Native Americans & The West

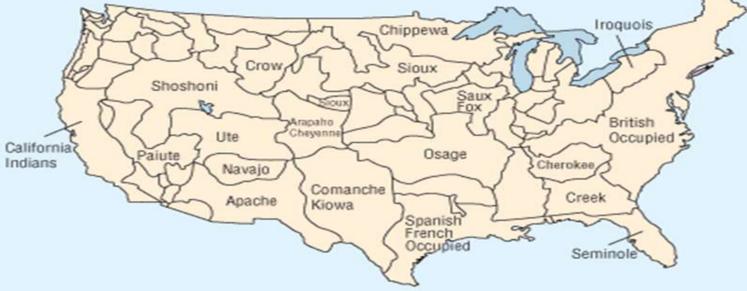
A Black Eye on American History

Quick Questions

What happens to people when their livelihoods and ways of living are challenged?
What happens when they run out of options?

Eurocentric View





Culture of Plains Indians

- <u>Food</u> → <u>Buffalo Hunting</u>
- Nomadic → Traveled in search of their food.
- Settlers believed that the Native Americans should settled down and farm like they did in towns.



Destruction of the Buffalo

- <u>The herds of buffalo</u> would support the <u>Plains Indians.</u>
- <u>1800 → 60 Million</u> <u>Buffalo</u>
- <u>1894</u> → Less than <u>100.</u>

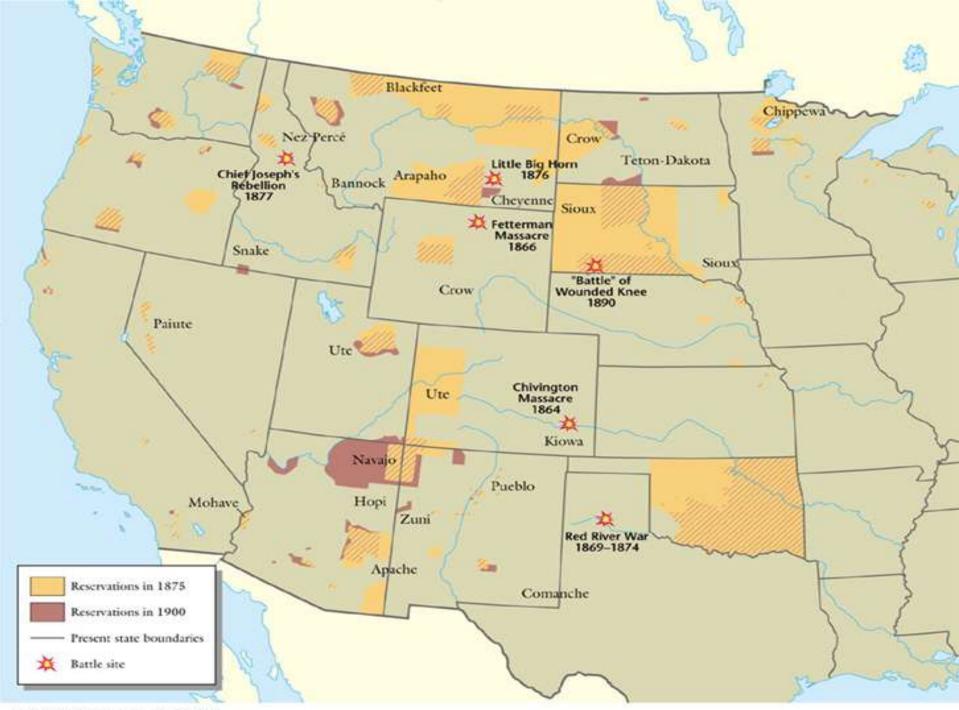
■ <u>Why:</u>

- White settlers had settled and reduced the grazing area.
- <u>US Army adopted a</u> <u>strategy of destroying</u> <u>the buffalo.</u>
- <u>Pleasure Railroad</u>
 <u>Hunts</u>

