Key Concept 8.1:
The United States responded to an uncertain and unstable postwar world by asserting and working to maintain a position of global leadership, with far-reaching domestic and international consequences.

I. United States policymakers engaged in a Cold War with the authoritarian Soviet Union, seeking to limit the growth of Communist military power and ideological influence, create a free-market global economy, and build an international security system.

A. As postwar tensions dissolved the wartime alliance between Western democracies and the Soviet Union, the United States developed a foreign policy based on collective security, international aid, and economic institutions that bolstered non-Communist nations.
   1. Collective security
   2. United Nations (1945)
   3. Truman Doctrine (1947)
   5. Rio Pact (1947)
   6. NATO (1949)
   7. SEATO (1954)

B. Concerned by expansionist Communist ideology and Soviet repression, the United States sought to contain communism through a variety of measures, including major military engagements in Korea and Vietnam.
   1. Containment policy
   2. George F. Kennan’s “long telegram” (1946)
   3. domino theory
   5. hydrogen bomb (1952)
   7. Sputnik and the space race (1957)
   9. JFK’s flexible response policy
   10. Truman’s “limited war” in the Korean War
   11. Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964)
   13. Tet Offensive (1968)

C. The Cold War fluctuated between periods of direct and indirect military confrontation and periods of mutual coexistence (or détente).
   1. Khrushchev’s visit to US (1959)
   2. U-2 incident (1960)
   4. Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)
   5. White House “hotline” with USSR (1963)
   7. Détente
   8. Nixon’s visit to China (1972)
   9. Grain Deal with USSR (1972)

D. Postwar decolonization and the emergence of powerful nationalist movements in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East led both sides in the Cold War to seek allies among new nations, many of which remained nonaligned.
1. US recognition of Israel (1948)
2. Operation Ajax in Iran (1953)
3. Peace Corps (1961)
4. US support of Israel in Yom Kippur War (1973)
5. Camp David Accords (1978)

E. Cold War competition extended to Latin America, where the U.S. supported non-Communist regimes that had varying levels of commitment to democracy.
1. US intervention in overthrow of leader of Guatemala (1954)
2. US embargo of Cuba (1960)
3. Bay of Pigs (1961)
4. Alliance for Progress (1961)
5. Peace Corps (1961)
6. Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

II. Cold War policies led to public debates over the power of the federal government and acceptable means for pursuing international and domestic goals while protecting civil liberties.

A. Americans debated policies and methods designed to expose suspected communists within the United States even as both parties supported the broader strategy of containing communism.
3. Federal Employee Loyalty Program (1947)
4. Trial of Alger Hiss (1950)
5. Senator Joseph McCarthy (1950)
6. McCarthyism (Second Red Scare)
7. Execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg (1953)
8. Army-McCarthy hearings (1954)

B. Although anticommunist foreign policy faced little domestic opposition in previous years, the Vietnam War inspired sizable and passionate antiwar protests that became more numerous as the war escalated, and sometimes led to violence.
1. Teach-ins (1965)
2. hawks vs. doves
3. credibility gap
5. Students for a Democratic Society Columbia University protest (1968)
6. Democratic National Convention riots (1968)
8. Woodstock (1969)

C. Americans debated the merits of a large nuclear arsenal, the military-industrial complex, and the appropriate power of the executive branch in conducting foreign and military policy.
1. Eisenhower’s Farewell Address warning against the growing military-industry complex (1961)
2. Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964)
3. SALT I (1969)
5. War Powers Act (1973)

D. Ideological, military, and economic concerns shaped U.S. involvement in the Middle East, with several oil crises in the region eventually sparking attempts at creating a national energy policy.
1. Suez Canal crisis (1956)
2. Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (1960)
3. Arab oil embargo (1973)
4. Iranian hostage crisis (1979)

**Key Concept 8.2:**
New movements for civil rights and liberal efforts to expand the role of government generated a range of political and cultural responses.

I. Seeking to fulfill Reconstruction-era promises, civil rights activists and political leaders achieved some legal and political successes in ending segregation, although progress toward equality was slow.

A. During and after World War II, civil rights activists and leaders, most notably Martin Luther King Jr., combatted racial discrimination utilizing a variety of strategies, including legal challenges, direct action, and nonviolent protest tactics.
1. Asa Philip Randolph’s threat to “March on Washington” (1941)
2. Congress of Racial Equality/CORE (1942)
3. Double V campaign
7. Martin Luther King’s nonviolent civil disobedience
8. integration of Central High/”Little Rock Nine” (1957)
9. Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (1960)
10. Greensboro lunch counter sit-ins (1960)
12. King’s Letter from Birmingham Jail (1963)
14. Freedom Summer (1964)
15. Fannie Lou Hamer and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (1964)
16. John L. Lewis and SNCC
17. Selma March (1965)
18. Motown music
19. Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP

B. The three branches of the federal government used measures including desegregation of the armed services, Brown v. Board of Education, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to promote greater racial equality.
1. Executive Order 9981 desegregated US armed forces (1948)
3. Civil Rights Act (1964)
4. 24th Amendment (1964)
5. Voting Rights Act (1965)
7. LBJ’s affirmative action speech (1965)
8. Fair Housing Act (1968)
C. Continuing white resistance slowed efforts at desegregation, sparking social and political unrest across the nation. Debates among civil rights activists over the efficacy of nonviolence increased after 1965.

1. Declaration of Constitutional Principles/Southern Manifesto (1956)
2. Little Rock Nine (1957)
3. murders of civil rights workers during Freedom Summer (1964)
4. Watts Riot (1965)
5. Selma March (1965)
8. black nationalism
   Stokely Carmichael and Black Power (1966)

II. Responding to social conditions and the African American civil rights movement, a variety of movements emerged that focused on issues of identity, social justice, and the environment.

