Conservatism Movement

Name

Institutional Affiliation

The 1950s and 1960s was a post-war period whereby people were struggling to get back on track both economically, socially and politically. The emergence of the Civil Rights movement towards the 60s identified the need Americans to get fair treatment in all aspects of life (Hall, 2007). People joined in groups to defend their rights according to age, gender, class, as well as political affiliation. The conservative movement has a connection from events occurring at this era. Those controlling the Republican Party held strong views on lowering taxes, national defense, traditional social values, and minimal government regulations.

On the social aspect, the American dream was the driving force in the 1950s where everyone was working towards securing a good job, house, and family with the booming economy after the WWII. In the 1960s, the vision was attaining equality, freedom as well as peace and hence the emergence of many human rights movements (Meeker, 2001). The 50s were conservative with strict rules like the segregation in schools whereby blacks and whites studied in different institutions. Students were encouraged to succeed in studies, attend college and achieve a good career for a better life. However, things changed in the 1960s as schools were in a desegregated form where all students attended the same classes, and bilingual education was the order of this period (Patterson & Freehling, 2001). Gender roles also evolved from the 50s to the 60s with more women joining the workforce and becoming activists for equal rights throughout the era into the 1980s. Conservatism movement, therefore, focused on achieving a better society with leadership as the revolutionary aspect (Meeker, 2001). The traditional social values among the Republican Party matched with the need for maintaining a functional social relation which attracted support even from Democrats. The 1950 to 1960 period symbolizes social changes that made history and value for the American society.

References

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