Buffalo Video

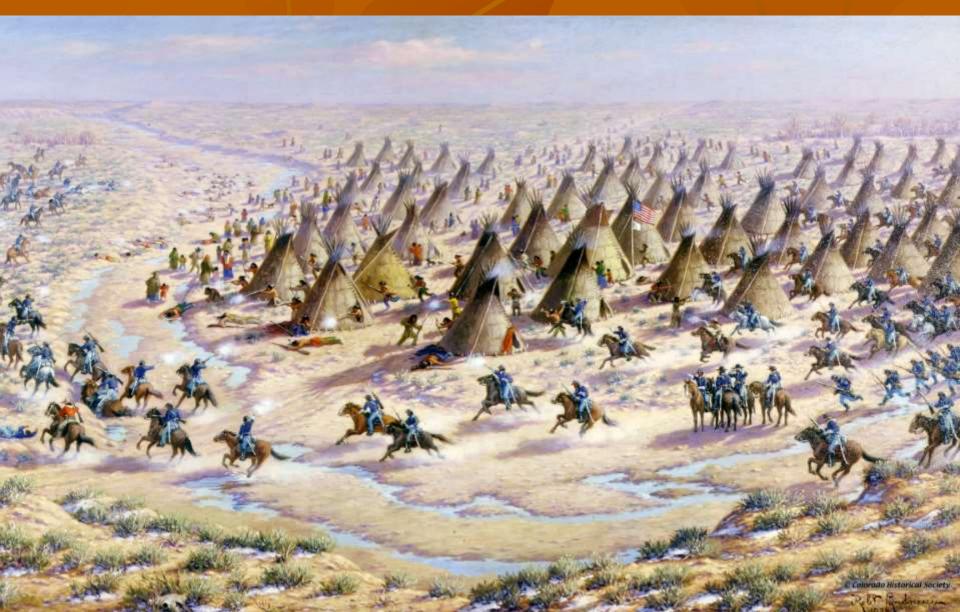
US Gov't Response

- The Native Americans were forced onto reservations.
- When Native groups left the reservation, the US military was used to send them back
- Violence broke out:
 - Sand Creek Massacre
 - Battle of Little Big Horn
 - Wounded Knee Massacre



@ 2005 Wadsworth - Thomson

The Sand Creek Massacre







You look at the following picture, tell me what comes to mind.
What do the pictures depict?
What story do these pictures tell?













The Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument

Little Bighorn Battle, 1876

Custer's Last Stand

Custer's Command

Benteen and Reno's defense Reno's retreat

Little Bighorn Riv

Deep Ravine

Crazy Horse Camp

Northern Cheyenne Camp B

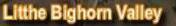
Blackfoot Camp

Several Sioux Camps Sitting Bull Camp

Indians Attack

Reno's attack

C 2006



Educational Material/Non-Commercial

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Image © 2007 DigitalGlobe

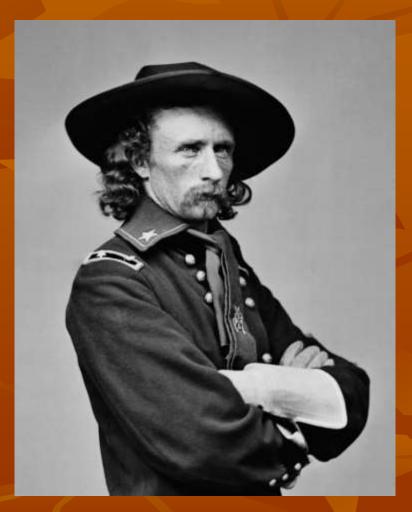
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The Battle of Little Big Horn

1876

- Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer attacked a far superior number of Sioux (Led by Sitting Bull).
- Custer and his troops were surrounded and killed.
- Now the US government was more focused on putting down the "Indian Threat" to settlers.



