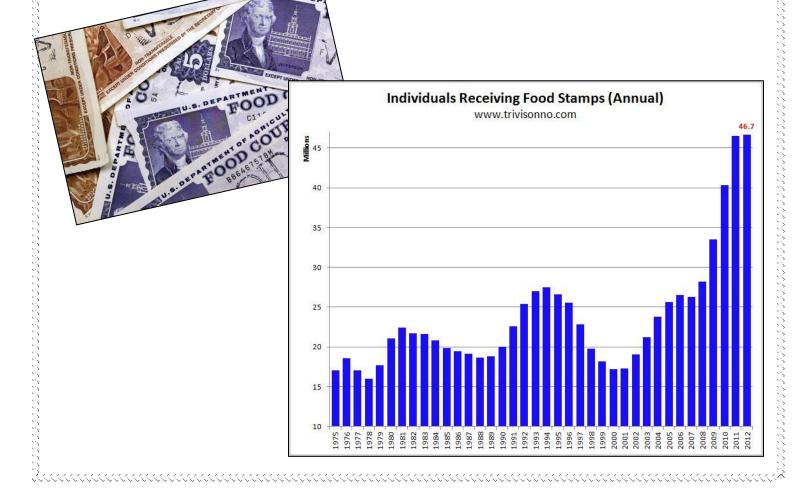
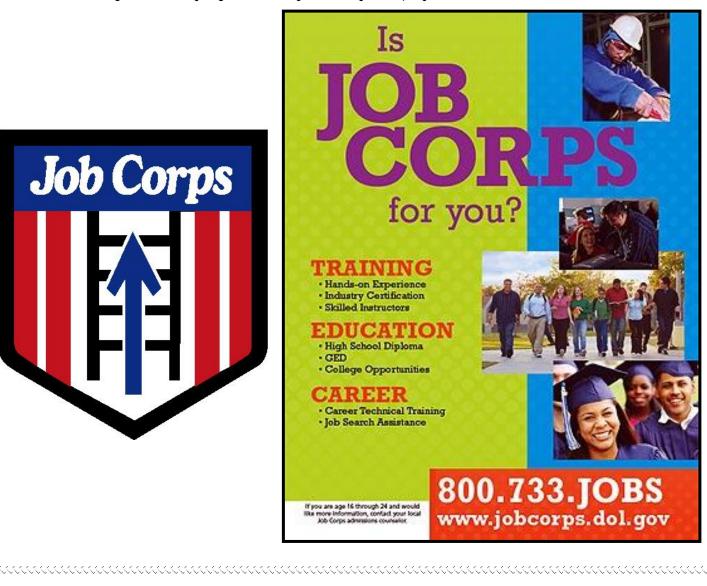
FEDERAL FOOD ASSISTANCE

The Federal Food Assistance—or **FOOD STAMP** program—began in 1939 during the Great Depression. It was started to help the poorest Americans to get enough to eat at a time when many American farmers were producing a surplus of food. The program ended in 1943, when the economy recovered from the Depression. The program resumed in 1961 under President Jon F. Kennedy, after studies during the 1950s demonstrated that millions of Americans were living in poverty and were not eating nutritionally balanced silets. As part of his "War on Poverty," President Lyndon Johnson requested that Congress make the Food Assistance Program has been to help disadvantaged Americans of all ages obtain at least minimum diet of nutritionally balanced foods, whether or not they can afford it. The federal government provides food coupons to poor individuals or families who can not buy an adequate amount of food. In its first year as a permanent program, the Federal Food Assistance program reached more than 500,000 needy Americans and by the mid 1970s, that number had grown to 15 million nationwide. By the late 1990s, Federal Food Assistance was helping to feed more than 20 million disadvantaged Americans each year.



