

PROGRESSIVE ERA

1890s-1920

Progressivism

WHEN? “Progressive Era”



WHO? “Progressives”

- Generally urban middle-class: managers & professionals; women

WHY? Address the problems arising from:

- industrialization (big business, labor strife)
- urbanization (slums, political machines, corruption)
- immigration (ethnic diversity)
- inequality & social injustice (women & racism)

Progressivism

WHAT are their goals?

- ▶ **Democracy** - government accountable to the people
- ▶ **Regulation of corporations & monopolies**
- ▶ **Social justice** - workers, poor, minorities
- ▶ **Environmental protection**

HOW?

- ▶ **Government** (laws, regulations, programs)
- ▶ **Efficiency**
 - value experts, use of scientific study to determine the best solution
 - *Pragmatism* - William James, John Dewey (← Darwinism)
 - (cf. scientific management/Taylor)

HOW MUCH?????