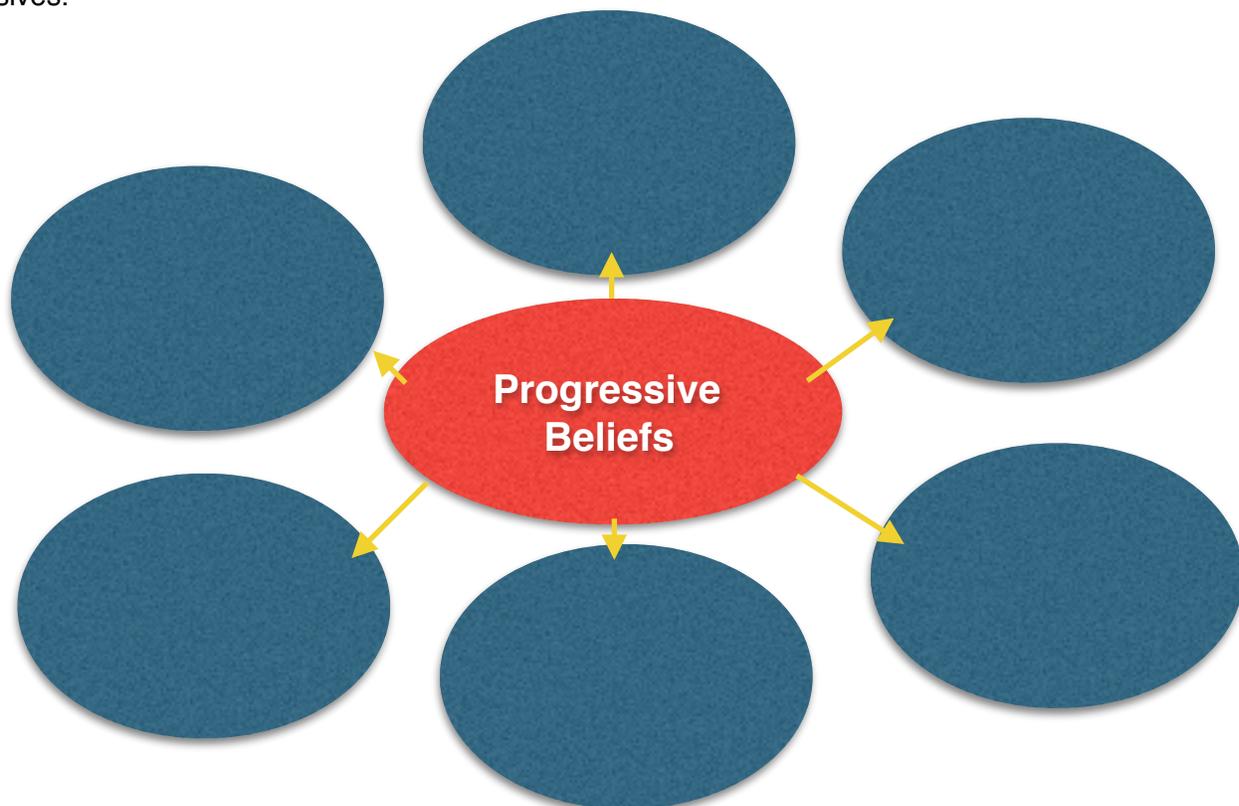


Roots of Progressivism

Big Idea

As you read through these passages, complete this graphic organizer by filling in the beliefs of the Progressives.



The Rise of Progressivism

Evaluating Information

Were muckrakers good for society? Circle your answer. Highlight parts of the text to support your answer.

Yes No

Progressivism was a mix of ideas and views about how to fix the nation's problems. Most progressives believed that industrialism and urbanization had caused many social problems. Although they focused on different issues, they all believed that the government should play an active role in solving most of society's problems. They also believed people should fix society's problems by applying scientific principles to them.

Journalists were the first to express Progressive ideas. These journalists, known as **muckrakers**, examined social conditions and political corruption. They uncovered corruption in many areas. Some looked into the unfair practices of large corporations. Ida Tarbell published articles about the practices of the Standard Oil Company. Some investigated the government. Lincoln Steffens reported on vote stealing and other corrupt political practices. Others focused on social problems. Jacob Riis wrote about the poverty and disease that were part of many immigrant neighborhoods in New York City. The work of muckrakers pressured politicians to start reforms.

Reforming Government

Distinguishing Fact from Opinion

Highlight in **GREEN** one opinion held by progressives.
Highlight in **PINK** one fact about progressive reforms.

In most cities, the mayor or city council chose the heads of city departments. They often hired political supporters and friends. These people often knew nothing about managing city services. Bosses of political parties controlled who ran for office. Political machines influenced the election of senators.

One group of progressives believed government should be more efficient and run by knowledgeable experts. They proposed two reforms: a commission plan and a council-manager system. Both plans proposed that specialists with backgrounds in city management should run cities.

Other progressives believed that society needed more democracy. They introduced five reforms. In a **direct primary**, party members voted for a candidate to run in the general election. An **initiative** allowed a group of citizens to require the legislature to vote on laws the group introduced. The **referendum** allowed proposed laws to be put to the voters for approval. The **recall** allowed voters to remove an elected official from office before his or her term expired. The Seventeenth Amendment gave voters the right to elect their senators directly.

Suffrage

Comparing and Contrasting

Tell how each group wanted to achieve women's suffrage.

National Woman Suffrage Association:

American Woman Suffrage Association:

The first women's rights convention met in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. It launched the **suffrage** (right to vote) movement. The convention's top goal, and that of many women progressives, was getting women the right to vote.

The movement got off to a slow start. It split into two groups when Congress passed the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution. These amendments aimed to protect voting rights of African Americans. The National Woman Suffrage Association wanted Congress to pass an amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. The American Woman Suffrage Association wanted state governments to grant women suffrage.

In 1890 the two groups joined to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). NAWSA started slowly, but many women realized that they needed suffrage to push for social reform and for labor laws to protect them.

NAWSA threw its support behind President Wilson in the election of 1916. However, support for an amendment began to grow in Congress. In 1919, the Senate passed the Nineteenth Amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. The states ratified it in 1920.

Reforming Society

Problems and Solutions

List three social problems that concerned progressives.

1.

2.

3.

Many progressives focused on specific social problems. One was child labor. Many children worked in dangerous and unhealthy conditions. States began passing laws setting age and hour limits for working children. Progressives also pushed for health and safety codes for workers of all ages, such as laws to protect workers injured on the job. Some progressives believed alcohol caused many problems in American life. The temperance movement supported the moderation or elimination of alcohol consumption. The temperance movement later pushed for **prohibition**, or laws making it illegal to make, sell, or consume alcohol.

Many progressives wanted to reform the economy. They believed big businesses needed regulation and pushed the government to break up large companies. Some went further and supported socialism. This was the idea that the government should own and operate industry.

Section Wrap-Up

Answer these questions to check your understanding of the entire section.

1. Why did the Progressive movement arise?

2. How were the Progressive and suffrage movements alike?