The Second Great Migration

PUSH Factors

        Definition

                World War II-1970

                largest voluntary migration of African Americans-

                Places of origin and destinations shift-

                        Alabama > Detroit / Carolinas and GA > NY, Phil., Boston / Miss, Ark. > Chicago

                        Migrants from LA, TX., Ark., OK > California

        Statistics

                        5 million as compared with 1.5 in the First

                        Carolinas and GA lose 500,000

                        339,000 AA move to West during the 1940s

                        50,200 AA in LA, SF, Oakland in 1930 > 254,120 by 1950

                        RESULT- Much greater impact than the first

        Collapse of Southern Agriculture

                Increased world production- cotton had been a major US export

                US no longer producing the majority of world's cotton and

                South no longer major source of cotton in US

                Decline in prices-  cotton > 1928- 18 cents, 1931- 6 cents,  sugar tobacco too

        Mechanized Farming

                reduced demand for labor

                # of tractors tripled 1940-50, tractor drivers white (tell BB King story) , cotton pickers

        Sharecropping and Tenant System

                Tenants put Liens on future crops- credit provided by landlords

                Bales would "disappear" split altered on a whim

                Company Store- stores owned by landlords- purchased seed, tools, etc. indebtedness

        "New" Deal

                subsidies take land out of production

                subsidies go to landlord- provide capital and guarantee profit

                pushes tenant farmers off their land- policies benefit commercial farmers

                former tenants and croppers become temporary wageworkers

        Clarksdale List

Fleeing Racism

        Jim Crow- legal and customary seg.- public spaces and facilities, discrim. in housing and employment, poll taxes, lit tests

                no protection under the law- no way to contest claims  - land taken away through legal chicanery to terrorism (24,000 acres)

                Fleeing tyranny, seeking equal protection under the law

        Education:  Tenant farmers- schooling from November to March- planting, chopping, hoeing and picking cotton 1939 photo

        Lynching- Statistics from Tuskegee Institute

PULL FACTORS

Effects of World War II

        The Great Disconnect

                Horace Pippin's Mr. Prejudice

                READ Langston Hughes's "Beaumont to Detroit"

                Cannot fight for freedom abroad if you don't have it at home

        Double V Campaign

                AA fight for 2 Vs Victory over Germany and Japan and segregation

                 Popularized by the Pittsburgh *Courier's* Campaign in January 1942

                dual victory over enemies opposed to equality, justice and democracy

        Mobilization- Armed Forces

                Men 18-65 registered, 8 m in army 3 mil in navy

                1.1 million AA soldiers fight in WWII in a segregated military

                segregated units, bases, blood, religious services, buses

                noncombat tasks- mess, loading, manual labor, port battalion

                Fight Nazism and Jim Crow

        The Economy'

                Decisive Fact for Victory

                $100 billion in government contracts

                Negro Jobs- least skilled, lowest paying - janitorial, service industry

        Migration

                700,000 AA civilians leave the south

                Northern and Western Cities

                Industrial hubs- Detroit Chicago PGH NYC

                AA women 6.5 to 18 %

        A Philip Randolph

                President of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters- Socialist- Unionism for Civil rights

                March on Washington (1941) threatens 50,000-100,000 'What will they think in Berlin?"

                Executive Order 8802 1941 "There shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or government because of race, creed, color or national origin." "provide full and equitable participation of all workers in defense industries."  No way to enforce.

                FEPC 1941

                CORE- sit-ins

                NAACP- "Victory must crush Hitlerism both at home as well as abroad"- Walter White 1944

Post war Prosperity

                GNP-1945>1960 $200 B > $500B  Grew 250%

                Unemployment- 3-5%

                Government Spending-

                        GI Bill Veteran benefits in housing and education

                        Interstate Highways most massive construction project in nation's history $129 B to Build $774 B in prosperity

                        Korean War $15B

                        Cold War- Billions on weaponry and scientific research

                        Schools > baby boom

                Consumer Spending

                        Baby Boom 1950s 20% increase in population - housing food toys cars

                        Suburbs- Levittown - growth: autos, roads, shopping centers, schools

                        Entertainment- sports, theatre, Movies, records

                Foreign Trade

                        Marshall Plan

                        Tariff Reductions