THE JOB CORPS

The Job Corps was a **NATIONAL JOB TRAINING PROGRAM** administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). The goal of the program was to train disadvantaged youths aged 16 to 24 in technical, social, and educational skills so they could find work in a variety of fields. The Job Corps established both rural and urban centers throughout the country. Enrollees underwent six to nine months of technical training, learned social skills, and if necessary, learned basic educational skills such as reading and writing. They also received room and board, clothing for work, books, supplies, and a cash allowance. Trainees in rural centers learned to repair roads, build firebreaks, and help manage conservation and natural-resource efforts. Urban centers—for those youths with a basic sixth grade education—taught skilled crafts such as carpentry, plumbing, welding, and electrical wiring. They could stay in a Job Corps center as long as two years, and at the end of which time they were given assistance in finding a job. In 1967—the peak year of the program during the 1960s—the Job Corps operated 123 centers with 42,000 enrollees. Since then, more than 18 economically disadvantaged youths have gone through the program.



HEAD START

Head Start was an EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). The main goal of Head Start was to <u>improve the overall school performance of poor children</u> by entering them in a two-month PREFINDERGARTEN (PRE-K) program. During this time, the preschoolers were introduced to a variety of experiences designed to increase their intellectual awareness. They were taken to fire stations, zoos, and farms, were introduced to forms of art, music, dance, and theater; and introduced to a variety of toys, games, and puzzles. In addition, the program provided hot meals and immunizations against many childhood diseases to support children's health. Funded by the federal government, Head Start was run by local school districts and civic groups in cities and towns throughout the country. The first Head Start project began in 1965, with more than 500,000 four- and five-year-old preschool children throughout the country. The cost of the program was \$82 million. It was such a success that President Johnson soon announced that Head Start would become a full one-year permanent program to benefit about 350,000 poor children per year, ages three and up. Since Head Start's inception in 1965, more than 17 million preschool children have benefitted from the program.

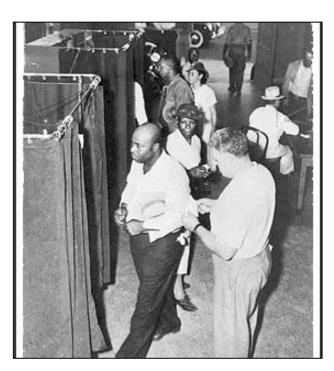




CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 / VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965 were major civil rights acts passed during the Johnson administration. In 1964, Congress passed one of its strongest civil rights laws in history, the **Civil Rights Act**. The act <u>bans discrimination because of a person's color, race, national origin, religion, or sex</u>; it primarily protects the rights of African Americans and other minorities. The Civil Rights Act attacked Jim Crow laws by ending segregation in hotels, restaurants, theaters, parks, and all other public places. The law created penalties for programs practicing discrimination, prohibited job discrimination, and created the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission to monitor and review acts of discrimination.

The **VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965** guaranteed the voting rights of African Americans. Though the Constitution's 15th Amendment (passed 1870) had guaranteed the right to vote regardless of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude," African Americans in the South faced poll taxes and literacy tests, as late as the 1960s. When the civil rights movement focused national attention on infringements of their voting rights; Congress responded with the Voting Rights Act, which prohibited Southern states from using literacy tests to determine eligibility to vote. Later laws made poll taxes illegal in state and local elections.





1965 EXECUTIVE ORDER ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

To ensure compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, President Johnson issued Executive Order 11246 in 1965 which enforced **AFFIPMATIVE ACTION**. Affirmative action is a government policy that seeks to *remedy* (cure) long-standing discrimination directed at specific groups, including women and African Americans. The <u>basic purpose of affirmative</u> action is to increase access to opportunities in higher education, employment, government contracts, housing, and other <u>areas for minorities</u>. Affirmative action policies attempt to ensure that jobs, university admissions, and government contracts are *not awarded exclusively to white men*. Many affirmative action policies leave aside some jobs or university admission slots to minority candidates to ensure "more equal" access in order to address years of inequalities towards minorities in the U.S.

AFFIRMITIVE ACTION: giving someone or a group of people preferential treatment in order to achieve equal access



Guess who tends to benefit the most from affirmative action in today's college and university admissions??? **BOYS!!** So many more females attend college that men are given preferential treatment just so colleges will have boys too ^(C)

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was created by Congress in 1965. By that time, more than 70% of the nation's population lived in urban and suburban areas. The department was initially given the responsibility of dealing with housing shortages. In 1968, Fair Housing Act outlawed housing discrimination and gave HUD the responsibility of enforcing the legislation. Congress also created the Government National Mortgage Association, known as Ginnie Mae, to expand the availability of mortgage funds for moderate-income families eligible for loans that are guaranteed by the government. HUD supervises programs to help state and local governments improve housing conditions in urban areas through rental assistance for low-income families and to guarantee loans to elderly and the disabled home buyers.





