

Day 92, DBQ Practice

To what extent were reforms successful in challenging the social order of the Gilded Age.

Source: Jacob Riis (1849–1914) was a New York journalist and reformer. In 1890, Riis published *How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York*,

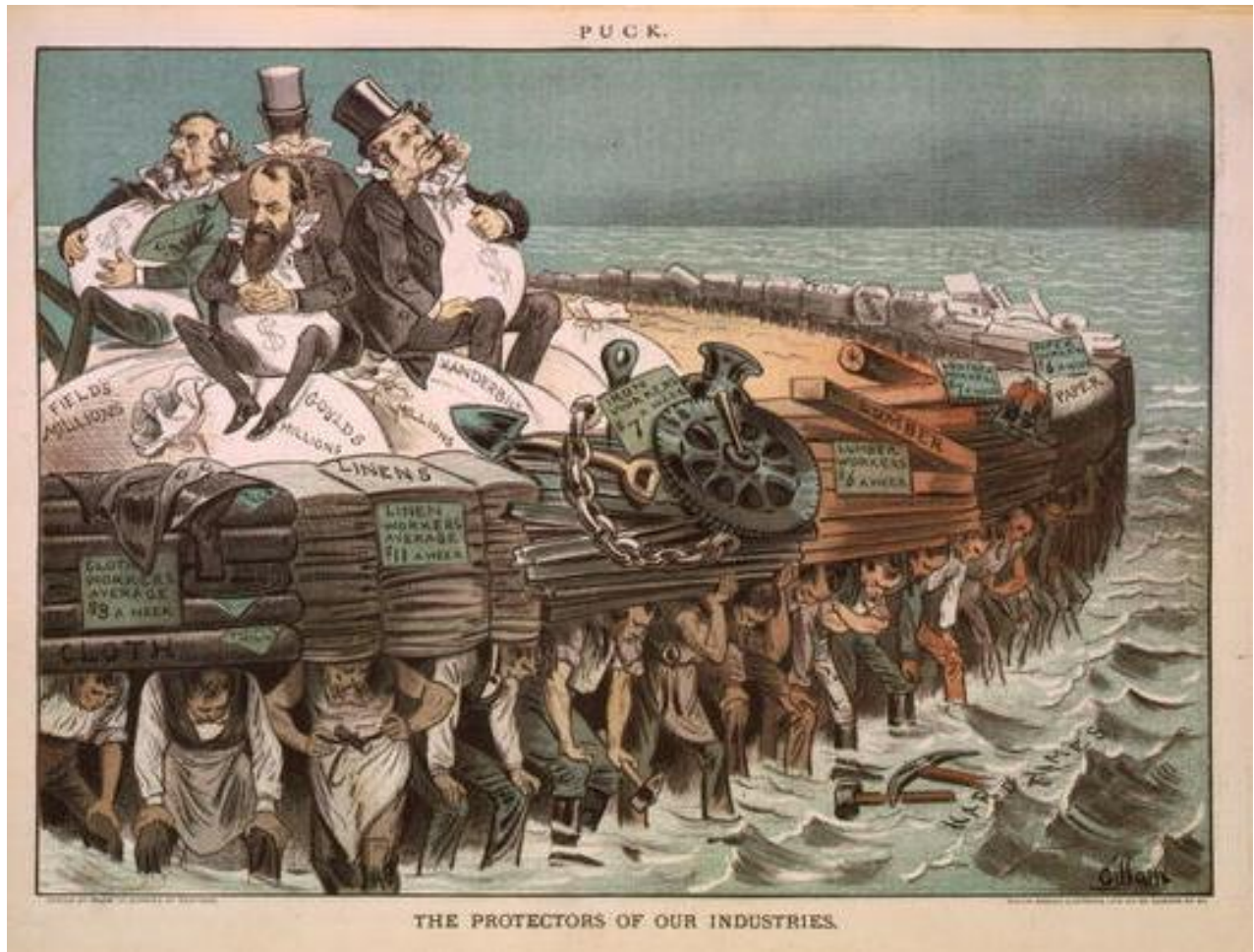
THE reader who has followed with me the fate of the Other Half thus far, may not experience much of a shock at being told that in eight years 135,595 families in New York were registered as asking or receiving charity. Perhaps, however, the intelligence will rouse him that for five years past one person in every ten who died in this city was buried in the Potter's Field. These facts tell a terrible story. The first means that in a population of a million and a half, very nearly, if not quite, half a million persons were driven, or chose, to beg for food, or to accept it in charity at some period of the eight years, if not during the whole of it. There is no mistake about these figures. They are drawn from the records of the Charity Organization Society, and represent the time during which it has been in existence. It is not even pretended that the record is complete. To be well within the limits, the Society's statisticians allow only three and a half to the family, instead of the four and a half that are accepted as the standard of calculations which deal with New York's population as a whole. They estimate upon the basis of their everyday experience that, allowing for those who have died, moved away, or become for the time being at least self-supporting, eighty-five per cent. of the registry are still within, or lingering upon, the borders of dependence. Precisely how the case stands with this great horde of the indigent is shown by a classification of 5,169 cases that were investigated by the Society in one year. This was the way it turned out: 327 worthy of continuous relief, or 6.4 per cent.; 1,269 worthy of temporary relief, or 24.4 per cent.; 2,698 in need of work, rather than relief, or 52.2 per cent.; 875 unworthy of relief, or 17 per cent.

