

# The Nineties

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## Early Politics

### Fall of the Soviet Union

- a. December 1991: The Soviet Union collapsed into 15 separate countries.
- b. Signaled the end of the Cold War as the Americans greatest adversary had disintegrated.
- c. Began with regions on the outskirts of the Soviet Union starting to rebel and leading revolutions for independent countries.
- d. Began when a few staunch Communists tried to overtake the country and restore Communism.
- e. The leaders of this movement kidnapped Mikhail Gorbachev and told the country that he was ill and no longer later to lead so they must listen to them.
- f. This led to massive protests in the major cities. The leaders sent the military in to control the protests, but the military also revolted, refusing to shoot their fellow countrymen.
- g. Without the help of the military, the leaders were powerless and it was not long before the entire Soviet Union collapsed.

### The Fall of the Berlin Wall

- a. Germany had been split into East and West Germany by a wall that the Soviet Union had put in place.
- b. In November 1989 that wall met its end as the citizens of East and West Germany destroyed the wall and came together as one nation.
- c. By 1991, Germany had gained its full independence from the Soviet Union, as the Soviet Union had collapsed.
- d. This was a victory for the United States, because they were trying to rid Europe, and the whole world, of communist rule, and Germany was now free of it.

### Persian Gulf War

- a. On August 2, 1990, Saddam Hussein ordered his Iraqi troops to invade Kuwait.
- b. President George Bush ordered Operation Desert Storm to liberate the country of Kuwait.
- c. Operation Desert Storm was the largest military land operation for the United States since World War II.

- d. The United States felt it necessary to get involved, because Kuwait supplied 10% of the world's oil. If Iraq had taken over, then there would be a big shortage in the supply of oil.
- e. The war took place not only in Kuwait, but also in Iraq and Saudi Arabia. It was very important that the United States win the war, because 30% of the world's oil came from those three countries.
- f. The war took place in two main places: the desert and the Persian Gulf. This helped the US, because they had tanks for the deserts and navy facilities for the Gulf.

### Recession in Early 90s

- caused by Persian Gulf War, end of Cold War, savings and loan scandals
- loss of many industrial jobs that would never return
- major hits in middle and upper-middle class Americans
- new jobs were found in retail, sales, and finance and had little benefits
- large firms began to operate more employee-efficient and cut unnecessary positions
- 1.5 % of the American workforce lost their jobs (about 1.5 million)
- mid to late 90s economy would grow again

### Right-to-Die Trials

- a. Before Dr. Kevorkian's trials, the issue of assisted suicide had reached the courts in 1990
  - i. Larry McAfee, 34, asked the courts to grant him permission to turn off his ventilator, the only thing keeping the quadriplegic alive
  - ii. After the Georgia Superior Court granted him this right, an extremely rare decision for someone who is not in a life-threatening condition, the case was taken to the Georgia Supreme Court for confirmation
  - iii. Depending on Medicaid Funds for his nursing fees, Mr. McAfee has decided to give life a second chance
- b. Dr. Kevorkian
  - i. In 1993, Michigan started the suicide-assistance ban
    1. This was intended to help set up a panel, the State Commission on Death and Dying
    2. Then edited, in response to Dr. Jack Kevorkian's actions, to making assisting a suicide against the law
  - ii. In 1994, the law was made void because it had more than one objective
    1. As the law was invalidated, so was the State Commission on Death and Dying
    2. The court also announced that the Constitution does not protect the right to commit suicide, and therefore, assisting suicide is a crime
  - iii. In 1996, the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York decided that doctors should be legally allowed to help terminally ill patients die

1. Concerns were raised that the “right to die” would be misconstrued and mentally ill patients would have their fate decided by others
- iv. In 1997, the Supreme Court heard a case involving assisted suicide
  1. Decided the case boils down to the individual’s interests versus the states interests
    - a. The citizens interests in avoiding pain
    - b. The state’s interests in protecting life
  2. The Supreme Court decided that the bans in Washington and New York against assisted suicide do not violate the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment

