

The 1990s

I. Clinton Years

- A. 1992 Election – “It’s the economy, stupid”
 - 1. first baby boomer
 - 2. TV – sax
 - 3. ethics concerns
 - a. Whitewater
 - b. draft escapee
 - 4. H. Ross Perot splits conservative vote
- B. Health care plan
 - 1. chooses Hillary Clinton as leader
 - a. good choice for her experience
 - b. bad choice politically
 - 2. debated for a year – defeated by business & insurance lobbyists
- C. Economy
 - 1. inherited 4 trillion national debt
 - a. mostly from entitlement programs
 - b. high taxes on rich, less spending – also just a better economy helps
 - 2. leaves w/10% lower debt
- D. NAFTA – add Mexico in 1993
- E. Foreign issues
 - 1. Yugoslavia – disintegrated – Serbians go “ethnic cleansing” of Muslims & Croats
- F. Congressional Election of 1994 – Republican Congress
 - 1. Newt Gingrich – Contract with America – conservative values
 - 2. Dems. & mod. Republicans don’t agree
 - a. disagreements lead to bills not passing – Shutdown of nonessential government in Dec. ’95 & Jan. ’96
 - b. most people blame Congress – kills Contract with America
- G. Impeachment scandal