Power and the Native Americans

I. Native Americans today
   A. There are somewhere around 2,000,000 up from the nadir of 200,000 to 300,000 in the late 19th century,
   B. There population was so low, from 12-20 million when White Europeans first arrived, that it was assumed that they were going to disappear, and many of the 500 cultures have disappeared
   C. Poverty rates of 33%, over 50% on most Indian reservations, equally high unemployment rate
   D. High rates of drug and alcohol abuse, highest drop out rate of any minority, high suicide rate
   E. Decline in native speakers and threat to lose cultural traditions and therefore identity
   F. The question of culture and identity

II. Power
   A. The emerging order of power was in conflict with the Native Americans,
      1. essence of the economic structure of our system of power is capitalism which demands expansion and resources
         a. expansion of population, markets
         b. expansion of resources
      2. we needed land for agriculture, railroads, to freely move populations and materials
      3. constantly need more and more natural resources, minerals, timber, and, of course, gold
      4. the native Americans were in our way
   B. Columbus's extermination of the Taino was a foreboding of what was to come for the Native Americans
      1. 99, in 20 years they were 99% exterminated., 3+ million to 28,000
      2. not long after the battle of Lexington and Concord the Americans put a bounty on Native America scalps -- 40lbs on males, 20lbs on females and children

III. Justifications and Methods
   A. Justifications - " felling trees and Indians and rounding out their natural boundaries"
      1. non- too subtle, civilization vs savages

         Hugo Grotius: "most just war is against savage beasts, the next against men who are like beasts."

         Washington: "the gradual extension of our settlements will as certainly cause the savage, as the wolf, to retire; both being beasts of prey, tho' they differ in shape."

Teddy Roosevelt: "the most ultimately righteous of all wars is a war with savages" "establishing the rule of the dominant races." He referred to the Sand Creek Massacre " as a righteous and beneficial deed as ever took place." Colorado 1864 (scary)

NY Times in the mid-1800s: not one foot by force or bloodshed . . ." only natural "all other races . . . must bow and fade before the great work of subjugation and conquest of the anglo-saxon race.

2. Manifest Destiny - white Europeans ordained by god to rule all of America

B. Force and Violence

1862 Col Baylor asked for permission to kill every Apache man on sight and to capture and sell inot slavery all women and childre.

N.M. legislature tried to pass a law making all Indians slaves for Life.

1. warfare, most often directed at villages, women and children, burning crops
2. germ warfare intentionally given small pox contaminated blankets to the NAs
3. starvation
    a. subsidize hunters to kill buffalo and other game
        i. turn of 19th century 50-125 million
        ii. surveyors in 1874 reported a census in Blackfoot country of 4 million, ten years later all gone
        iii. one herd left at turn of 20th century, around 100 animals
    b. withhold promised supplies once NA became dependent on whites massacres
4. Massacres
    a. Blackfeet and the Marias River - Killing Custer
    b. Sand Creek
    c. Washita
    d. Camp Grant San Carlos Apaches 75 women and children
    e. Wounded Knee

C. Treaties and Removal

1. Trail of broken treaies - Norwest Ordinance of 1787
    a. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towoward the Indians.
    b. Their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent.
    c. Truth -- whites provoke Indians through lies, deciets, invasions, resistance, military invasion, loss of life and land
2. Indian Removal 1834

3. the Dawes Act of 1887,
    a. forced assimilation
    b. break up communal lands
    c. loss of land in allottment procedure, and further loss of land 25 years later Indian Reorganization
4. Assimilation through Indian schools, destroy the culture, no language, no religion, no clothes
5. Religious Crimes Codes, no freedom of religion,
   In 1882 Interior Secretary Henry M. Teller ordered an end to all "heathenish dances" and ceremonies due to their "great hundracne to civilization - males ordered to cut braids and outlawed the Sun Dance, rite of passage and celebration to the Sun
   Publo religion was outlawed because it involved overtly sexual practices and public nudity
6. Finally in 1978 American Indian Freedom of Religion Act
7. Sacred lands
    a. religious worship is tied to the land
    b. wholistic and enspirited relationship to the world
    c. land is sacred with sacred spaces, the Black Hills of South Dakota, Black Mountain in Arizona, San Francisco Peaks near Flagstaff
    d. court battles lost by Native Americans