## William Jefferson Clinton

### Background

- Born: August 19, 1946 in Hope, Arkansas
- Education: Georgetown University in 1968, attended Oxford University 1968-1970, and Yale Law School in 1973

### Campaign 1992

- ran against George W.H. Bush of Republican party
- many could not look past his broken promises

### Presidency: 1993-2001

- inaugurated January 20, 1993
- vice president Al Gore
- Domestic affairs:
  - tax increases for upper class
  - 1993: passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
  - Welfare reform and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program
  - Increased minimum wage to \$5.15 per hour
  - made “sexual orientation” not a required question for admittance into army
- Health care reform
  - Hillary Rodham Clinton: place his wife as head of the health care task force
    - background legal knowledge
    - reformed education program in Arkansas
    - focused a specialized task force on important issues such as health-care premiums and alliances
  - policies were seldom enacted
    - left congress out of lawmaking
    - internal confusion on ultimate aspects of plan
  - Ira Magaziner: director
- Lewinsky scandal

- January 1998: word leaked about affair between Clinton and white house intern Monica Lewinsky
- Prosecutor: Kenneth Starr
  - believed Lewinsky was silenced by promises of employment
  - investigators questioned Clinton under oath
  - Clinton publicly denied having sexual relations with Lewinsky
  - convinced Clinton lied and “obstructed justice” by having others lie in his favor
- The tide turns
  - Film of Lewinsky describing details of affair with Clinton
  - Dress with DNA samples of the president
  - August 17, 1998: Clinton publicly acknowledges “inappropriate conduct” with Lewinsky
  - admits to embarrassing his family although never acknowledging that he lied or told others to lie on his behalf
- Impeachment
  - Report Sent to House of Representatives
  - Clinton accused of perjury, abuse of power, and obstruction of justice
  - January 1999: Senate reviews evidence against the president
  - No two thirds majority vote of Senate necessary for impeachment
  - February 12, 1999: President Clinton acquitted of charges
  - Votes on articles:
    - perjury: 45 Republican senators voted in favor of conviction, 45 Democrats and 10 Republicans voted for acquittal
    - obstruction of justice: 50 Republicans for conviction, 45 Democratic and 5 Republican senators voted in favor of acquittal
  - Clinton would have been the second president to be impeached next to Andrew Johnson
  - Two years remained in his second term

## Healthcare

### Medicare

- President Clinton enacted the most comprehensive Medicare reforms in history
- The Medicare trust fund was supposed to run out in 1999 but the Clinton/Gore Administration extended it to 2025
- Created the *Balanced Budget Act* in 1997 to protect, modernize, and extend the life of the Medicare Trust Fund
  - Helped fight Medicare fraud
  - Offered new options for preventative care

### Insurance Market and Coverage

- *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (1996)*-helped people keep health insurance when they were in between jobs or were self-employed
- Clinton created reforms to protect women and their newborn children and created the mental health parity provisions to prevent discrimination against Americans with mental illnesses
- A Federal regulation was made to protect a patient's electronic medical records
- *Patient's Bill of Rights*-ensured that the new healthcare benefits and rights were guaranteed to all federal, employees, veterans, Medicare beneficiaries, and those in the Indian Health Service and Military Health System
- The **first** decrease in the number of uninsured American in the past 12 years occurred under President Clinton
- Enacted laws providing health insurance to people with disabilities, people leaving foster care, and children
- The *State Children's Health Insurance Program* was the largest investment in children's healthcare since 1965.
- Issued the toughest nursing home regulations to prevent bedsores, malnutrition, and patient abuse

### Public Health

- *Childhood Immunization Initiative (1993)*-increased child immunizations and caused more than 90 percent of toddlers to receive their required routine vaccines
- Food safety was improved by new standards for pesticides in food, increased inspections, a nationwide warning system for food borne illnesses, and food safety research.
- Doubled the funding for the National Institutes of Health
- Established smoke-free federal workplaces and raised the federal tobacco tax to protect America's children from tobacco
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### Social Security and the Baby Boom

