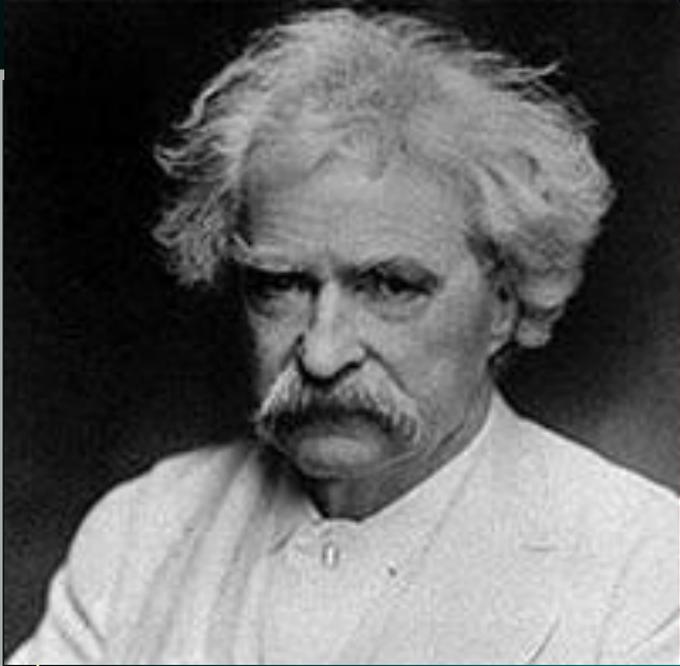


Why is the late 19th Century called the Gilded Age? (1865 – 1900)

DO NOW: The 19th Century author Mark Twain created the term “Gilded Age” for the period 1865-1900. What do you think he meant by this (feel free to Google the definition of Gilded)?



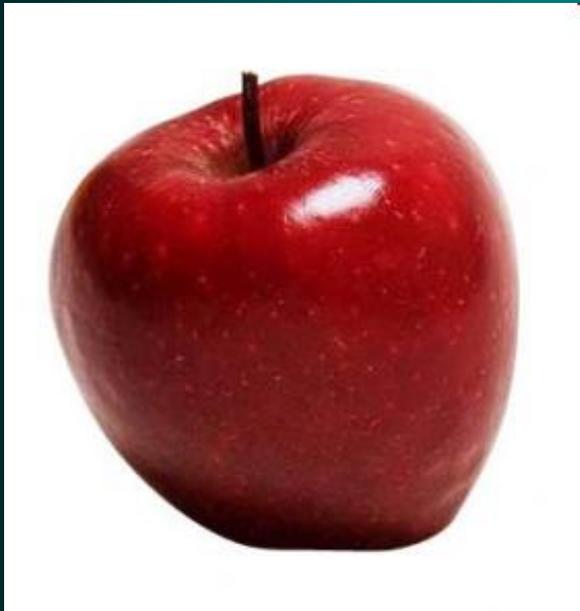
“Gilded Age” term created by famous American author **Mark Twain**



To “gild” something is to lay a thin layer of gold over some rougher/cheaper base material

