CHAPTER 29: Conservatism Resurgent 1974–1989

Visual Review

The Religious Right and Neoconservatism

Economic Limits
A new conservative economic theory is proposed to lift the U.S. economy.

The Collapse of the Political Center
Fracturing of the Democratic Party causes some voters to begin voting for Republican candidates.

The Rise of Reagan
Ronald Reagan is elected President.

A New Administration
Reagan’s Presidency makes strides toward conservatism, but fails to fulfill some of the conservatives’ agenda.

An Accidental President
Gerald Ford does little to restore faith in national leadership.

The Politics of Limits and Malaise
President Jimmy Carter is unable to rally Congress to help solve the major crises facing the nation.

A Dangerous World, 1974–1980
Carter achieves some diplomatic successes in the Middle East and in Latin America.

America Held Hostage
American hostages are taken from the U.S. Embassy in Iran.

The Rising Tide on the Right

CONSERVATISM RESURGENT, 1974–1989

Backlash

The Politics of Limits and Malaise

The Religious Right and Neoconservatism
Religious people become more politically active.
**Economic Realities**
While the economy did grow under Reagan, the gains are limited and targeted.

**Conservative Justice**
Reagan’s judicial appointments move federal courts in new directions.

**Sexuality, Families, and Health**
Popular culture embraces more inclusive notions of family, ethnicity, and sexuality.

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**It’s Morning Again in America**

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**Challenging the “Evil Empire”**

**A New Arms Race**
Ronald Reagan drastically increases military spending.

**Interventions**
The United States actively confronts communism with interventions in the Middle East and Latin America.

**Iran Contra**
The Reagan Administration illegally aids Nicaraguan guerrillas, sells arms to Iran, and negotiates with hostage takers.

**Cold War Thaw**
Mikhail Gorbachev changes the U.S.-Soviet Union relations.