- In December 1998, the President hosted the first-ever bipartisan White House Conference on Social Security.
- In 1998, Clinton wanted to set aside \$2.7 trillion over the next 15 years to strengthen social security
- Clinton said the surpluses from the system were to be mobilized for retirement and health care programs, individual savings accounts and spending initiatives
- 15 percent of the Social Security Trust Fund would eventually be invested in the stock market

## Technology

### Biotechnology

- Human Genome Project started to map DNA
  - Francis S. Collins, the director of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), said that this research was the most important organized scientific effort that humankind had ever attempted
  - By 1999, had mapped ¼ of the genome
  - Computers were very important to the project
  - Private companies raced the HGP in order to get patents
    - Some did not like that private companies would be able to patent the genome
  - Genes allowed certain diseases to be pinpointed
- DNA Testing became widespread
  - Used to identify rapists and murderers
  - Used to exonerate at least 61 inmates
  - US Army created a genetic dog tag system to better identify killed soldiers
  - Commercial DNA testing was used to determine paternity
  - Used in OJ Simpson and Bill and Monica trials
- Protestors did not like genetically engineered food
  - “Frankenfood”
  - Debate on if modified crops were safe
  - Many thought Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH) was unsafe but the government thought approved it
  - Bt corn was found to be killing off the butterfly population
  - Genetically modified food was more closely regulated in Europe where it was required to be specially identified
  - Proponents:
    - could help to feed an ever-more crowded world
    - make foods richer in nutrients
    - less prone to spoilage
    - easier to grow
  - Opponents:
    - worried that plants with an innate herbicide might breed a new species of resistant "super-insects"
    - modified seeds might cross-pollinate with other plant species, resulting in potentially dangerous consequence
    - the health risks to humans had not been adequately studied
  - Big uproar over the "terminator" seeds that would contain a set of genetic instructions to render themselves sterile after just one planting
    - Enforced the patent right on the seeds

- United Nations expressed concern that terminator seeds would force farmers into total dependence on seed companies



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- Cloning
  - 1997: Dolly the Sheep was cloned
  - Cloning of humans raised ethical concerns
  - So did mice raised without heads as organ donors
  - China announced that they would clone Giant Pandas
  - Cloning was found to have limits related to the age of animals cloned
- Pharming
  - Creating animals whose bodies manufactured drugs to treat human diseases
  - Grace, a transgenic goat carried a gene that produced BR-96, a monoclonal antibody that was being tested and developed to deliver conjugated anticancer drugs

### Nanotechnology

- Manipulation of matter at the atomic level
- In development throughout the decade
- dealt with matter in its most elemental forms: atoms and molecules
- Prediction: would make it possible to manufacture, replicate, or distribute any substance known to humans as easily as information could be replicated on a computer
- Some thought it could be used to produce tiny robots or nanobots could mutate and swarm out of control
- Helped by the discovery of “buckyballs” of carbon fullerene

- Scanning Electron Microscope allowed scientists to view their creations
- Researchers were able to make nanotubes which were 100x stronger than steel, yet 3x lighter

## PCs

- a. Came into widespread use in the 90s
- b. Internet
  - i. Predecessor was ARPANET
    1. First conceived by Joseph C. R. Licklider
    2. Defense Department project to stay ahead of the Soviets
    3. Key innovation was packet switching
      - a. Not like a telephone which required a direct connection
      - b. Packet systems allowed the connection to remain if some lines were disconnected
    - c. **Decentralized - No one was in control**
  - ii. TCP/IP
    1. **Inventors: Vinton Gray "Vint" Cerf and Robert E. Kahn**
    2. **Allowed any computer to talk to each other**
  - iii. Open Architecture
    1. Any client, any browser can use the internet
    2. Key feature to allow it to grow - since no one was in control
  - iv. WWW
    1. Tim Berners-Lee at CERN
    2. System of random associations
    3. HTML - common markup
    4. But again decentralized (no one in control)
  - v. Mosaic Web Browser
    1. Marc Andreessen
    2. 1st graphical web browser
    3. Made it easy to access information on the new World Wide Web
    4. Caused an explosion of new web sites
    5. Grew into the Netscape browser which grew into Mozilla which grew into Firefox
- c. Microsoft Windows
  - i. Graphical User Interface (GUI)
  - ii. Over successive versions it gained 98% of the PC market
  - iii. Became widely used in schools, homes, and offices
    0. Schools liked the ease of access to research and educational games
- d. Browser wars
  - i. Microsoft released "Internet Explorer" to compete with Netscape and then "bundled" this with Windows
  - ii. Netscape asked the Justice Department to investigate these alleged anti-trust actions



