

- **The Conservative Movement Builds**
 - Entitlement programs provide guaranteed benefits to specific groups
 - High cost of programs, stories of fraud upset taxpayers
- **The New Right**
 - New Right—collection of grass-roots groups promoting single issues
 - Affirmative action—special consideration for women, minorities into jobs and schools
 - many say it's reverse discrimination, favoring one group over others
- **Reagan's Qualifications**
- **Ronald Reagan wins 1980 Republican nomination**
 - George H. W. Bush is running mate
- **Reagan served 2 terms as governor of California, former actor**
- **Gets 51% popular vote**
- **Reagan encourages private investment by cutting federal government**
- **Reaganomics: budget cuts, tax cuts, increased defense spending**
- **Supply-side economics holds that lower taxes result in:**
 - investment, greater productivity, more supply, lower prices
- **Congress decreases taxes by 25% over 3 years**
- **Reagan reduces government by deregulation—less industry regulation**
 - increases competition, results in lower prices
- **The 1984 Presidential Election**
 - Democrat Walter Mondale chooses Geraldine Ferraro as running mate
 - *first woman on major party's presidential ticket*
 - Reagan, Bush win by landslide

The 1988 Presidential Election

- Most Americans economically comfortable
 - - Republican candidate George Bush stresses conservatism
 - - promises “no new taxes”
- Gets 53% popular vote, 426 electoral votes
 - -electoral victory seen as conservative mandate
- Education
 - 1983 commission: U.S. students lag behind students in other nations
- The Cold War Ends-Gorbachev Initiates Reform
- Mikhail Gorbachev—general secretary of Soviet Communist Party
- Gorbachev adopts *glasnost*—*allows criticism, some freedom of press*
- Plans *perestroika*—*some private enterprise, move to democracy*
-
- The Collapse of Communist Regimes
 - Gorbachev reduces Soviet control of Eastern Europe, urges democracy
 - 1989, Berlin Wall torn down; 1990, 2 Germanys reunited
 - Czechoslovakia, Baltic states, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania democratic
 - Ethnic civil war breaks out in Yugoslavia

- **The Persian Gulf War**
- **Iran-Iraq War leaves Saddam Hussein with great war debt**
 - **- 1990, invades Kuwait to take its oil, threatens U.S. oil supply**
- **Bush, Secretary of State James Baker organize international coalition**
- **1991, Operation Desert Storm liberates Kuwait from Iraq**
- **Victory parades greet returning soldiers**
- **Under 400 coalition casualties; 100,000 Iraqi deaths**
- **Bush's Domestic Policies**
- **Bush hurt by rising deficit, recession of 1990–1992**
- **Forced to raise taxes despite campaign promise**
- **1992, approval rating drops to 49%**