

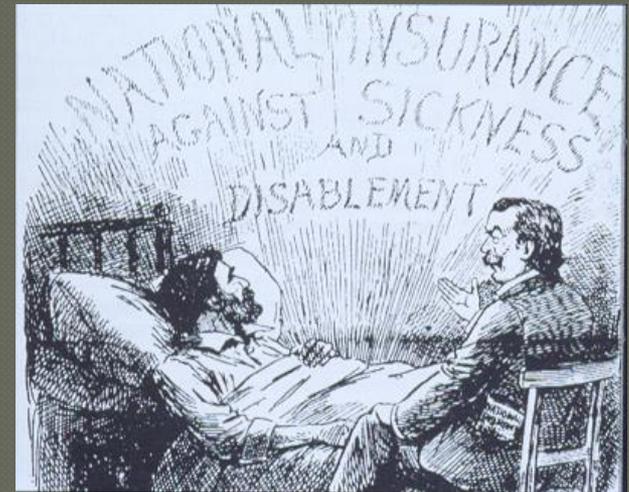


# Welfare and Dissent



# Welfare & Consumption

- The welfare state is part of German history
  - 1840s = Prussia & Saxony
  - 1880s = Bismarck brought insurance/pensions to all of Germany
- Adopted throughout the western world by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Increase in per capita income + welfare state = increase in consumer confidence and spending



# Welfare & Consumption

---

- 1950s = New technologies & delayed payments
  - After WWII, buying on “credit”
- Problems with the welfare state:
  - Relies on taxation – inherently tied to economic growth
  - The richest citizens stay insanely rich
  - Does not address gender or racial inequality

# Women in Society

---

- The American “baby boom”
  - But in Europe, most women were choosing to have less children . . .
- Postwar European pronatalism
  - Great Britain = unequal pay encouraged women to stay home and have babies
  - Romania = Nicolae Ceausescu and the re-criminalization of abortion (1966)
    - Result = lots of unwanted kids in orphanages and homeless, massive influx of crime, 9000 dead women (from illegal abortion)

# Women in Society

- ◉ 1960s = origins of “second wave” feminism
  - Frustration regarding reproductive rights, equal pay, gender identity, and sexuality
  - De Beauvoir = women are considered by men to be the less significant “other”
  - Betty Friedan = reality does not mirror the idealized image of the perfect homemaker



# The Young Generation

## ● Philip Larkin's *Annus Mirabilis*

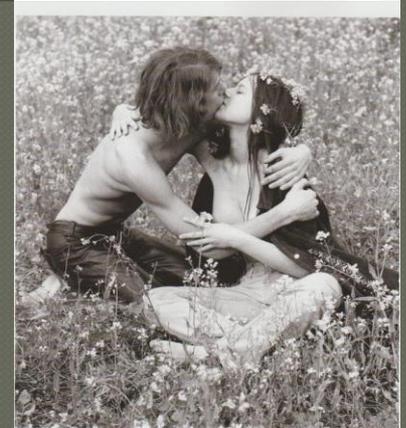
- “Sexual intercourse began / In 1963 ...”

## ● “Sexual Revolution” of the 1960s

- Sex could be **AND SHOULD** be about pleasure
- Pornography and sex toys became more prevalent
- Sex education curriculum became important
- **BUT**, sexual revolution did not necessarily equate to equal rights for women

## ● Politicization of “Youth Culture”

- Young people saw themselves as a political force
- “Trust no one over 30!”



# 1968 Student Revolutions

---

- In the postwar West, new and larger university populations
- Students wanted to be political
  - 1964 = Berkeley's "Free Speech Movement"
- May 1968 = French student protest turns into its largest general strike
  - French President fled; called for new elections
- Truly an international sense of protest
- Why so political?
  - A unique collective sense of identity
  - The issues (Vietnam, civil rights, Cold War, women's rights, etc.)

# The Civil Rights Movements

---

- ◉ Changing demographics . . .
- ◉ 1960s = organized boycotts
- ◉ Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)
- ◉ President Lyndon Johnson (1963-1969)
  - Civil rights legislation
- ◉ Stonewall Riots (June 1969)
  - Launched LGBT rights movement
- ◉ 1968 = American Indian Movement (AIM)

## By 1970 . . .

---

- ◉ Economic growth had slowed
  - Middle class was concerned about jobs
- ◉ In the West, consumer societies became frustrated with the downturn
- ◉ In the East, there was deep envy of consumer goods
  - Even though everyone was guaranteed a job
- ◉ Cold War continued . . .
  - And the arsenals grew . . . And grew and grew . . .