Clash of Values

Nativism Emergence

* Economic recession, influx of immigrants, and racial/cultural tension creates atmosphere of disillusionment and intolerance
* Fear regarding German and Communist immigrants expands to all
* Rise in racism
* During WWI, immigration dropped, but resumes to normal level following the war’s end
* Americans see immigrants as a threat to stability and the military
* Sacco Vanzetti
  + Two Italian immigrants who were anarchists (opposed to any form of govt)
* Nativism and racist feelings were reinforced by eugenics (fake science that deals with improving hereditary traits—human inequalities are inherited and warned against breeding with those who are inferior
* Ku Klux Klan reemergence targeting immigrants

Controlling Immigration

* Immigration posters during WWI: “Keep America American”
* Even big business feared the new immigrants were radicals
* 1921 Harding signs the Emergency Quota Act which sets a temporary quote system and limits immigration
  + Only 3% of the total number of any ethnic group already living in the US in 1910 can be admitted in a single year
  + Discriminates heavily against the southern and eastern Europeans
  + Ethnic identity and national origin determines admission to the US
* National Origins Act 1924
  + Makes immigration restriction a permanent policy
  + Resets quote at 2% of the population level in 1890
  + 1929: replaces 1924 quota with limit of 150,000 immigrants admitted per year; percentage each nationality gets is based on 1920 census, which gives advantage to NW Europeans (87%)
* Mexicans are left out of this, since the quota does not apply to the Western Hemisphere
* Mexicans can fill jobs that would have been given to immigrants
* Newlands Reclamation Act 1902: provides funds for irrigation projects in the Southwest, so Mexicans fill these jobs, plus Mexican Revolution
* Many arrive between 1914 and 1920 to fill farm labor jobs

Fundamentalist Movement

* Fundamentalism: believe Bible is literally true and defend their ideas against science
* Creationists/Traditionalists/Fundamntalists oppose evolution/Modernists/New Age thinkers
* Tennessee: Butler Act outlaws any teachings that are different from story of divine creation
* John Scopes (American Civil Liberties Union) teaches evolution and gets arrested
* WJB prosecutes Scopes (Clarence Darrow) at the trial, and Scopes is convicted
* WJB gets embarrassed, so the Scopes Trial weakens fundamentalism

Prohibition

* Eighteenth Amendment passed January 1920
* Reduce unemployment, domestic violence, and poverty
* National Prohibition Act (Volstead Act), federal police can prosecute
* Speakeasies-difficult to control
* Bootlegging and moonshine
* Criminal
* 21st amendment in 1933