

Where Did You Come From?

Immigration to the United States

Chapter 15.1

Objectives

- Summarize the United States population makeup in the late 19th century.
- Explain the different ethnic groups that entered the United States between 1870 and 1910.
- Show the immigration paths and numbers of immigrants during the American Industrial Revolution.
- Analyze the “push and pull factor” for immigrants entering the United States.
- Analyze Nativism from the political, cultural, and social standpoints.

Immigration

- Main Idea- After the civil war, millions of immigrants from Europe and Asia settled in the United States.



Agree	Disagree	Statement	Agree	Disagree
		Immigrants during the 1890s came from Europe and Asia.		
		Old Europe included France, United Kingdom, Germany, and the Slavic States.		
		Ellis Island was the processing location for Asian Immigrants from China and Japan		
		During this wave of immigration, some Americans feared that “New Europe” immigration would lead to control of the United States by the Catholic Church.		
		Angel Island was the processing location for Native Americans and Asian immigrants entering America.		
9/13/2010		Nativists believe that immigrants undercut born American salaries because they work for cheap.		

European Immigration

- By 1890s, more than half of European immigrants came from “New Europe”
 - New Europe is defined as the following countries, **Spain, Italy, Polish, Slavic, Russia, and Armenia**
 - Old Europe is England, Scotland, Wales, France, Germany, Denmark, and Southern Sweden.

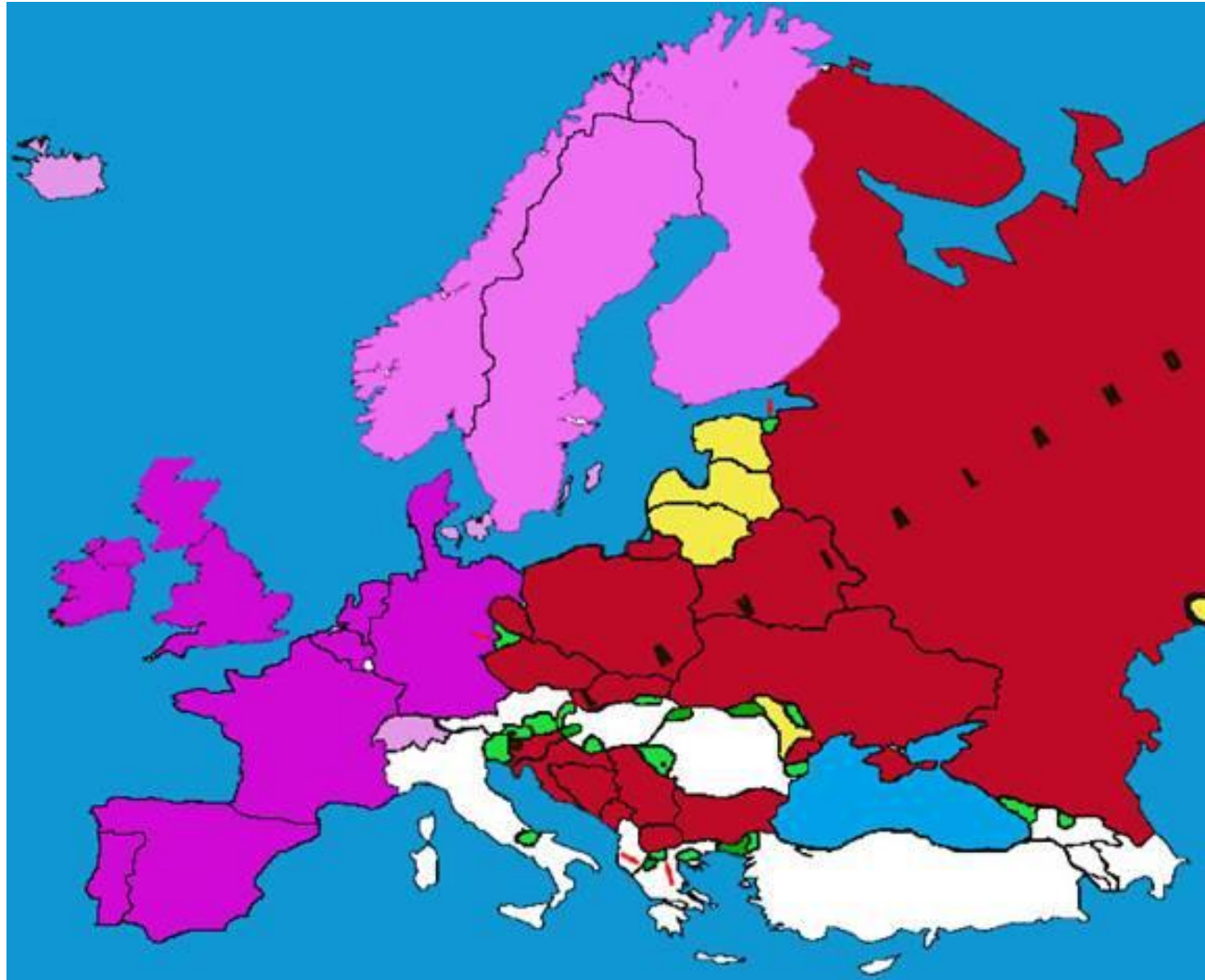
Eastern Europe

Eastern Europe
Slavic Region

Also includes
Russia



In Red- Slavic States-
Yellow and green areas where those of Slavic descent live



Question for Discussion

WHY WOULD ONE BE “PUSHED” OR LEAVE A COUNTRY FOR ANOTHER “PULLED”?

