



President Woodrow Wilson declared that World War I was a battle to make the world safe for democracy. But in the United States, many Americans struggled for equality and democracy—a struggle that continues.

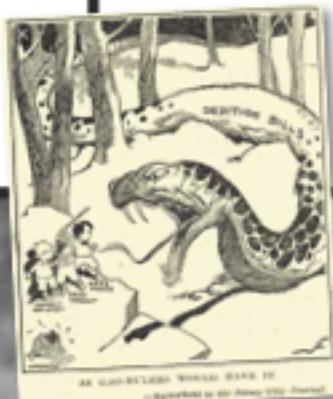
I, too, am America.

—Langston Hughes, excerpt from the poem "I, Too," 1926

A WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY?

German Americans faced vicious discrimination—some were tarred and feathered.

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Under the Sedition Act of 1918, anyone who spoke out against the war could be jailed.

Library of Congress

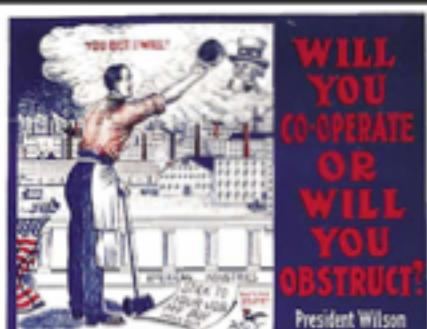


African Americans—increasingly tired of the inequalities and racial oppression of Jim Crow—wanted change. But, they faced backlash from both white supremacists in a revived Ku Klux Klan and the Wilson Administration.

"Jailed for Freedom" pin



Many workers and their unions, concerned about fair labor practices, were quashed in the name of patriotism.



America Needs Its Man Power

Sticking to your job will help to shorten the war and pave the way for a prosperous peace. The demand for supplies for Our Boys "Over there" is so great that every bit of man power we possess is needed. If you can't enlist, get a job and hold on to it.

IT'S YOUR WAY TO HELP "LICK THE KAISER"

WORLD WAR I: LESSONS AND LEGACIES

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Women who picketed the White House or marched on Capitol Hill on behalf of voting rights were arrested for interfering with the war effort.