda

Medicare and Medicaid Health benefits for the elderly and poor

Immigration Act of 1965 Established new immigration system that allowed more immigrants into the U.S.

Warren Court The Supreme Court under Chief Justice Earl Warren

reapportionment The way in which states redraw their election districts

PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION
<i>Economic Opportunity Act</i>	<i>Created antipoverty programs</i>

LBJ's Path to Power; Johnson's Domestic Agenda (pages 686–688)

How did Johnson wage a "war" on poverty?

Lyndon Baines Johnson, a Texan, was Senate majority leader in 1960. Johnson was a skilled lawmaker. He demonstrated a great ability to negotiate and reach agreements. During the 1960 presidential campaign, Kennedy's advisers thought that Johnson would make the perfect running mate. They believed that Johnson's connections in Congress and his Southern background would help

Kennedy's presidential chances. Kennedy asked Johnson to be his vice-presidential candidate. Johnson agreed. He helped Kennedy win important states in the South.

Upon Kennedy's death, Johnson became president. Under President Johnson's leadership, Congress passed two bills that President Kennedy had proposed. One was a tax cut to help stimulate the economy. The other was the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Johnson then launched his own program—a "war on poverty." He worked with Congress to pass the **Economic Opportunity Act**. This law created youth programs, antipoverty measures, loans for

small businesses, and job training. The law created the Job Corps youth training program and the VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) program.

Johnson ran for president in 1964. He easily defeated his Republican opponent, Barry Goldwater.

1. Name two programs created by the Economic Opportunity Act.

Building the Great Society; Reforms of the Warren Court

(pages 689–692)

How did the Great Society and the Warren Court change America?

President Johnson had a grand vision for America. He called it the **Great Society**. Throughout his term, Johnson introduced legislation to help him create his Great Society. Among other things, these laws:

- provided federal aid for schools to purchase textbooks and library materials;
- created **Medicare and Medicaid** to ensure health care for the aged and poor;
- funded the building of public housing units and created the cabinet-level Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD);
- lifted restrictions on immigration through the **Immigration Act of 1965**—which opened the door for many non-European immigrants to settle in the United States;
- required efforts to ensure clean water, through the Water Quality Act of 1965;
- offered increased protection to consumers, through the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967;
- established safety standards for automobiles and tires.

The wave of liberal reform that characterized the Great Society also affected the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Earl Warren took an active role in *promoting* more liberal policies. The **Warren Court** ruled school *segregation* unconstitutional. The court also banned prayer in public schools and strengthened the right of free speech.

The Warren Court also changed the area of congressional **reapportionment**. This is the way in which states redraw their election districts. The Court ruled that election districts within each state had to have roughly the same number of people in them. Because so many people lived in the cities, the court's ruling led to the creation of many new urban districts. As a result, political power shifted from the countryside to the cities.

The Warren Court strengthened the rights of people accused of crimes. The Court ruled police had to read suspects their rights before questioning them. These rights are known as Miranda rights.

2. Name one result of the Great Society and one result of the Warren Court.

Impact of the Great Society

(page 693)

How successful was the Great Society?

The Great Society and the Warren Court changed America. People disagree on whether these changes left the nation better or worse off than before. On one hand, Johnson's antipoverty measures helped reduce the suffering of many people. However, many of Johnson's proposals did not achieve their stated goals. Most people agree on one point: No president since World War II increased the power and reach of federal government more than Lyndon Johnson.

Eventually, some Americans began to question the increased size of the federal government. They also wondered about the effectiveness of Johnson's programs. Across the country, people became *disillusioned* with the Great Society. This led to the rise of a new group of Republican leaders.

3. How did the Great Society affect the size of the federal government?

Glossary		CHAPTER 20 The New Frontier and the Great Society	
abroad Outside of one's own country	disillusioned Let down or disappointed	segregation Separation, including by race	
conspiracy An agreement between two or more people to perform an illegal or evil act	promote To contribute to the progress or growth of		
conventional Using means other than nuclear weapons or energy; traditional	recession A temporary decline in economic activity		

AFTER YOU READ

Terms and Names

A. Choose the letter of the term or name that correctly fits the description or definition.

- _____ 1. The direct communication link between the president and the Soviet leader set up in the 1960s was

a. the flexible response. b. the hot line.	c. massive retaliation. d. reapportionment.
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- _____ 2. The New Frontier program created to offer economic and technical assistance to help Latin American countries was

a. the Peace Corps. b. the Great Society.	c. Economic Opportunity Act. d. the Alliance for Progress.
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- _____ 3. The way in which states redraw election districts based on the changing number of people in them is called

a. reapportionment. b. flexible response.	c. the hot line. d. mandate.
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- _____ 4. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who oversaw liberal court rulings was

a. Richard Nixon. b. Barry Goldwater.	c. Earl Warren. d. Robert Kennedy.
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- _____ 5. This measure was not part of the Great Society.

a. Medicare and Medicaid b. Immigrations Act of 1965	c. flexible response d. Wholesome Meat Act of 1967
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B. Write the letter of the name or term that matches the description.

- a. Nikita Khrushchev**
- b. Peace Corps**
- c. New Frontier**
- d. flexible response**
- e. Medicare and Medicaid**
- f. Great Society**

- _____ 1. The Soviet leader who squared off against President Kennedy during the Cuban crisis
- _____ 2. The strategy intended to broaden America's range of options during international crises
- _____ 3. The name for Kennedy's domestic and legislative programs
- _____ 4. The program in which U.S. volunteers provided assistance to developing nations of the world
- _____ 5. Programs that provided low-cost health insurance to the aged and poor

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AFTER YOU READ (continued) **CHAPTER 20** The New Frontier and the Great Society

Main Ideas

1. Why did Kennedy have trouble getting much of his New Frontier legislation through Congress?

2. Describe the two international aid programs launched during the Kennedy administration.

3. How did the Great Society address the problem of poverty?

4. How did the Supreme Court strengthen the rights of people accused of a crime.

5. Why is the Great Society's legacy considered to be mixed?

Thinking Critically

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

- 1. How important is a president's personality in his ability to lead? Consider how Kennedy's charm and mystique and Johnson's persuasive skills affected their success as presidents.**
- 2. What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of increasing the size and reach of the federal government?**