

## Reagan (R)

"Are you better off now than 4 years ago?"

### Domestic

Reaganomics  
Supply side {  
Cut programs  
Cut taxes - import, interest rates  
Deregulate savings + loans, airlines, banks - less reg → business does better w/o regulations

Reagan was an actor, had image of cowboy, soldier - hero

Used his image

Appealed to American superiority in foreign policy - "we need to be respected"

Reagan won by a huge landslide

"Reagan Revolution" - why direc. Amer was going in.

Trade imbalance ↑

Natl. Debt/Deficit ↑ (lots of \$ spent on military)

As unemployment went up, unions fought to pay workers more - but it reduces jobs, and businesses went overseas for child labor  
Argument against deregulation - if govt isn't maintaining regulations, can we trust companies to produce safe products?

### Conservative Coalition

Business

Southern Whites - b/c Dems were too liberal (Clinton got some back)

Westerners - don't like regulation

Reagan Dems - traditional Dems that thought Dems were too liberal, voted for Reagan

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"New Right" - took Congress too



House Speaker - Newt Gingrich - Contract w/ America:

Go

- "Religious Right" - return to fundamentalism, had political influence - coincided w/ cable TV rise - bought their own TV networks, advertised their message, raised money for campaigns

- "Family Values" - relig. right pushed their agenda + got their way  
Abortion - against  
Censorship of books  
Reagan app'd 5 conservative judges to the S.C.

"Golden Age of Conservatives" - like 50s + 60s to Dems.

## Foreign

World make other countries respect us

Invaded Nicaragua, Iran/Contra affair  
Grenada

(Bush - invaded Panama, Desert Storm)

Military spending ↑ - inc recruitment, conventional weapons

SDI - Strategic Defense Initiative - "Star Wars" - never built

Grenada - island in Caribbean - Communist - American college kids seemingly held hostage - Reagan sent in marines - took only 5 days  
Fast, no one died - rebuilt Amer. confidence

Robert Amdt - can't support rebels (Contras)

Nicaragua <sup>we</sup> supported Contras (the rebels) - who sent \$ to Iran

Gen. Oliver North blamed, not Reagan - wasn't ever blamed for anything.  
b/c it was all illegal



Glasnost - economic freedom in E. Europe } Collapse of Soviet  
Perestroika - political freedom } Union Bled in 1987

\* Internal probs in USSR - ppl got tired of not having jobs, bread lines, etc.

Communism over in Eastern Europe

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Yugoslavia civil war - tribal enemies fighting b/c of vacuum left by Communism

Bush - invaded Panama, arrested foreign president → b/c he was a dictator & headed up a drug cartel

Desert Storm - ~~can~~ Islamic fundamentalists force ppl to forego national loyalties in favor of Islam?

Terrorism - used as an effective political weapon

Bush - blamed for econ going down, but it was really Reagan's fault.

Clinton

"New Democrat" - more to the center so it was hard to get the nomination - as opposed to liberal Democrats.

Conservative on some issues, but pushed for liberal social issues too (welfare, etc.)

Very high approval rating

Fundamentalists wanted him out, that's why he was impeached.

Pro-Gun Control