

Before the Revolution and Beyond

The Beginning of the Industrial Revolution





Getting Your Stuff

• Name something in this room that was not made in a factory.





Production Before: Food

- All goods were made by hand or grown on the farm.
- Farmers grew just enough food to survive.
- Surpluses might be exchanged for goods made in towns





Production Before: Essential Goods

- Most necessities, such as clothing, furniture, and tools, were made on the farm or in small shops in the towns and villages.
- Materials came from the farm or surrounding areas.





Production Before: Essential Goods

• Manufacturing in towns

- Some items were made in towns in guild shops
 - Guilds were associations of craftsmen in a certain profession
 - Craftsmen used simple tools to make cloth, hardware, leather goods, etc.
 - Items were, essentially, hand made.
 - Items were often exchanged for food from the farms





Production: Essential Goods

- Manufacturing in rural areas
 - "Cottage Industries"
 - Most items were made in homes in rural areas.
 - » Merchants supplied the raw materials to rural households.
 - » Family members worked together to make the products.
 - » Power was supplied by the workers (manpower) or by water.
 - » Workers were paid for finished products.





Population

• Where do most of the people in the United States live today?





Population Before

- Less than 10% live in cities
- Most lived in small towns or villages in the countryside
- The majority were farmers leasing small plots of land from landowners
- Life revolved around the agricultural seasons





The Family Institution

- How many people are in your family?
- How long do you expect to live?
- Boys: Are you going to do what your father does when you grow up?
- Girls: Are you going to be "housewives?"





Family Life: Before

- The extended family
 - Large families were needed to work the farms
 - Families often consisted of
 - Grandparents
 - Parents
 - Many children (4-8 would be the average)
 - Uncles and aunts
 - Cousins
 - Sons followed the father's trade
 - Girls did the work of their mother, which was as a housewife
 - Little change from generation to generation





Family Life: Before

- Living conditions were hard for most people
 - Life revolved around the success of the crops.
 - Most people were malnourished and susceptible to diseases.
 - Frequent diseases and epidemics kept the population relatively stable.
 - Life expectancy was about 30-35 years.
 - Marriage and child bearing occurred during the teenage period.







- Boys: How many of you have a job?
- Girls: How many of you have a job?
- How do you get paid?
- How old do you have to be before you are allowed to work?





Working: Before

- Boys worked in the fields and helped make tools and other necessary implements.
- Girls worked at home doing necessary chores, such as making clothes, baskets, cooking, cleaning, etc.
- There was little or no pay other than a place to live and food to eat.
- Everyone helped out at an early age.







When was the last time you went somewhere?
Where did you go?
How far did you go and how long did it take?





Travel: Before

- Little or no travel for the common person
- Few or poor roads
- No need to go far from home
- To travel 300 miles in England in 1745 took 14 days
- In 1830 it took 1.5 days





Government

• Would you have input into the government?





Government: Before

- Monarchs, great landowners, rich merchants, and clergy had most of the power in government.
- Even in elected governments, like Britain's Parliament, the representatives were males who paid large amount of taxes.
- People that did not own land and pay taxes had no voice in government.
- Common people, especially women had no input.





Why life is so different now?

- A turning point in history came during the period of 1700 1850.
- Historians call it the Industrial Revolution.
- What caused this revolution and its effects will be examined in the next week.