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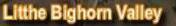
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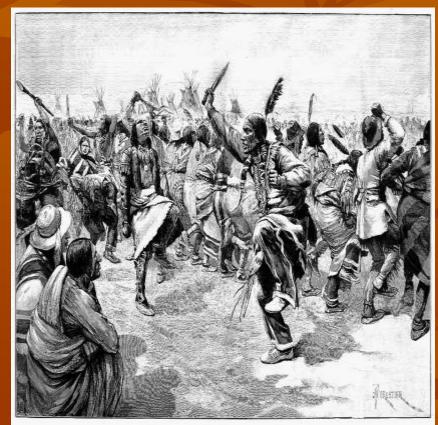
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The Ghost Dance

- <u>A religious movement</u> <u>among the Native</u> <u>Americans.</u>
- Belief → The Indian dead would return again.
- Scared white settlers.
 - <u>Asked the government</u> <u>for help.</u>



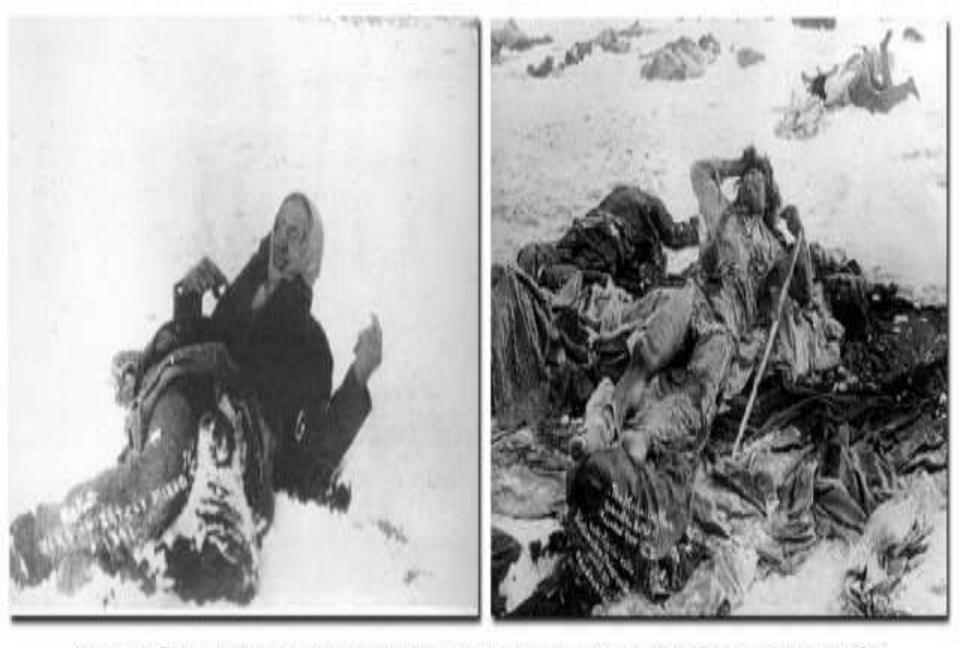
THE GROUP DANCE OF THE MODY INDIANS IN NORTH AMERICA.



You look at the following picture, tell me what comes to mind.
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Frozen Sioux dead at Wounded Knee, including their chief, Big Foot. (Left)

MASSACRE OF WOUNDED KNEE

Dec. 29, 1890, Chief Big Foot, with his Minneconjou and Hunkpapa Sioux Band of 106 warriors, 250 women and children, were encamped on this Flat, surrounded by the U.S. 7th Cavalry (470 soldiers), commanded by Col. Forsythe.

The "Messiah Craze" possessed many Indians, who left the vicinity of the Agencies to "Ghost Dance" during the summer and fall of I890. "Unrest" on the Pine Ridge Reservation was partly due to the reduction of beef rations by Congress, and to the "Ghost Dancing" of Chiefs Sitting Bull, Hump, Big Foot, Kicking Bear, and Short Bull. The Sioux were told by Kicking Bear and Short Bull that by wearing "Ghost Shirts", the ghost dancing warriors would become immune to the whiteman's bullets and could openly defy the soldiers and white settlers, and bring back the old days of the big buffalo herds.