IV. Indian Removal

A. Andrew Jackson major program -- the removal of all Indians to the lands beyond the Mississippi.
B. This was called the policy of Indian Removal and it was meant ideologically to create a permanent Indian frontier.
C. It was ratified in 1834 called An Act to regulate trad and intercourse with the Indian tribes and to preseve peace on the fronties
D. too late already "permanent Indian frontier to to 95th Meridian
E. The Cherokee and the "trail of tears"
    1. 1829 fold discoverd in Cheroke territory -- thousands of whites invade The disinherited 134
    2. Cherokees attempted to assimilate when they were outnumbered 17,000 to 900,00, tried to establish a society that would not oppose the dominant white society
       textile manufacturing, schools, newspapers, rep gov't
       1825 report to War Department was a glowing description, advanced republican principles
    3. Gold, state limited Cherokee rights, speculators, and miners stole lnd
    4. Cheroke followed policy of non-violecne -- appeal to justice 138

5. 1834 700 Cherokee agreed to go west, 81 died, 45 children
6. 1836 rest of Cherokees summoned to sign removal treaty, only a few showed up Treaty of Enkota, government agreed to pay Cherokee 9 million for their land - charged 7 million for moving
7. huge army 5 regiments and 4000 militia
8. Oct 1, 1938 "trail of tears" long march 4000 died
9. Not all, Cherokee established, a viable community in the Indian Territory, report to government, developed educationally, economically, culturally, and politically
10. We want your land, Dawes Act, break up land, give to individuals, steal, swindle, cheat, lie, smaller and smaller areas

F. The Lakota and the Battle for the Black Hills

The Black Hills of what is now South Dakota were considered by the Sioux to be sacred, the center of the earth, the place of gods and holy mountains, wher warriors went to speak with the Great Spirit

1. In 1868 given forever to the Sioux, oops four years later gold was discovered there
2. U.S. governement in 1874 sent armed forces into black hills area despite the fact that the treaty said there must be permission, this was not asked for.
3. This was the infamous Seventh Calvary headed by Custer. Massacred a sleeping Cheyenne village on the Washita, mostly helpless women and children
4. Custer's army cut a road for poor whites, "Thieves road"
5. 1875 U.S. decided to take the Black Hills, no we don't want to sell and in the treaty it says that 3/4th of all male Indians have to sign any change to the treaty
6. In late 1875 US decide that it would be necessary to force the sale of the Black Hills after all they weren't using it for anything.
7. Offered 6 million dollars, one mine 500 million, forced purchase, don't worry what the Indians want
8. Dec 3 1875 mandate for Indians off of the reservation to come in, Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull, Feb 1 time limit is up, military action
9. mandate was short of declaration of war, women and children would have frozen on way to reservation or starved there, couldn't get there in that short of time
10. July 22 of 1876 Sherman declared martial law over all the reservations and all of the Indians there as prisoners of war
11. Custer looking to provoke a confrontation, personal and political reasons

12. demanded that the Indians give up all rights to tthe powder river and the Black Hills, removal of Indians to a new reservation along the Missouri river where settlers would have three roads for ininterrupted travel to the hills.
13. Resistance collapsed because of starvation, lack of ammunition, Sitting Bull to Canada, and Crazy Horse assassinated

G. Postcript:

1. Big Foot was moving his small band of Sioux to the Pine Ridge reservation where he thought Red cloud might protect them from the soldiers.
2. On dec 28 Bigfoots 350 Sioux (100 men, 250women and children) ran into the Seventh. Whiteside's job was to arrest Bigfoot so he attempted to disarm the small band, spent the night and wounded knee soldiers above with Hotchkiss guns, asked for weapons the next day, were unsatisfied with what they got, 300 killed women and childen, 25 soldiers mostly by their own bullets. Wounded taken to church at Pine Ridge