Claim (how does this answer the question): _____

Data (what details from the passage can you use to support this claim): _____

Context (what caused, resulted from or was related to the events in the document): _____

POV (Use your red card to address the point of view of this document in complete sentences): _____



Source: Puck, c. 1900; Puck was the first successful humor magazine in the United States of colorful cartoons, caricatures and political satire of the issues of the day. It was published from 1871 until 1918.

Claim (how does this answer the question): _____

Data (what details from the passage can you use to support this claim): _____

Context (what caused, resulted from or was related to the events in the document): _____

POV (Use your red card to address the point of view of this document in complete sentences): _____

Source: Charles Loring Brace, The Dangerous Classes of New York and Twenty Years' Work Among Them, 1872
Brace was an American philanthropist who contributed to the field of social reform. He is considered a father of the modern foster care movement and was most renowned for starting the Orphan Train movement of the mid-19th century, and for founding The Children's Aid Society.

My great object in the present work is to prove to society. . .that the cheapest and most efficacious way of dealing with the "Dangerous Classes" of large cities, is not to punish them, but to prevent their growth; to throw the influences of education and discipline and religion about the abandoned and destitute youth of our large towns; to so change their material circumstances, and draw them under the influence of the moral and fortunate classes, that they shall grow up as useful producers and members of society, able and inclined to aid it in its progress.
In the view of this book, the class of a large city most dangerous to its property, its morals and its political life, are the ignorant, destitute, untrained, and abandoned youth: the outcast street-children grown up to be voters, to be the implements of demagogues, the "feeders" of the criminals, and the sources of domestic outbreaks and violations of law.

...

Claim (how does this answer the question): _____

Data (what details from the passage can you use to support this claim): _____

Context (what caused, resulted from or was related to the events in the document): _____

POV (Use your red card to address the point of view of this document in complete sentences): _____

Source: The Comstock Law, a federal act passed by the United States Congress on March 3, 1873, as the Act for the "Suppression of Trade in, and Circulation of, Obscene Literature and Articles of Immoral Use".

Every obscene, lewd, lascivious, or filthy book, pamphlet, picture paper, letter, writing, print or other publication of an indecent character ... is declared to be nonmailable matter and shall not be conveyed in the mails or delivered from any post office or by any letter carrier.

Whoever knowingly uses the mail for the mailing, carriage in the mails, or delivery of anything declared by this section to be nonmailable, or knowingly causes to be delivered by mail according to the direction thereon, or at the place at which it is directed to be delivered by the person to whom it is addressed, or knowingly takes any such thing from the mails for the purpose of circulating or disposing thereof, shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both, for the first such offense, and shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both, for each such offense thereafter

Claim (how does this answer the question): _____

Data (what details from the passage can you use to support this claim): _____

Context (what caused, resulted from or was related to the events in the document): _____

POV (Use your red card to address the point of view of this document in complete sentences): _____

Source: Jane Addams, SUBJECTIVE NECESSITY FOR SOCIAL SETTLEMENTS, 1910; Jane Addams was a pioneer American settlement social worker, public philosopher, sociologist, author, and leader in women's suffrage