“Gilded Age” – 1865-1900

- Post Civil War America

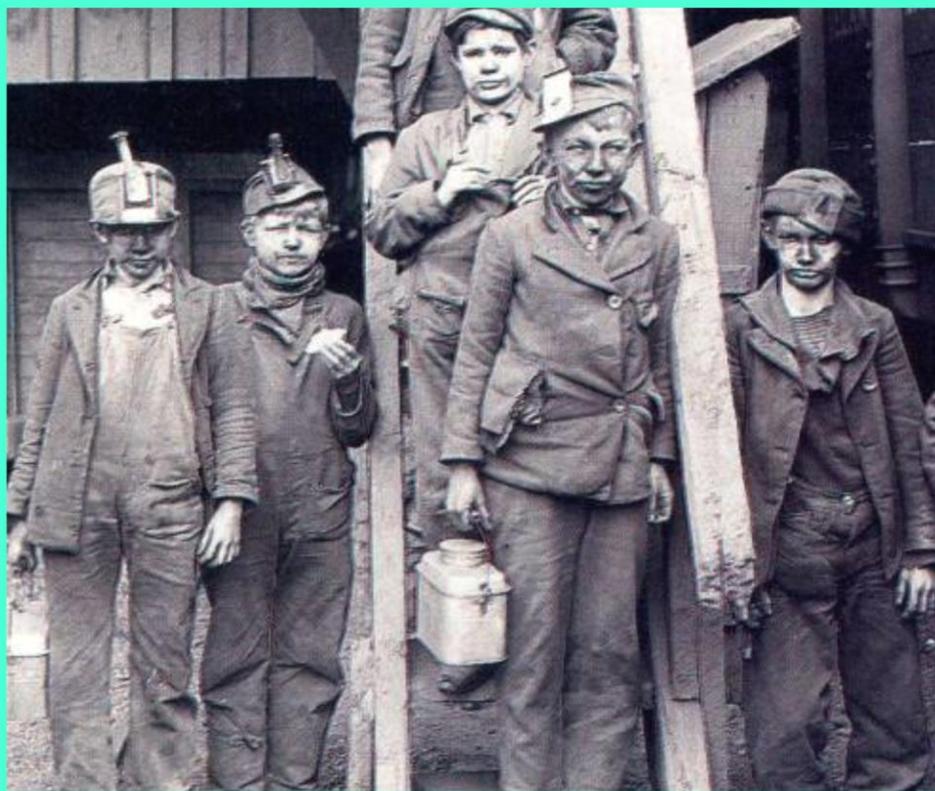


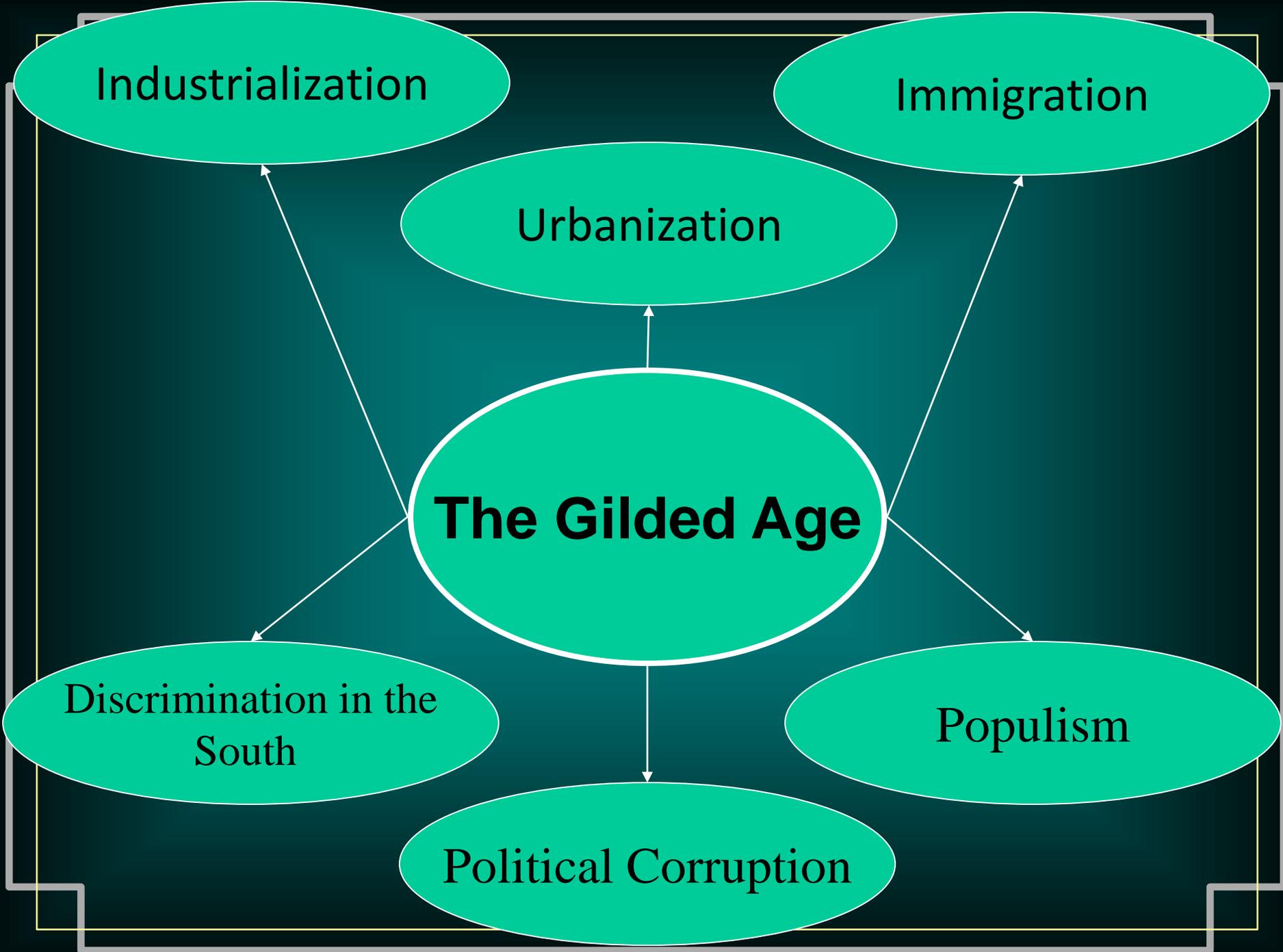
- This was America during this time period (1865-1900)



- On the outside, golden, shiny, beautiful:
- Expanding economy, population growth
- Extravagant displays of wealth by America's upper class

- Hiding the rotten inside:
 - Political corruption, scandals,
greed, child labor, materialism,
racial discrimination, etc.