- iii. Microsoft was almost broken up; but reached a settlement with the Justice Department
- e. Work culture
  - i. Some employers thought web caused productivity decreases
  - ii. Employers are able to monitor and filter employee's surfing
- f. Digital Citizens
  - i. *Wired Magazine/Merrill Lynch Forum Digital Citizen Survey, conducted by Luntz Research Companies*
  - ii. *knowledgeable, tolerant, civic-minded, and radically committed to change*
  - iii. *More than half of the connected citizens had graduated from college, while only 16 percent of unconnected Americans had. The majority earned \$30,000 to \$79,000 per year, and 82 percent owned stocks, bonds, or mutual funds.*
  - iv. *Among the "very wired" group, not surprisingly, 93 percent said technology had improved their lives. Yet, even among the "not wired," 61 percent said technology had made things better, and only 7 percent felt that it had made things worse. All three groups were again overwhelmingly positive when asked if technology had improved society at large.*
- g. Kevin Mitnick
  - i. Hacked into many systems, allegedly stealing source code and trade secrets
  - ii. Was held without trial for 4 years - the longest of any US prisoner
    - 1. This showed the challenges the government faced prosecuting something it knew almost nothing about
  - iii. Gained a cult following who claimed that his crimes were exaggerated
  - iv. Was made into 2 Hollywood movies
- h. Society's Change
  - i. In the four years after Netscape Navigator was introduced to the public (between 1994 and 1998), the number of Americans using the Internet increased from five million to sixty-two million, with traffic on the Internet doubling every one hundred days. By 1999 there were more than eleven million domain names registered on the Web, with more than seventy million websites, "www," "@," and "dot com" had become new icons of the so-called Information Age, The Internet was only thirty years old. No other invention had grown so fast to reach so many people. The Internet was a revolution in communications. With e-mail, people could share ideas and information faster and cheaper than through telephones or letters. "Virtual communities" proliferated, with far-flung groups of people with shared interests connecting in chatrooms and newsgroups. Internet users had access to websites all over the world, and with the proliferation of commercial websites, they could shop for virtually anything on-line. By the end of the decade more

e-mail was being exchanged than first-class letters delivered by the U.S. postal system. The Internet was responsible for one-third of the total U.S. economic growth in 1998, generating \$301 billion in business. Yet, no one really controlled it. *"Internet and Society." American Decades.*

### Cell Phones

- a. Came into widespread use
- b. Many developing countries adopted them instead of building a traditional phone network
- c. Transition to a digital network improved the number of calls which could be handled per network
- d. In 2000, internet access over cell phone networks was being researched

### Space

- a. 4/24/1990 - The Hubble Space Telescope (HST) is placed into orbit by the space shuttle *Discovery*.
- b. 9/26/1991 - Four men and four women begin a two-year stay inside a sealed-off structure in Oracle, Arizona, called "Biosphere Two."  
9/12/1992 - Space shuttle *Endeavor* takes off with a crew that includes Mark C. Lee and N. Jan Davis, the first married couple in space.  
12/9/1993 - U.S. astronauts finish a grueling five-day repair job on the \$3 billion Hubble Space Telescope.  
1994 - Scientists discover three planets orbiting the dim remnants of a star that exploded long ago, evidence of a solar system beyond our own.
- 2/11/1994 - Five astronauts and a cosmonaut return to Earth aboard *Discovery* after the first joint U.S.- Russian space shuttle mission.
- July 1994 - Nearly two dozen mountain-sized chunks of the fragmented comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 crash into Jupiter, creating two-thousand-mile-high fireballs that are visible from backyard telescopes on Earth. Scientists learn about Jupiter's atmosphere, comets, and how a similar impact on earth sixty-five million years ago might have killed off the dinosaurs.
- 1/2/1995 - The most distant galaxy yet discovered is found by scientists using the Keck telescope at the W. M. Keck Observatory in Mauna Kea, Hawaii. The galaxy is estimated to be fifteen billion light years away from Earth.
- 3/14/1995 - Norman E. Thagard becomes the first U.S. astronaut to fly in a Russian rocket on a mission to the Mir space station.
- 12/7/1995 - A probe from the spacecraft Galileo successfully enters the atmosphere of the planet Jupiter.
- 12/10/1995 - NASA scientists receive the first data from the space probe Galileo—a message beamed over 2.3 billion miles.
- 8/13/1996 - Data sent back by the Galileo space probe indicates that there may be water on one of Jupiter's moons, heightening the possibility that it could support a primitive life-form.

