

# A Clash of Values

## Big Idea

As you read through these passages, complete this graphic organizer by **filling in some causes and effects of anti-immigrant prejudices.**



# Nativism Resurges

## Synthesizing Information

Write two reasons Mexican immigrants filled agriculture, mining, and railroad jobs.

1.

2.

During the 1920s, anti-immigrant feelings grew because of an influx of immigrants, cultural tensions, and recession. **Nativism**, the belief that one's native land needs to be protected against immigrants, also grew. In 1920 two Italian immigrants named Nicola Sacco and Bortolomeo Vanzetti were arrested for armed robbery and murder. It was widely reported that they were **anarchists**, people who oppose all forms of government. Despite thin evidence, Sacco and Vanzetti were found guilty and later executed. One of the biggest efforts to restrict immigration came from the Ku Klux Klan. It targeted groups it felt did not represent traditional American values.

In 1921 Congress passed the Emergency Quota Act to limit immigration. The National Origins Act of 1924 made the quotas stricter and permanent. These acts favored people from north-western Europe and exempted those from Central and South America. The reduction in immigration caused a shortage of workers for agriculture, mining, and railroad work. Mexican immigrants filled these jobs. Large numbers arrived after the Newlands Reclamation Act of 1902 funded projects in the Southwest.

# A Clash of Cultures

## Identifying the Main Idea & Distinguishing Fact from Opinion

**Write the main idea.**

**Write one opinion held by Fundamentalists in the 1920s. Then write one fact about them.**  
**Opinion:**

**Fact:**

During the 1920s, a “new morality” took over the nation. The new morality challenged traditional ways of thinking. It glorified youth and personal freedom and changed American society.

Women won the right to vote in 1920. This encouraged many women to break free of their traditional roles and behaviors. Attitudes toward marriage changed. The ideas of romance, pleasure, and friendship became linked to successful marriages. The automobile also played a part in the new morality. It gave young people more freedom. Single women began working for their own financial independence as employment opportunities increased during the 1920s. Women’s colleges encouraged students to pursue careers. Many professional women made contributions in fields such as science, medicine, law, and literature.

Many groups wanted to preserve traditional values against the new morality. A religious movement called Fundamentalism stressed the teachings of the Bible as literally true history. Fundamentalists rejected the theory of **evolution**, which argued that human beings had developed from lower forms of life over the course of millions of years.

Fundamentalists believed in **creationism**, which says that God created the world as described in the Bible. In 1925 Tennessee outlawed the teaching of evolution. A high school biology teacher named John T. Scopes was tried and convicted of breaking this law. The Scopes Trial helped illustrate the struggle between the new morality and traditional beliefs.

In January of 1920 the Eighteenth Amendment went into effect. This amendment prohibited, or banned, the sale of alcohol. Many people felt prohibition would reduce unemployment, violence, and poverty. Congress passed the Volstead Act to enforce the law, but many Americans violated it. Organized crime supplied illegal alcohol to secret bars called **speakeasies**. In 1933 the Twenty-first Amendment later repealed prohibition.

# Section Wrap-Up

Answer these questions to check your understanding of the entire section.

1. What factors contributed to the rise in nativism during the 1920s?

2. How did the status of women change during the 1920s?