Industrialization

Immigration

Urbanization

The Gilded Age

Discrimination in the
South

Populism

Political Corruption



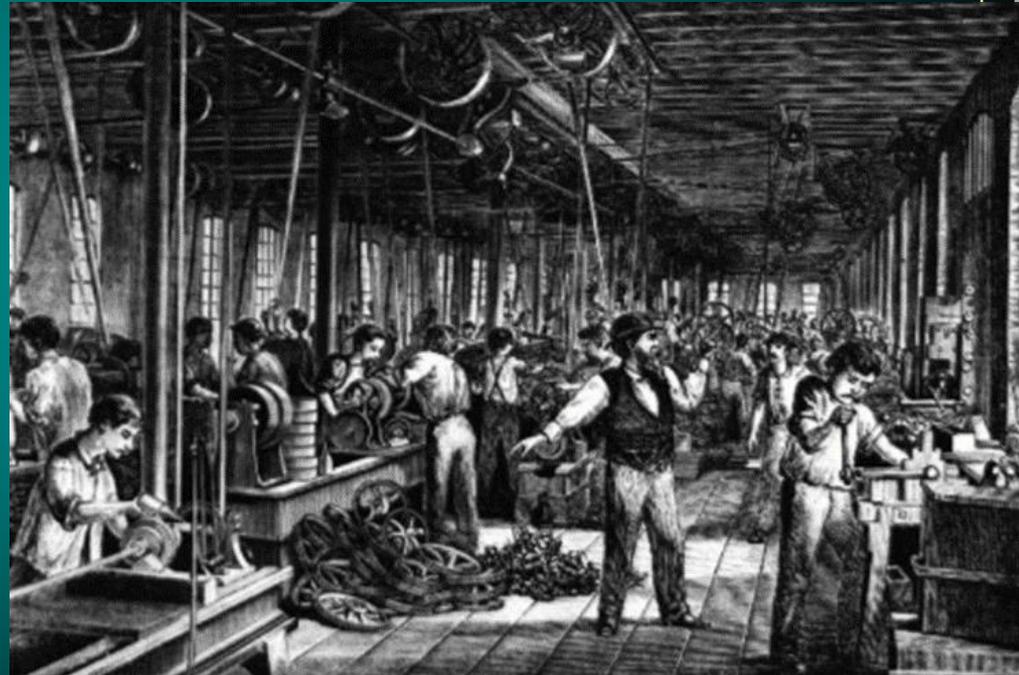
DOMESTIC SYSTEM

Work done at home or small workshops by hand



FACTORY SYSTEM

Work done in a factory by machine



Industrial Revolution

- Includes:
 - Change from the domestic system of manufacturing to the factory system
 - new technologies - production, communication and transportation
 - New sources of power - water to steam to electricity

(U.S – early 1800s to early 1900s)

Changes in Daily Life

Life in the 1860s

- No indoor electric lights
- No refrigeration
- No indoor plumbing
- Kerosene or wood to heat
- Wood stoves to cook with
- Horse and buggy
- In 1860, most mail from the East Coast took ten days to reach the Midwest and three weeks to get to the West Coast.
- A letter from Europe to a person on the frontier could take several months to reach its destination.

Life in the 1900s

- US Govt issued 500,000 patents—electricity
- Refrigerated railroad cars
- Sewer systems and sanitation
- Increased productivity made life easier and comfortable.
- Power stations, electricity for lamps, fans, printing presses, appliances, typewriters, etc.
- New York to San Francisco to 10 days using railroad.
- 1.5 million telephones in use all over the country
- Western Union Telegraph was sending thousands of messages daily throughout the country.



Causes of Rapid Industrialization

1. Steam Revolution of the 1830s-1850s.
2. The Railroad fueled the growing US economy:
 - First big business in the US.
 - A magnet for financial investment.
 - The key to opening the West.
 - Aided the development of other industries.

Causes of Rapid Industrialization

3. Technological innovations.

- Bessemer and open hearth process
- Refrigerated cars
- Edison
 - "Wizard of Menlo Park"
 - light bulb, phonograph, motion pictures.

Causes of Rapid Industrialization

4. Unskilled & semi-skilled labor in abundance.
5. Abundant capital.
6. New, talented group of businessmen [**entrepreneurs**] and advisors.
7. Market growing as US population increased.
8. Government willing to help at all levels to stimulate economic growth (government intervened).
9. Abundant natural resources.

