

# Bellringer

- ① 1. The belief that Eastern Europe was already lost to communism and that the US should focus on preventing the spread of communism to other regions of the world was called:
  - a. Preventive behavior
  - b. Containment
  - c. Cold warfare
  - d. Space race
  
- 2. What effect did the Tet Offensive have?
  - a. It convinced Congress to pass the GI Bill
  - b. increased opposition to the Vietnam War in most of the US.
  - c. It united most of the country behind Lyndon Johnson's war strategy
  - d. It convinced the US to enter the space race
  
- 3. Why were some Americans against the Vietnam war?

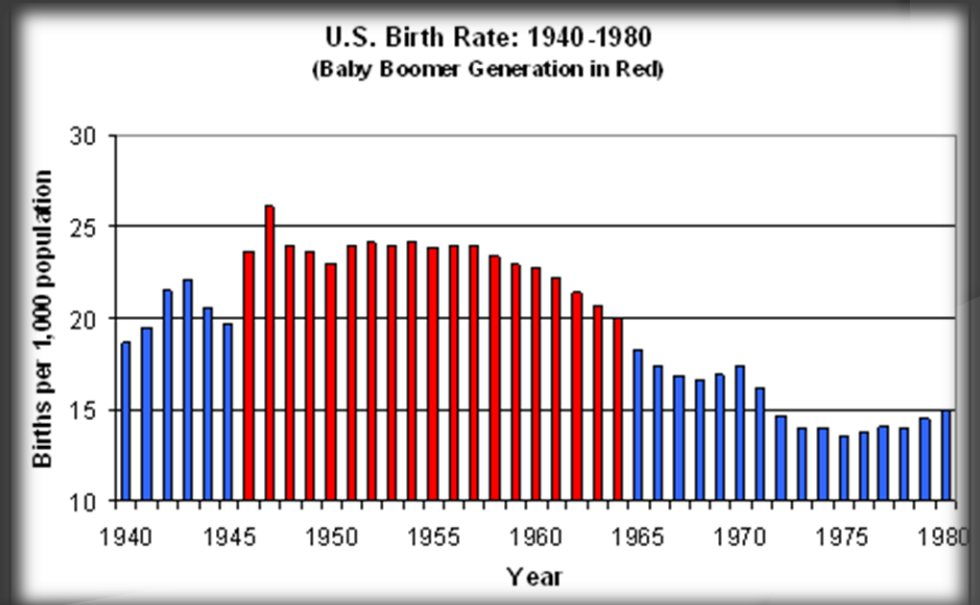
SSUSH21 THE STUDENT WILL EXPLAIN  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ITS IMPACT  
ON THE UNITED STATES, 1945-1970.



Levittown, NY: Before and After

# Post WWII Culture

- The “baby boom” was the period of time after World War II when the U.S. experienced a massive increase in the child birth rate (*from 1945-1961, 65 million children were born*)



# Interstate Highway Act (1956)

- President Eisenhower saw the need for a more efficient highway system, to move people, goods, and military equipment across the country quickly
- The Act which would eventually build over 40,000 miles of interstate highway spurred enormous economic growth through car sales, chain restaurants and hotels, and the ability of workers to move further away from the cities.

# Levittown

- Levittown, 10 miles from NYC, was one of the first suburbs built in the U.S.
- Suburbs grew quickly after WWII because of the baby boom (large families), and the new benefits for buying homes provided by the government to former soldiers



# Impact of the TV

- The 1<sup>st</sup> televised presidential debate occurred in 1960 between Vice-President Richard Nixon and John F. Kennedy



# Nixon/Kennedy Debate (1960)

- Because of television, many Americans were able to see the presidential candidates in action for the first time, which helped Kennedy win the election because Nixon had been in the hospital for two weeks, had lost 20 pounds, and looked tired during the debate.