- 9/25/1996 - NASA biochemist Shannon W. Lucid returns home after spending six months aboard the Russian space station Mir, earning her the title of America's most experienced astronaut.
- March 1997 - The Hale-Bopp comet soars close to earth (122 million miles).
- 7/4/1997 - The U.S. Pathfinder space probe, carrying the Sojourner rover, makes an historic landing on Mars.
- 3/5/1998 - NASA releases initial findings of the *Lunar Prospector*.
- 5/19/1998 - A failure of its onboard control system causes the Galaxy IV satellite to rotate out of position, disrupting pager and television service for millions of people in the U.S. and the Caribbean, as well as some ATM services for banks.
- 6/6/1998 - The National Research Council holds a forum in Los Angeles on the risk of an asteroid striking the Earth.
- 10/29/1998 - Space shuttle *Discovery* launches with Senator and former astronaut Glenn, 77, aboard as a payload specialist.
- 11/17/1998 - The Leonid meteor shower, said to be the most intense meteor shower in thirty years, occurs, threatening five hundred satellites circling Earth.

## Family

### Stepfamilies

- Stepfamilies become standard in the 1990's
  - By 1999 there were an estimated 5.5 million stepfamilies in the United States
- Stepparents legal rights are challenged
  - Previously, stepparents had no visitation rights of stepchildren since they were not the children's biological parents
  - In 1992, George Hartman attempts to secure visitation rights of his stepson from his ex-wife
- Schools, churches, and society in general prove more acceptant of stepparents
  - In Kansas City, Missouri, Reverend Rodger Coleman designs a special wedding service designed to include stepchildren from previous marriages
  - Due to the efforts of the Step Family Association of America, schools begin to allow stepparents to sign their stepchild's report card and field trip permission form
  - Hallmark designs a set of cards specifically for stepfamilies
- It was estimated that if the number of stepfamilies continued to increase at its current pace, stepfamilies would outnumber the number of nuclear families by the year 2007

## Working Parents

- a. During the 1990's, United States worked the longest amount of hours in the world.
- b. Workers had to be ready to work "24/7" – 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
- c. Many households were dual income families, meaning that both parents worked.
  - i. Approximately 60 percent of married women with young children went to work during the 1990's (as compared to 12 percent just thirty years earlier in the 1950's).
- d. Career mobility led many families to move away from relatives and friends.
  - i. Only an estimated five percent of American children had regular contact with a grandparent during the 1990's.
- e. New, working parents had difficulty establishing a balance between their work life and their home life.
  - i. 60 percent of working parents said they felt only somewhat successful in managing home and work life.
  - ii. 53 percent of working parents felt they did not have enough time to spend with their children.
- f. Studies proved that children deeply cared about work-related stress that parents brought home.
  - i. *Ask the Children: What America's Children Really Think About Working Parents* that showed children cared more about their parents work-related stress than the hours their parents worked.
- g. *Ask the Children: What America's Children Really Think About Working Parents* by Ellen Galinsky, president of the Families and Work Institute, was published in 1999. It focused on the plight of the working parent, and provided statistical information to support both children and parent's views on working parents.