MEDICARE & MEDICAID

Medicare and Medicaid are **HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS** sponsored by the federal government that cover medical expenses for certain Americans. Both programs took effect in 1965 and are administered under the Department of Health and Human Services. **MEDICARE** is the nation's largest health insurance program, providing coverage for 39 million <u>elderly Americans</u> who are age 65 or older or who have a disability. Medicare pays for home health visits, hospice care, doctors' services, medical tests, and other services and is paid mostly through Social Security taxes.

MEDICAID was designed as a heath insurance program to covers <u>poor Americans</u>. Unlike Medicare which covers everyone over the age of 65, the Medicaid program has eligibility tests to see which applicants qualify as "poor." Medicaid is a welfare program that pays for hospital care, doctors' services, nursing-home care, home health services, family planning, and screening. Medicaid is funded by both state and federal dollars, with the federal government spending an average of 57 percent and the states covering the rest. Each of the 50 states must offer Medicaid to all persons on public assistance (welfare) but can decide their own eligibility guidelines for receiving Medicaid.



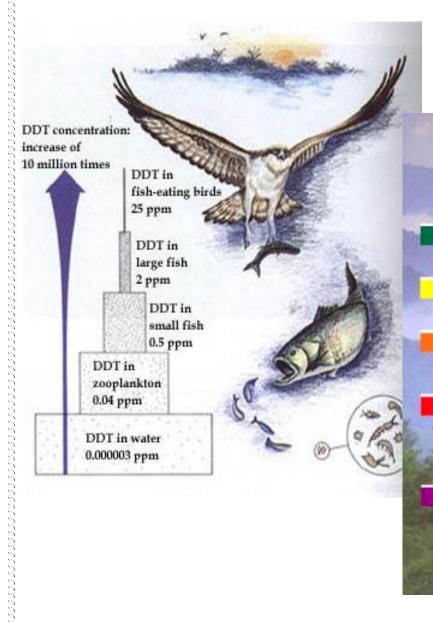
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The National Endowment for the Arts was created in 1965 to support excellence in the arts and to bring the arts to all Americans. The Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, military bases, and individual homes. In 1967 the Corporation for Public Broadcasting was formed and out of that came the **PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE** (PBS) and **NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO** (NPR). The purpose of these programs is to provide television and radio programming that is useful, educational, and cultural. Virtually every household in the United States has these programs available and include shows like *Sesame Street, NOVA*, and *This Old House*. These programs are meant to help parents and teachers educate children.



WATER QUALITY ACT / AIR QUALITY ACT

The biologist **RACHEL CARSON** (1907–1964) published the book *Silent Opring* in 1962. Her book exposed the dangers of using pesticides, specifically DDT, on the environment and the ecosystem. She had become concerned during the 1950s at the rapid increase in artificial pesticide and herbicide spraying by farmers and government agencies. Reaction to her book led the government to organize an investigation of the industry. Under Lyndon Johnson, Congress passed new environmental laws. The **WATER QUALITY ACT** of 1965 created the first <u>water quality standards</u> for the nation's waters. Under the **AIR QUALITY ACT** of 1967, the government authorized <u>enforcement for air pollution problems</u> and expanded government research into air pollution. Eventually, the government created the **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY** (EPA) in 1970 and launched the modern environmental movement.



Air Quality Color Code Guide

Green-Good

No health impacts are expected.

Yellow-Moderate

Unusually sensitive people should consider limiting prolonged outdoor exertion.

Orange-Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

Active children and adults, people with respiratory diseases such as asthma, and people with heart disease should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.

Red-Unhealthy

Active children and adults, people with respiratory diseases such as asthma, and people with heart disease should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.

Purple-Very Unhealthy

Active children and adults, people with respiratory diseases such as asthma, and people with heart disease should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.

