

PROGRESSIVE ERA LEADERS



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Progressive Voices

The Progressive Era was a time of great change in America. Lasting from around 1890 to 1920, this era was a period of big social **movements**. It brought major political **reforms**. In this time, many groups worked to make the United States a safer, more democratic nation.

It was an era defined by movements. Governments were held more accountable for their actions. Women's **suffrage** came to be. Corruption was uncovered and stamped out. Powerful voices spoke up for civil rights.

The people who led the charge for change made progress possible. Some of the most famous people in American history lived during this era. They worked to create a reformed United States. Some were presidents, many were writers, and a few were dynamic public speakers.

But what was most important about them was how they spoke up for the people. They forced the government to work for its people. Many people say they changed the United States for the better. These were the leaders of the Progressive Era.





Why the Progressive Era?

In many ways, the Progressive Era arose out of need. The number of people in the United States almost doubled from 1870 to 1900. Small businesses gave way to huge factories. The country's economic growth was off the charts. Each of these brought new social problems that the progressives wanted to fix.

The Eighteenth Amendment

There was a big push in this era to make alcohol illegal. Many people thought that alcohol kept society from being at its best. This led to the passing of the **Eighteenth Amendment** in 1919. The amendment banned the use and sale of alcohol in the United States. It was **repealed** 14 years later.

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