We have in America a fast-growing number of cultivated young people who have no recognized outlet for their active faculties. They hear constantly of the great social maladjustment, but no way is provided for them to change it, and their uselessness hangs about them heavily. Huxley declares that the sense of uselessness is the severest shock which the human system can sustain, and that if persistently sustained, it results in atrophy of function. These young people have had advantages of college, of European travel, and of economic study, but they are sustaining this shock of inaction. They have pet phrases, and they tell you that the things that make us all alike are stronger than the things that make us different. They say that all men are united by needs and sympathies far more permanent and radical than anything that temporarily divides them and sets them in opposition to each other. If they affect art, they say that the decay in artistic expression is due to the decay in ethics, that art when shut away from the human interests and from the great mass of humanity is self-destructive. They tell their elders with all the bitterness of youth that if they expect success from them in business or politics or in whatever lines their ambition for them has run, they must let them consult all of humanity; that they must let them find out what the people want and how they want it. It is only the stronger young people, however, who formulate this. Many of them dissipate their energies in so-called enjoyment. Others not content with that, go on studying and go back to college for their second degrees; not that they are especially fond of study, but because they want something definite to do, and their powers have been trained in the direction of mental accumulation. Many are buried beneath this mental accumulation with lowered vitality and discontent. Walter Besant says they have had the vision that Peter had when he saw the great sheet let down from heaven, wherein was neither clean nor unclean. He calls it the sense of humanity. It is not philanthropy nor benevolence, but a thing fuller and wider than either of these.

...

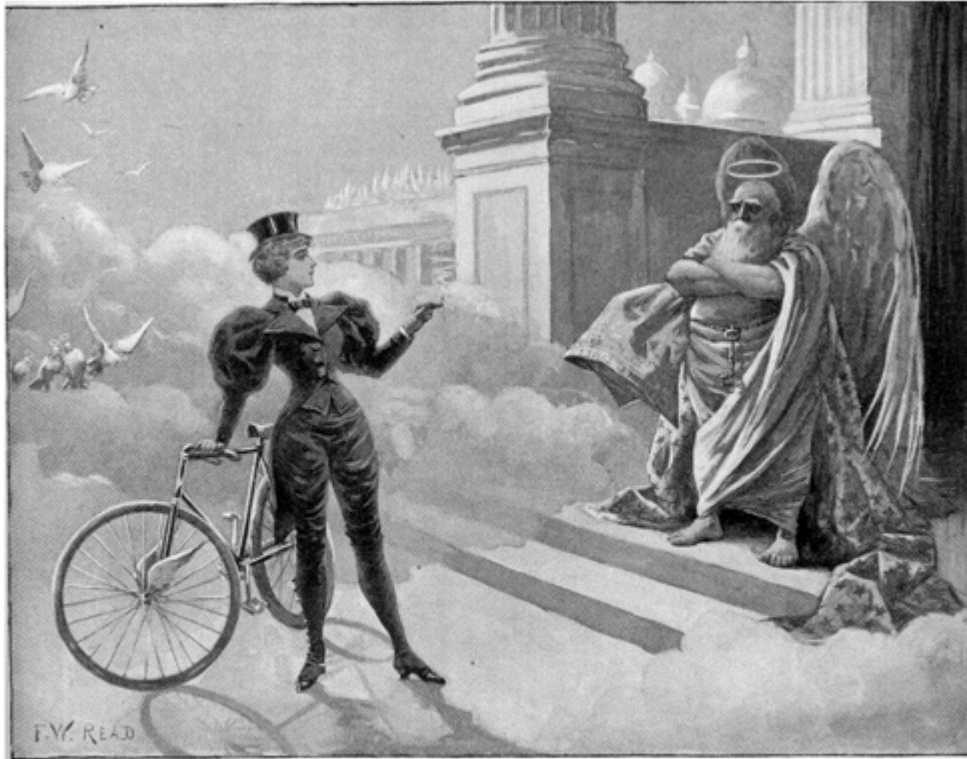
Other motives which I believe make toward the Settlement are the result of a certain renaissance going forward in Christianity. The impulse to share the lives of the poor, the desire to make social service, irrespective of propaganda, express the spirit of Christ, is as old as Christianity itself.

Claim (how does this answer the question): _____

Data (what details from the passage can you use to support this claim): _____

Context (what caused, resulted from or was related to the events in the document): _____

POV (Use your red card to address the point of view of this document in complete sentences): _____



"ISN'T HEAVEN IN THERE?"
"YES, BUT THIS IS THE LADIES' ENTRANCE."

Life. Jan. 2, 1896, p. 25.

Claim (how does this answer the question): _____

Data (what details from the passage can you use to support this claim): _____

Context (what caused, resulted from or was related to the events in the document): _____

POV (Use your red card to address the point of view of this document in complete sentences): _____

Identify two things/events not mentioned in the documents that would be helpful in answer this question.