Indian Resistance

I. AIM American Indian Movement began in 1968
   A. founded in the inner city Indian ghettos, esp Minneapolis and St. Paul
   B. founders were Ojibways who were in prison
   C. as it spread to reservations esp the Lakota res of Pine Ridge and Rosebud became tied to traditional culture and old full-blooded medicine men
      1. unemployment rate of 54%, 1/3 of families on welfare, alcoholism, and sucide rates were high, life expectancy was 46
      2. resistance involved challenging archaeologists digging up native sites, segregation
II. Resistance
   A. Alcatraz
      1. Nov 9, 1969 occupation of alcatraz, ironic statement
      2. turn it into center for Native American Studies of Ecology (518) "We will work to depollute the air and water of the Bay area and to restore fish and animal life."
      3. 6 months later, forcefully removed
   B. Trail of Broken Treaties

1. Indians from all over the country converged on Washington, list of 20 demands
2. Cherokees from OK followed "Trail of Tears"
3. Lakota started from Wounded Knee
4. When they arrived they realized that they had been deceived, promised places to stay were not there, put them in rat and roach infested deserted building with no heat or plumbing
5. They took over BIA building it was "ours"
6. Food was provided by black civil rights groups and churches
7. The original plan had been for a dignified protest, singing and dancing for senators and inviting them to Indian fry bread and corn soup feast.
8. Turned into confrontation, Get out or else, compromise, never considered the 20 demands

C. Custer
1. In the middle of the Black Hills on sacred ground, home of the sacred thunderbirds, phoney Indian village, "See How They Live!"
2. Wesley Bad Heart Bull had been killed by a white man who was going to be tried for "second degree manslaughter."
3. SDSP tried to keep Sioux out of the courthouse, a scuffle broke out, police appeared to be waiting for this (much as Custer tried to provoke conflict over Black Hills)
4. Beat Wesley Bad Heart Bulls mother, choked her, arrested her and charged her with crimes that would amount to 30 years in jail, actually she spent more time in jail than the murderer, who spent none.

D. Wounded Knee II
1. Ogalala Sioux Civil Rights Org asked for AIM help in Pine Ridge because of Dick Wilson
2. Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 had been an attempt by John Collier to create a New Deal for Indians
3. This involved giving the Indians the gift of democracy, constitution and presidency
4. The problem with this is that although it was aimed at autonomy, rather than assimilation like the Dawes Act which had been its predecesoor, it further undermined the indigenous cultures where
   polilitcal systems had been varied, Pueblo -- Zunis, Lagunas, theocracy, religious hierarchy- to Navajo with great deal of personal autonomy, nothing done except by consensus
   always tied to their religious and cultural practices and their world views
5. Created a new system which had no social and cultural bases,

6. New group - half breeds and quarter breeds- came to power, decided on allocation of jobs and money
7. Basically puppet governments, though, BIA still had the power, 10 major crimes handled by Federal courts with all white juries
8. Worst was Dick Wilson on Pine Ridge, he and his goons killed and beat hundreds of Indians

E. The occupation of Wouded Knee
1. went from Custer to Wounded Knee, no real plan, just came up with it, women's idea. "Go ahead and make your stand at Wounded Knee. If you men won't do it, you can stay here and talk for all etenity and we women will do it.
2. Feb 27, 1973 "We hold the Knee" 26 firearms
3. And the response of the powerful, armored vehicles, automatic rifles, machine guns, grenade launchers
4. 71days of violent confrontation, 120 surrendered, govt conceded the legitimacey of the treaty of 1868 says the right of eminent domain

Who has the Black Hills Now? Canadian Mining CompanieHomestake Mining Co

Mexico, Mexican Americans, and Mexican Immigrants

I. Racism, Exploitation, scapegoating
A. If the practical conditions that allowed slavery to arise was the cotton plantations of the south,
B. if the practical conditions that led to the extermination of the native Americans was the need for geographical expansion, land , resources.
C. The practical conditions which has led to the marginalization of th Hispanic community in our soicety is both the need for
1. cheap labor
2. the need for "scapegoats."
3. a society which refuses to deal with its real problems needs to find unreal ones that it can target with its rath.
4. Today Mexican Americans and Mexican immigrants fill both roles, cheap labor and scapegoat.
5. 4 million mexican laborers do the majority of migrant labor work.
a. The work and housing conditions are substandard,
b. they have no health benefits and no real home.

c. Over half are below the poverty level, a high per cent are poor-poor,
d. migrant workers have high levels of tb, influenza, pnemonia, and a life-expendency of 47 years of age.
e. They do the hardest work, work that is necessarily labor intensive.