## Child Care

- h. Many parents and researchers fear that with parents working constantly, their children will be left maladjusted.
- i. With both people working longer and harder, parents needed to place their children in day care.
- j. Day care provided busy parents with some relief from child care responsibilities.
- k. During the 1990's two-thirds of all American three and four year olds were enrolled in some sort of child care program.
- l. Parents dropped their children anywhere from large, profit-making centers to neighbor or family care.
- m. There was a high demand for high-quality affordable child care.
  - i. Due to this popularity, states set health and safety standards for such day care programs.

- n. Parents became extremely worried others who cared for their children could never replace the parental love. Consequently, parents were concerned that their day care child would suffer long term effects.
  - i. New research in the 1990's found that the early years of life were important for brain development and that a rich verbal environment promoted this development.
  - ii. Research also showed that babies needed people to interact with them.
  - iii. Many parents did not like to leave their children at day care.

### Senior Citizens

- a. Seniors were now living longer; one journalist says how seniors soon may live to 100 or beyond.
- b. Many elderly people felt hesitant about reaching 100.
  - iv. The AARP released a study in 1999 that surveyed seniors and found that only one in four seniors wanted to live to 100.
  - v. Treatments such as wrinkle creams, liposuction, and Viagra revealed this hesitance about aging.
- c. Senior citizens also worried about economics due to longer life spans.
  - vi. Money intended to last only twenty years had to be expanded to now last for 30 or even 40 years.
  - vii. Since elderly people were now healthy longer and needed more money, they consequently stayed at work for longer years than previous generations. The nation worried that this could cause friction between the seniors and the younger population seeking the jobs now still held by the elderly.
    - 1. An estimated one-third of seniors postponed retirement and continued to work in some capacity.
- d. Seniors also remained at work longer since they had more free time.
- e. Since elderly parents were living longer, they required more care from children and society in general.
  - viii. Seniors without conditions requiring constant attention, such as Alzheimer's, were cared for by family at the family's home.
  - ix. Other seniors who had a condition such as Alzheimer's that required constant attention could not be cared for at family's homes, since busy relatives no longer had the time or energy to provide the necessary attention.
    - 1. Nursing homes and elder-care communities appeared to meet the needs of these senior citizens.
- f. In the 1990's it was estimated that a 20 year old person can expect to spent as much as a third of his or her life in retirement whereas just a century before a 20 year-old man could expect to spend a mere two years in retirement.

## Trends

- Americans became more interested in their genealogy during the 1990's
  - o Genealogy ranked as one of the biggest areas of interest on the Internet
    - RootsWeb, one website committed to helping people unearth their ancestors, received more than 160 million messages during one single month
    - In April 1999, the Church of the Latter Day Saints started a genealogy website that eventually listed more than 600 million names
- Generation X, the generation born between 1965 and 1977 after the baby boomers, prove themselves to be hard-working, ambitious, and confident despite being initially seen as lazy
  - o This generation was the first to grow up with computers
  - o This generation represented a total of \$125 billion purchasing power in one year
- Teen birth rate reaches a high of 62 births per 1,000 teens in 1991

## O. J. Simpson Trial

- I. O. J. Simpson Trial
  - a. O. J. Simpson was accused of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend, Ronald L. Goldman in 1994
  - b. Publicity
    - i. Through the internet and television, the O. J. Simpson trial received tons of public attention
    - ii. Online chat rooms were created for the sole purpose of discussing the trial
    - iii. First trial to receive major digital attention
  - c. DNA, a relatively new field of criminal evidence, has been used in the O. J. Simpson case
    1. The DNA expert has been recommended for rehabilitation after his confessions of drug use, thus causing controversy over his ability to testify during the trial
    2. The blood found has been deemed contaminated by some, citing mishandling by the police
  - d. The jurors decided that O. J. Simpson was innocent, many troubled by the connections of the prosecution with Mr. Fuhrman, who allegedly made racist remarks
  - e. Accusations of jury tampering continued in 1996
    - i. An anonymous letter was received during the case and as a result, a juror was dismissed
    - ii. It is believed that the letter was false
  - f. The civil case

- i. In October of 1996, the civil trial begins
  1. O.J. Simpson is found responsible for the deaths of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald L. Goldman
    - a. O.J. Simpson is forced to pay over \$ 8.5 million in compensatory damages

