

Lyndon B. Johnson

1964 Presidential Election

Johnson (Democrat, TX)	90% Electoral Vote	61% Popular Vote
Barry Goldwater (Republican, AZ)	10% Electoral Vote	38.4% Popular Vote

1965 - 1967

Great Society

Crusade Against Poverty:

On the phrase "war on poverty" Robert A Caro wrote *Passage of Power*
<http://www.npr.org/2014/01/08/260572389/for-lbj-the-war-on-poverty-was-personal>

He loved that phrase, and it was part of his hatred of poverty. Johnson could be a very ruthless man. I wrote [in *Passage of Power*] he knew what to do. He says [the causes of poverty may lie] "in a lack of education and training, in a lack of medical care and housing, in a lack of decent communities in which to live." These were to Johnson real-life foes, and Johnson knew what to do with enemies: You destroyed them. So he loved the word "war."

- War on Poverty -
Job Corps, VISTA (domestic Peace Corps for inner cities), Head Start, College Work Study
- Medicaid & Medicare - health services for the poor and elderly
- new Cabinet departments - intended to revitalize cities
 - * Department of Transportation
 - * Department of Housing and Urban Development
- new Agencies -
 - * Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
 - * National Endowments for the Humanities & Arts
 - * National Public Broadcasting radio - PBS & NPR
- Elementary & Secondary Education Act (1965) - grant funds to schools
- Higher Education Act (1965) - grants for college construction & student loans

Civil Rights

- 1964 Civil Rights Act - ban racial and sexual discrimination in employment and public institutions
- 1965 Voting Rights Act - prohibit discriminatory practices in voter registration & empowered federal officials to oversee registration if necessary
- 1968 Civil Rights Act - ban racial discrimination in the sale and rental of housing
- 24th Amendment (1964) - end Poll Tax in national elections
- Kerner Report (1968) - examined the reasons for the 1967 Detroit riots & determined that segregation and poverty were to blame

Vietnam 1956 - 1975

Forces:

US supports Diem in South Vietnam

US fights Ho Chi Minh (Vietminh - North Vietnamese, Vietcong - Vietnamese in the South who support Communism and conduct guerilla warfare

1946 French fight for dominance over Ho Chi Minh

1950 US Aid to France success in Vietnam <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/vietnam/timeline/>

1954

Eisenhower's Domino Theory: "You have a row of dominoes set up. You knock over the first one, and what will happen to the last one is the certainty that it will go over very quickly." a response to French defeat in Vietnam and the threat Communism coming to power

Geneva Convention: French and Vietminh agree to divide Vietnam at the 17th parallel until elections in 1956

1955 Ngo Dinh Diem (South Vietnam) rejects Geneva Accords & Refuses Elections

1956 US Training South Vietnamese forces

1963 US Military Coup that led to Diem's death (lost control & support of countryside)

17,000 American military advisers in Vietnam

1964 August Gulf of Tonkin resolution

- Congress authorized President Johnson to take "all necessary measures to repel armed attack" in Vietnam following an incident where North Vietnamese patrol boats supposedly fired on an American spy vessel (2005)

1965 American Marines sent to Vietnam - reaches 200,000 troops

Operation "Rolling Thunder" Deployed - continuous bombing raids on North Vietnam

1968 US Troops in Vietnam exceed half a million as the war becomes more brutal

Brutal: Bombs, Chemicals, Napalm, "search and destroy" missions

1968 Tet Offensive - marked a Turning Point in Vietnam, forcing Johnson to change the course and pull out of the upcoming Presidential race VIDEO <http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/tet-offensive>

The Price of Freedom: Smithsonian <http://amhistory.si.edu/militaryhistory/exhibition/flash.html>

Antiwar Movement - challenged Cold War thinking

- 1967 Martin Luther King Jr - condemned war as an unconscionable use of violence
- SDS (Students for a Democratic Society - started in 1962)
Port Huron Statement: pushed for participatory democracy and social change
Organize war demonstrations in Washington DC (1965 - 1967)
1969 NYC (Video - 2:50) https://archive.org/details/1967-04-18_Peace_March
1967 Washington DC <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDiFkckszCw>