

THE AGE OF REFORM



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- **Decades before Civil War sees the birth of the reform tradition...**
- **Campaigns to educate the disabled, rehabilitate the criminal element of society, to try and extend rights of women...**

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- **Why social reform?**
- **Social problems on the rise**
- **New York City**
- **Dueling in the South**
- **Urban violence**
- **Vice-president of the United States has to carry gun to Senate in case senators attack each other!?!**

New moral sensibility



- **Religious revivalism**
- **Liberal revivalism- William Channing**
- **Unitarianism**
- **Charles Finney**
- **Moral Reform**
- **Magdalene Societies**
- **Temperance Campaigns**

TEMPERANCE



- **American Society for the Promotion of Temperance**
- **Washington Movement**
- **Maine Laws**

SOCIAL REFORM



- **Crime on the rise**
- **Penitentiaries**
- **Insanity Defense**
- **Attack on the Death Penalty**
- **Closure of Debtors' Prison**

RADICAL REFORM



- **Targets slavery, racial & sexual discrimination**
- **1804: Nine states have freed their enslaved populations.**
- **Cotton gin & demand for cotton keeps institution of slavery alive**
- **American Colonization Society**
- **Liberia**

THE NORTH & SLAVERY



- **William Lloyd Garrison**
- **Liberator**
- **Abolitionism**
- **Arguments against slavery**
- **Reaction of pro-slavery factions**

SPLINTERING OF THE ABOLITIONISTS



- **1840: American Anti-Slavery Society**
- **Liberty Party**
- **“Black Laws” in the North**
- **1848: Anti-Slavery Democrats and Whigs form the Free Soil Party**
- **Role of African Americans**
- **Underground railway**
- **Frederick Douglass**

SPLINTERING OF THE ABOLITIONISTS



- **The North Star**
- **Fugitive Slave Law Act of 1850**
- **Further plans for colonization in the 1850s**
- **Violent struggle as option in the 1850s**

CONCLUSION OF AGE OF REFORM



- **The first age of reform in US history**
- **Temperance/Social/Radical Reform**
- **Age of intellectual artistic expression**
- **James Fennimore Cooper**
- **Henry Longfellow**
- **Nathaniel Hawthorne/Harriet Jacobs/Herman Melville**