A. Feminist and gay and lesbian activists mobilized behind claims for legal, economic, and social equality.

1. Betty Friedan’s *The Feminine Mystique* (1963)
2. Equal Pay Act of 1963
5. Gloria Steinem’s *Ms. Magazine* (1971) and the National Women’s Political Caucus (1971)
6. Title IX (1972)

B. Latino, American Indian, and Asian American movements continued to demand social and economic equality and a redress of past injustices.

1. American Indian Movement (1968)
2. Indians of All Tribes and the Occupation of Alcatraz (1969)
3. Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers (1962)
4. Delano grape strike (1965-1970)

C. Despite an overall affluence in postwar America, advocates raised concerns about the prevalence and persistence of poverty as a national problem.

2. Michael Harrington’s *The Other America* (1962)

D. Environmental problems and accidents led to a growing environmental movement that aimed to use legislative and public efforts to combat pollution and protect natural resources. The federal government established new environmental programs and regulations.

1. Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring* (1962)
2. Wilderness Protection Act of 1964
3. Water Quality Act of 1965
4. Clean Air Act of 1970
5. Environmental Protection Act of 1970
7. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (1970)
III. Liberalism influenced postwar politics and court decisions, but it came under increasing attack from the left as well as from a resurgent conservative movement.

A. Liberalism, based on anticommunism abroad and a firm belief in the efficacy of government power to achieve social goals at home, reached a high point of political influence by the mid-1960s.
   1. Students for a Democratic Society (1962)
   2. Port Huron Statement (1962)
   3. “New Left”
   5. Columbia University protests (1968)

B. Liberal ideas found expression in Lyndon Johnson’s **Great Society**, which attempted to use federal legislation and programs to end racial discrimination, eliminate poverty, and address other social issues. A series of Supreme Court decisions expanded civil rights and individual liberties.
   1. Engel v. Vitale (1962)
   2. Jobs Corp (1964)
   3. Economic Opportunity Act (1964)
   4. Food Stamp Act (1964)
   5. Medicaid (1965)
   6. Medicare (1965)
   7. Head Start (1965)
   8. Department of Housing and Urban Development (1965)
   9. Immigration and Nationality Act (1965)
   11. Warren Court

C. In the 1960s, conservatives challenged liberal laws and court decisions and perceived moral and cultural decline, seeking to limit the role of the federal government and enact more assertive foreign policies.
   1. Opposition to Warren Court decisions
   2. Barry Goldwater’s candidacy for president (1964)
   3. Election of Richard Nixon (1968)

D. Some groups on the left also rejected liberal policies, arguing that political leaders did too little to transform the racial and economic status quo at home and pursued immoral policies abroad.
   2. Yippies
   3. Black Power movement
   4. draft evasion during Vietnam War
   5. conscientious objectors
   6. Muhammed Ali’s refusal to honor the draft

E. Public confidence and trust in government’s ability to solve social and economic problems declined in the 1970s in the wake of economic challenges, political scandals, and foreign policy crises.
   1. Arab Oil Embargo (1973)
   2. Stagflation
5. Ford’s pardon of Nixon

F. The 1970s saw growing clashes between conservatives and liberals over social and cultural issues, the power of the federal government, race, and movements for greater individual rights.
1. War Powers Act (1973)
3. Phyllis Schlafly’s STOP ERA movement (1972-1982)

**Key Concept 8.3:**
Postwar economic, demographic, and technological changes had a far-reaching impact on American society, politics, and the environment.

I. Rapid economic and social changes in American society fostered a sense of optimism in the postwar years.
   A. A burgeoning private sector, federal spending, the baby boom, and technological developments helped spur economic growth.
      1. Baby boom
      2. increased spending on housing and education due to the GI Bill of Rights
      3. Cold War defense spending
      4. NASA
      5. space race
      6. Apollo 11
      7. growth of aerospace industry
      8. increases in the service sector industry
   
   B. As higher education opportunities and new technologies rapidly expanded, increasing social mobility encouraged the migration of the middle class to the suburbs and of many Americans to the South and West. The **Sun Belt** region emerged as a significant political and economic force.
      1. Sunbelt
      2. Suburbanization
      3. Levittowns
      4. aerospace industry boom in South and West
   
   C. Immigrants from around the world sought access to the political, social, and economic opportunities in the United States, especially after the passage of new immigration laws in 1965.
      1. Immigration and Nationality Act (1965)
      2. increase in immigration of families related to legal immigrants
      3. increase in immigration from Latin America and Asia
      4. refugees from wars in Southeast Asia

II. New demographic and social developments, along with anxieties over the Cold War, changed U.S. culture and led to significant political and moral debates that sharply divided the nation.
   A. Mass culture became increasingly homogeneous in the postwar years, inspiring challenges to conformity by artists, intellectuals, and rebellious youth.
      1. Jack Kerouac and the Beat Movement (1957)
      2. rock and roll music
      4. Vietnam War teach-ins (1965)
5. 26th Amendment (1971)
6. Counterculture
7. Hippies
8. pop art

B. Feminists and young people who participated in the counterculture of the 1960s rejected many of the social, economic, and political values of their parents’ generation, introduced greater informality into U.S. culture, and advocated changes in sexual norms.
1. Birth control pill (1960)
3. sexual revolution
4. communes

C. The rapid and substantial growth of evangelical Christian churches and organizations was accompanied by greater political and social activism on the part of religious conservatives.
1. Focus on the Family (1977)
2. Moral Majority (1979)