### Million Man March

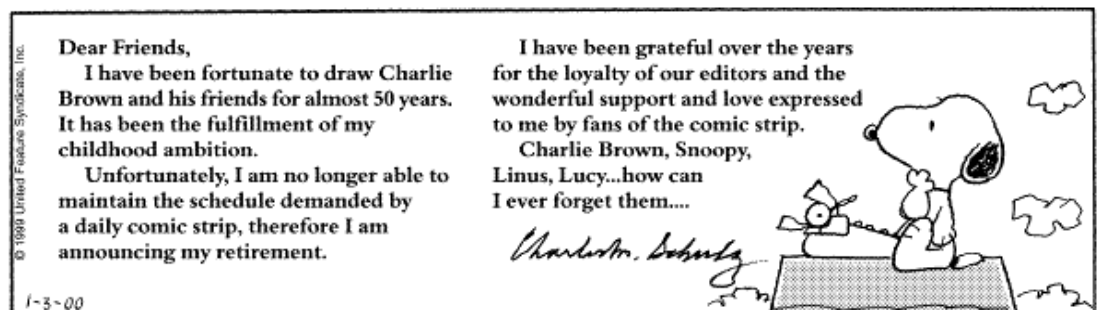
- October 16, 1995
- Directed by Minister Benjamin Chavis Muhammad through the Nation of Islam
- Political march on Washington, D.C. estimated to be around 800,000 black males
- March was to encourage unity among black males, and encourage them to get involved in local communities, and to vote in the next U.S. election
- NOI leaders felt that black people were misunderstood and had a bad public image, so this would create a better black-male image

### Environment

- Beginning of the global warming awareness
- Americans dumped 430 billion pounds of garbage per year, recycling became a major concern
- Earth Summit meeting in 1992 in Brazil for a United Nations meeting on Environment and Development to discuss natural resource consumption
- Property-rights movements were important to federal conservatives which led to relaxed environmental protection laws and less funding for federal agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- “Sentinel Frogs” frogs discovered on a biology class field with defects, first thought to be caused by polluted habitats, then blamed on parasites, and eventually blamed on global warming which allowed the parasites to thrive in the frogs’ habitat

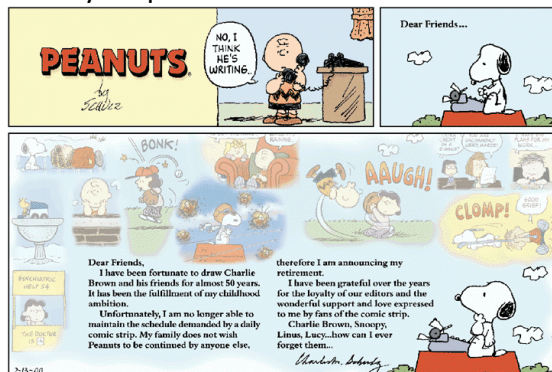
### Peanuts Comic Strip

- After 50 years, Charles Schultz, the creator of the famous “Peanuts” comic strip, releases his last daily strip on January 3, 2000 after announcing his retirement due to cancer. Pictured below is the last daily strip.



- “Peanuts” became an American phenomena
  - Characters were made into advertising symbols and toys
  - Hallmark manufactured “Peanuts” greeting cards in 1960

- The classic Christmas classic “A Charlie Brown Christmas” aired in 1965 and was awarded Emmy and Peabody Awards.
- The “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown” aired a year later in 1966.
- The Apollo 10 space mission named its command module "Charlie Brown" and its lunar module "Snoopy."
- A Broadway play entitled “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown” is based on Schultz’s comic strip.
- The famous song “Snoopy vs. the Red Baron” has been featured in countless television shows.
- Schultz based the comic strip off of events in his own life.
  - Schultz knew a few people with the name “Charlie Brown” and a person with the name “Linus”
  - Similar to Charlie Brown’s fear of talking to the little red-haired girl, Schultz was terrified of girls during his adolescence.
- Schultz died of cancer on February 12, 2000, just a day before his final Sunday strip ran. Pictured below is his final Sunday comic strip.





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