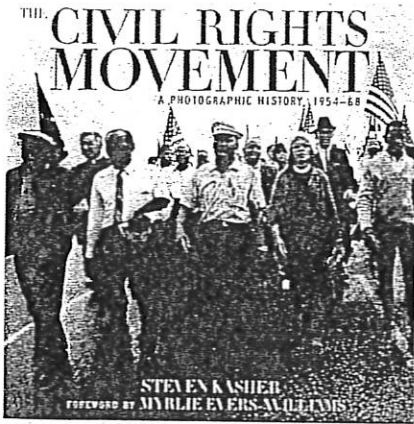


Major Events of the 1960s



Civil rights include the ensuring of peoples' physical integrity and safety; protection from discrimination on grounds such as physical or mental disability, gender, religion, race, national origin, age, or sexual orientation; and individual rights such as the freedoms of thought and conscience, speech and expression, religion, the press, and movement. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was a landmark piece of legislation in the United States that outlawed major forms of discrimination against blacks and women, including racial segregation. It ended unequal application of voter registration requirements and racial segregation in schools, at the workplace and

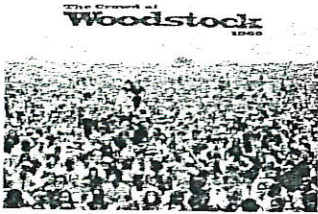
by facilities that served the general public. Powers given to enforce the act were initially weak, but were supplemented during later years. Its duty is to guarantee all citizens equal protection of the laws under the Fourteenth Amendment and its duty to protect voting rights under the Fifteenth Amendment. Many other acts and programs were passed and or set up in this era for multiple reasons. The Economic Opportunity Act set up social programs to fight poverty. The Great Society was a set of domestic programs proposed or passed in the United States on the initiative of President Lyndon B. Johnson. Two main goals of the Great Society social reforms were the elimination of poverty and racial injustice. New major spending programs that addressed education, medical care, urban problems, and transportation were launched during this period. On July 30, 1965, President Johnson signed the Medicare and Medicaid Bill Medicare extended health coverage to almost all Americans aged 65 or older. About 19 million beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare in the first year of the program. Medicaid provided access to health care services for certain low-income persons and expanded the existing Federal-State welfare structure that assisted the poor.

"The most influential loser" in 20th-century U.S. politics was George Wallace. During the campaign to become governor of Alabama in 1962 he told audiences that if the federal government sought to integrate Alabama's schools, "I shall refuse to abide by any such illegal federal court order even to the point of standing in the schoolhouse door." Wallace was popular with the white voters and he easily won the election. In Wallace blocked the enrollment of African American students at the of Alabama. Similar actions in Birmingham, Huntsville and Mobile made national figure and one of the country's leading figures against the civil movement. Martin Luther King told one journalist in 1963 that Wallace "perhaps the most dangerous racist in America today." Wallace continued to resist the demands of John F. Kennedy and the federal government to integrate the Alabama's education system. On 5th September he ordered schools in Birmingham to close and told the the *New York Times* that in order to stop integration Alabama needed a "few first-class funerals." A week later a bomb exploded outside the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, killing four schoolgirls who had been attending Sunday school classes. Twenty-three other people were also hurt by the blast. Alabama law barred Wallace from standing as governor for a second term in 1966. His wife, Lurleen Wallace, stood instead and her victory determined that Wallace would retain power. In February, 1968, Wallace announced his intention of standing as an independent candidate for president. His hostility to civil rights legislation won him support from white voters in the Deep South and won Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Although he won over 9 million votes he came third to Richard Nixon (31,770,237) and Hubert Humphrey (31,270,533). On 15th May, 1972, Arthur Bremer ed to assassinate Wallace. at a presidential campaign rally in Laurel, Maryland. Wallace was hit four times. Three other people were also wounded in the attack. Wallace was partially paralyzed as a result of the attack by Arthur Bremer. After a long spell in hospital Wallace was able to return to



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politics. He apologized for his previous stance of civil rights and during the 1982 won the governorship with substantial support from African American voters.



Woodstock was a music festival, billed as "An Aquarian Exposition: 3 Days of Peace & Music". It was held at Max Yasgur's 600-acre dairy farm near the hamlet of White Lake in the town of Bethel, New York, from August 15 to August 18, 1969. Bethel, in Sullivan County, is 43 miles (69 km) southwest of the town of Woodstock, New York. During the sometimes rainy weekend, thirty-two acts performed outdoors in front of 500,000 concert-goers.^[2] It is widely regarded as one of the greatest and most pivotal moments in popular

music history and was listed among Rolling Stone's 50 Moments That Changed the History of Rock and Roll.

Yuri Gagarin was born near Moscow, Russia on March 9, 1934. He died on March 27, 1968. Yuri joined the Soviet Air Force in 1955. By 1959, he was training to become a cosmonaut. On April 12, 1961 Yuri Gagarin became the first human to orbit Earth! The name of his spacecraft was *Vostok 1*. *Vostok 1* had two sections. One section was for Yuri. The second section was for supplies needed for Gagarin to live such as oxygen and water. *Vostok 1* circled Earth at a speed of 27,400 kilometers per hour. The flight lasted 108 minutes. *Vostok's* reentry was controlled by a computer. Yuri Gagarin did not land inside of *Vostok 1*. He ejected from the spacecraft and landed by parachute. Yuri Gagarin was killed in a plane crash. However, the first American to orbit earth was John Herschel Glenn, Jr.



Barry Morris Goldwater was a five-term United States Senator from Arizona and the Republican Party's nominee for President in the 1964 election. An articulate and charismatic figure in the 1960–64 era, he was known as "Mr. Conservative". He lost the 1964 presidential election to incumbent Democrat Lyndon B. Johnson by one of the largest landslides in history, bringing down many Republican candidates as well.

The Tet Offensive was a military campaign and also the turning point of the Vietnam War. South Vietnam was attacked by Communist forces, namely the National Liberation Front (NLF) and the North Vietnamese People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN), as they wished to start an uprising. Even though the United States forces and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) were able to recapture the cities, the Tet Offensive showed to the American public that the war may go on indefinitely. On Aug. 2, 1964, North Vietnamese torpedo boats attacked a U.S. ship, the destroyer USS Maddox. The destroyer was in the Gulf of Tonkin, off the coast of North Vietnam, on an intelligence mission. It suffered no damage from the attack. Two days later North Vietnamese torpedo boats allegedly attacked the Maddox and another U.S. destroyer, though evidence for the attacks was inconclusive.

The Bay of Pigs is a bay on the southern coast of Cuba. It is mostly known for a failed attempt at a US-backed invasion by Cuban exiles intent on overthrowing Fidel Castro, in 1961. See Bay of Pigs Invasion for more information.