6. However, they are blamed by many in the middle class who blame them for their declining life style,
7. they are blamed by ideological institutions, media and govt, for creating the problems of the American economy, destroying the health care sytsem, sapping the welfare system, and the education system.
8. Little or no attention is given to the fact that these workers are necessary, that maybe agribusinesses who profict from their work could afford to pay more, health benefits, sanitary facilities.
9. Or that they need not hire them. almost no space is given to "globalization" and its effect on immigration
10. as I pointed out in class the meat packing industry is acitively recruiting in Mexico for workers to fill jobs that white Americans will not fill.
11. Recruiters that take advantage of the impoverished with lies and half truths, poor living and working conditions.
12. They especially like illegal aliens becaus they are afraid to organize
13. and while politicians posture about keeping illegal immigrants out, they pass laws to let more in.

II. This is a cycle, Mexicans forced off their own land by multinationals, recruited in the US, and then blamed

A. Mexico

1. Mexico was colonized by the Spanish, won their independence, was invaded by the French, invaded by the US, and fought a civil war to overthrow an autocratic government, they abolished slavery long before the US.
2. the US took a third of Mexico
3. Mexico is now a third world country part of the global empire of neo-colonialism
4. It wealth, minerals and oil, and agriculture is exploited by the first world
5. it is a class society with a wealthy elite in power who serve their own and international interests
6. it is a major drug transfer and drug producing center
7. Those who resist are killed, Chiapas, Tarahumara
8. Victims of neo-colonialism forced to work on agribusiness plantation under medieval conditions, or in maquiladoras, or flee to the US. Join the migrant labor force, or the meat packing industry

III. Mexican Removal, repatriation and mass expulsion

A. In the late nineteenth century Mexico under Portilio Diaz privatized the communal land.
    1. Nearly 5 million Mexican farmers lost their land, 135 million acres, 30 million acres in Chihuahua went to seven people.
    2. Much went to foreigners

B. Simultaneously the US because of industrial and agricultural expansion was in need of cheap labor,
    1. the Alien Land Law of 1913 (non-whites from becoming citizens, therefore could not own land --
    2. the Chinese Exclusion Act 1882 prohibited immigration of Chinese for 10 years, created a shortage of labor. Asians were to militant and too agressive.
    3. Immigration Act of 1917 barred non-whites from immigration, Mexicans were considered white
    4. In this situation more than a million of these displaced farmers immigrated to the US to fill the low level jobs in railroads, mines, and mostly in agriculture esp in CA
    5. jobs are segregated
    6. railroads -- skilled high level year round jobs to whites
    7. Mexicans, low wage, seasonal, manual labor, despite the individuals skill level (Mexican jobs)
       repair, not secure, travel everywhere
    8. agriculture-- segregated by race, racialized tasks, races against each other
    9. railroads-- migaratory living is costly -- alienation -- minimal standard of living, housing is poor, racialized white in houses, for free, --Mexicans in railway cars which are rented, bought everthing from commissary
    10. agriculture -- no medical care, lived in employer owned houses or provided there own, car parks, tent camps,squatters camps, no sanitary facilities
        segragated whites from Mexicans
        overrecruiting workers, keeps wages low
    11. segrated neighborhoods, fear of intermarriage, theaters, pools, restaurants.