On Nov. 15, 1890, Indian Agent Royer (Lakota Wokokpa) at Pine Ridge called for troops, and by Dec. 1, 1890, several thousand U.S. Regulars were assembled in this area of Dakota Territory.

On Dec. 15, 1890, Chief Sitting Bull was killed by Lt. Bullhead of the Standing Rock Indian Police. Forty of Sitting Bull's braves escaped from Grand River, and joined Chief Big Foot's band on Deep Creek, to camp and "Ghost Dance" on the south fork of the Cheyenne River. Chief Big Foot was under close scrutiny of Lt. Col. Sumner and his troops, and on Dec. 23, 1890, they were ordered to arrest Big Foot as a hostile. However, the Big Foot band had already silently slipped away from the Cheyenne county, into the Badlands, heading for Pine Ridge.

On Dec. 28, 1890, without a struggle, Chief Big Foot surrendered to the U.S. 7th Cavalry (Maj. Whitesides) at the site marked by a sign five miles north of here. The Band was then escorted to Wounded Knee, camping that night under guard.

Reenforcements of the U.S. 7th Cavalry (including one company of Indian Scouts) arrived at Wounded Knee from Pine Ridge Agency the morning of Dec. 29, 1890. Col. Forsythe took command of a force of 470 men. A battery of four Hotchkiss guns was placed on the hill 400 feet west of here, overlooking the Indian encampment. Big Foot's Band was encircled at (OVER)

Delineator - Irving R. Pond and Herbert H. Clifford

By - Stanley S. Walker Sup. Highway Engr.

The Wounded Knee Massacre

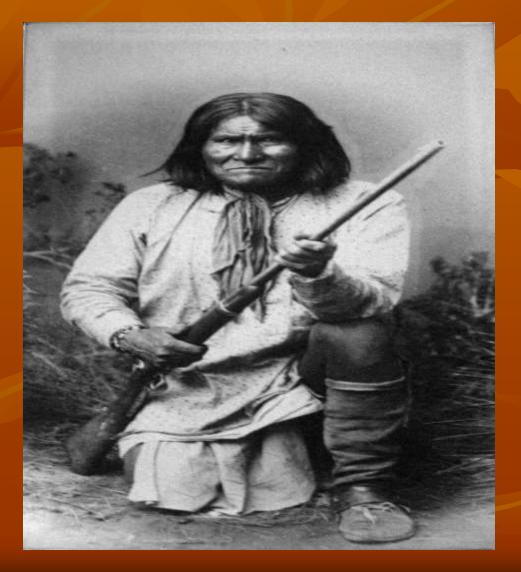
The day after the Sioux arrive in Wounded Knee, SD, they are order to give up their guns. One of the Sioux refused to and got into a struggle with the US Army solider. During the struggle, the gun went off. Both sides started shooting at each other. By the end, half of the Sioux men were dead and 300 men women and children were killed. Three officers and fifteen enlisted men received the Medal of Honor for their deeds during the battle. This marked the end of conflicts with the Plains Indians.

Resistance in the Northwest

Nez Perce

- 1855 moved to Idaho & Oregon
- Gold was found in their lands
- 1877 → Ordered to abandon their lands. Forced to move to another part of Idaho.
- Hostilities broke out and they fled to Canada and fought until they were forced to surrender.
- Taken to Kansas → Oklahoma → back to Idaho & Washington State → Many died

Resistance in the Southwest



 1870's → Apache moved to a reservation in Arizona

 Apache leader Geronimo fled and began raids on the AZ-MEX border.

 Captured in 1886 and sent to Florida

US Reasons For Reservations

The United States wanted control of all western lands and territories.

Valuable Resources

Americans wanted the Native Americans to abandon their culture and religious beliefs and live like white Americans.

Order of Operations

Complete the Native American War Worksheet