# Quick Write

- Compare this televised presidential debate to the ones of recent months?
  - 2mins





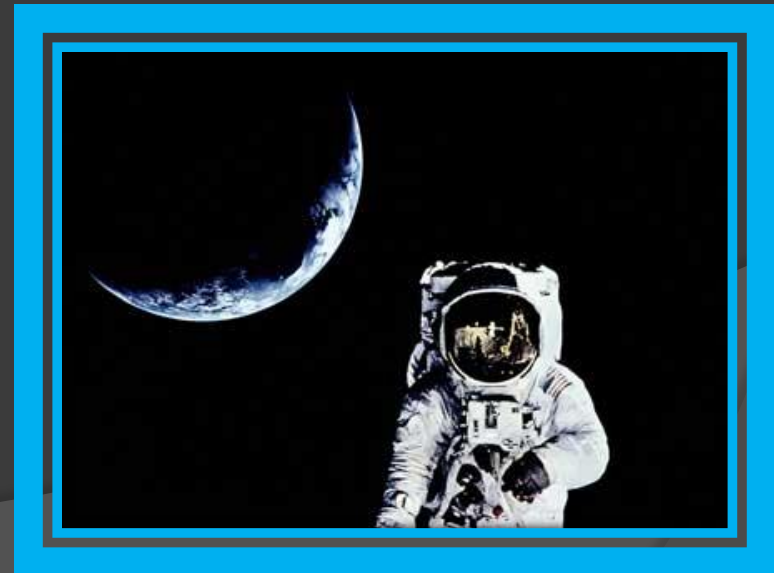
# Television and the Civil Rights Movement

- Television brought the plight of African Americans into the homes of many Americans and helped to change public opinion towards the Civil Right movement
- In 1963, after viewing the violence in Birmingham, AL on television, President Kennedy began working on a new civil rights bill
  - ***Because so many homes had televisions, Vietnam became the first televised war.***



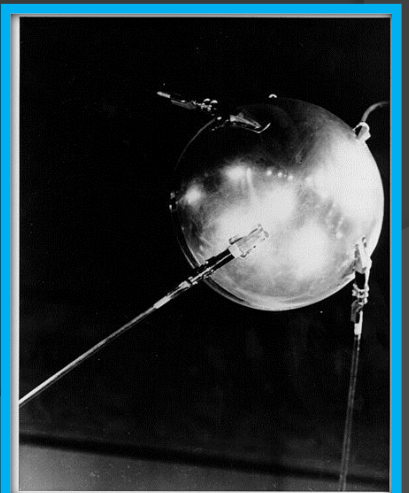
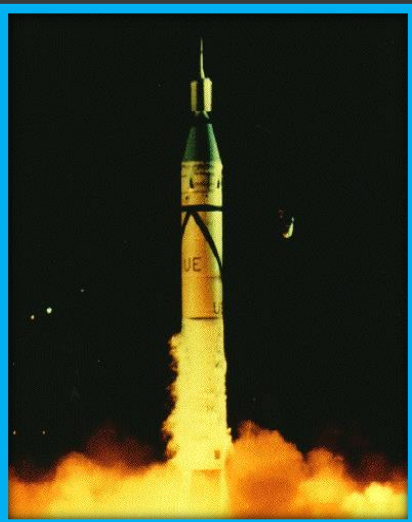
# US vs. USSR

- The Cold War competition between the U.S. and the Soviet Union led to the “Space Race”
- Though the U.S. built intercontinental missiles capable of delivering nuclear warheads anywhere in the world, Americans were shocked when the Soviet Union was able to send a satellite, Sputnik I, into orbit in 1957



# Reaction to Sputnik

- Though at first President Eisenhower dismissed the feat, the U.S. created the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and passed the National Defense Education Act which provided money for science and math education



# New Technology

- ◎ **Room Coolers:** Window unit air conditioners became affordable to the average family
- ◎ The development of the **personal computer** and **cell phone** allowed Americans to access and transmit information at will.