Why Immigrate?- Push

- By the late 1800's most European states had made it easy to travel to America and leave the country.
- Wars, compulsory military service.
- Political tyranny, Religious oppression
- Chinese immigrants came because of unemployment, famine, and poverty.
- Japanese immigrants came to Angel Island, in San Francisco, because their economy started to industrialize and this displaced many people.

Why Immigrate? - Pull

- Immigrants came for employment , religious freedom, to avoid military service, and to move up the social ladder.
- By the 1890's, eastern and southern Europeans made up more than half of all immigrants, many were European Jews
- Most Immigrants traveled to America by steerage, the least expensive accommodations on a steamship

Ellis Island



The Atlantic Journey

- Getting to the United States was difficult and expensive.
- Many Booked passage in steerage, basic and cheapest accommodations on a steamship.
- The Journey lasts for 14 days on a ship and end in Ellis Island.

Ellis Island

- Located in a artificial island between New York and New Jersey.
- Most immigrants passed through Ellis Island in about a day.
- The Process to become an American Citizen
 - Medical Examination
 - If the new citizens failed the examination they were sent back to Europe or forced to stay until they got better
 - United States Public Health Service marked people with symbols if an ailment was present.
 - After the process, they were given \$10 in gold and were American citizens.

Angel island- 1918

U.S. Immigration Station. Angel Island, Cal.



Angel Island, CA-near San Francisco

- The first Chinese entered California in 1848, and within a few years, thousands more came, lured by the promise of Gam Sann or "Gold Mountain". Soon, discriminatory legislation forced them out of the gold fields and into low-paying, menial jobs. They laid tracks for the Central Pacific Railroad, reclaimed swamp land in the Sacramento delta, developed shrimp and abalone fisheries, and provided cheap labor wherever there was work no other group wanted or needed.
- **During the 1870s, an economic downturn resulted in serious unemployment problems, and led to politically motivated outcries against Asian immigrants who would work for low wages.** In reaction to states starting to pass immigration laws, in 1882 the federal government asserted its authority to control immigration and passed the first immigration law, barring lunatics and felons from entering the country. **Later in 1882, the second immigration law barred Chinese**, with a few narrow exceptions. Imperial China was too weak and impoverished to exert any influence on American policy. This law was originally for 10 years, but was extended and expanded and not repealed until 1943, when China was our ally in World War II. However, only 105 Chinese were allowed in legally each year, so the exception process actually continued into the 1950's. Chinese were not on a equal immigration footing with other nationalities until immigration laws were completely rewritten in the mid 1960's.

By 1920, an estimated 6,000 to 19,000 [Japanese "picture brides"](#) were processed through Angel Island. Immigrants from other Pacific Rim countries, including Russia, Korea, the Philippines, Japan, and Central and South America, were detained here. In all, people from nearly 90 countries, including many European countries, were detained on Angel Island.



Asian Immigration to America

- Chinese and later Japanese immigrants settled in large cities and worked as laborers and in skilled trades, since the Gold Rush.
- Until 1900, Asian immigrant numbers have been small and mostly men and teenagers.
- Until 1910, California opened the barracks on **Angel Island** to accommodate the Asian immigrants
- Unlike the Ellis Island, many were crammed in dormitories for weeks waiting for immigration results.

15-1

Stop Immigrants?- Nativism

- Because of nativism, anti immigrant organizations were founded like the American Protective Association, and the Workingman's Party of California
- Laws were passed banning convicts, paupers, and the mentally disabled from immigrating
- A 50 cent head tax was put on every immigrant.
- Chinese Exclusion Act passed.

Organizations that Opposed Immigrants

- APA (American Protective Association) claimed 500, 000 members by 1889.
 - Eastern United States answer to anti-immigration
 - Henry Bowers, founder
- Workingman's Party of California
 - Western United States answer to anti-immigration
 - Denis Kearney, Irish immigrant, founder
 - 1870s, elected to California legislature

Nativism and its response

- **Nativism**- an extreme dislike for immigrants by native-born people and a desire to limit immigration
- **Chinese Exclusion Act**- law passed by congress that barred Chinese immigration for 10 years, and prevented the Chinese already in the US from becoming citizens.

Ask a family member...

- When did our family arrive in America?
 - What reason(s) did we leave our homeland?
 - Did we leave our homeland voluntarily?
 - Where did our family first settle?
- *Do this because you are interested in your own personal history..... And I will ask this as a journal writing assignment.*