C. Consequences, **low wages, low skilled, transient and seasonal, hard to move up, vicious circle of poverty, hard for kids to move up because all hands are needed in field. same now, child labor laws.**

IV. GREAT DEPRESSION - SCAPEGOATING- AND THE MEXICAN REMOVAL

A. Who do we blame for the Great Depression, not big business, not big finance, not big government. Lets blame unemployment and those Mexicans, they are not really Americans, they are migratory

B. Dust Bowl, thousands from Oklahoma to Ca "Grapes of Wrath"
C. The first and only mass expulsion of immigrants in the history of th U.S. -- repatriation or Mexican Removal
    1. supposedly all illegal immigrants, with months just Mexican
    2. suposedly male temporty eillegally, no, all trageted , intimidation, force, threats, coercion. Mexican Americans, legal citizens, legal aliens
    3. scareheading -- publicity and media campaigns threatening raids, the arbitrary threat of legal expulsion caused many legal to return
    4. first immigrants involved in labor disputes and strikes
    5. ideological institutions govt and media Mexicans were draingin welfare during this hard time, not even close
    6. 500,000 repatriated, ended in 1940s when we had labor shortage because of the war welcome back

ANTI-SEMITISM TO GENOCIDE

Anti-semitism, anti-Jewish has a long history in western society, especially in Europe where Jews have been segragated in "ghettos." Anti-semitic behavior from exclusion from mainstream society to violence (frequent pogroms -- organized killing sprees in Europe and Russia) and scapegoating have been common throughout the history of the west.

One myth that has been enduringly persistant is that the Jews - all of whom are wealthy and greedy -- actually control the world from behind closed doors. This myth was perpetuated throughout the late nineteent and early twentieth century by the high visibility of banking families in Europe, especially the Rothschilds

Anti-Semitism has not been has virulent in the U.S. however there is a strong strain of anti-semitism -- West Hartford tennis Club-- strange mixture of not knowing what it is. Anti-semitism in the U.S. was partly responsible for the U.S. not taking significant action prior to the Holocaust when the Germans threatened to deport the Jews and during the War when the Holocaust was going on

Hannah Arendt in her book The Origins of Totalitarianism claimed that mistaken anti-semitism and the holocaust -- genocied, the systematic exterminaion of the Jewis people in Europe was a condition that aided the genocide, Jews mistakenly believed it was the same old thing and would pass, or that it was only directed at German Jews.

In 1935 the German Government, led by popularly elected chancellor Adolph Hitler enacted the Nuremberg Laws which deprived Jews in Germany of their civil rights and enacted many social prohibitions on them, such as intermarriage. In 1938 before the outbreak of WWII the Nazis

provoked what was called Kristallnact. This and threats of deportation and actual deportation from the Reich were merely prefatory to the final solution.

In the spring of 1941 Hitler ordered Reinhart Heydrich to begin implementing the Final Solution to the Jewish Question, a euphemism for the extermination of all the Jews of Europe, estimated at 11 million.

Just prior to the invasion of Russia Heydrich organized the Einzatsgruppen (mobile killing units). These units followed behing the German army as it advanced into Russia. Its task was the mass machine gunning of Russia and Polish Jews. In two sweeps in 1941 na early 1942 the EZ killed 1.5 million Jews

Another more efficient plan was devised, but required the cooperation of most of the institutions within Germany. In the Wanesse Conference Heydrich explained the plan to heads of Germany's civilian institutions. His plan was received quite well received. Arendt in her book Eichmann in Jerusalme says that there was not an institution in Germany that did not actively participate in the Final Solution.

The killing centers were set up in Poland, Chelmo, Treblinka, Sobibor, and the most notorious which covered almost 18 sq miles Auschwitz, these centers were responsible for exterminating close to 3 million Jews.

The two most stunning characteristics of this were that there was no organized effort to stop this even though the west knew it was going on since Nov 42 and the cooperation from countries, bureaucracies, local police, Jewish councils. In Elie Wiesel's book Night the Nazis are almost invisible the banality of evil

Durkheim argues that the basis of any society is moral, the conscience collective, shared norms and values. Modern western society as a complex moral basis, the Judaeo-Christian tradition, and modern Enlightened political thought. What is the moral basis of society, and how does the Holocaust undermine them.

1. Trust that the most basic rights, right to exist, won't be violated, especially by those institutions that are set up to guarantee it. also the right to life, liberty, and happiness
2. Belief that most people would have to be forced or psychotic to wantonly humiliate, torture and kill others, especially the innocent, women and children
3. Morality compels us to resist evil like the Holocaust despite the consequences
4. Intimate relationships are sacred and immutable, father-son, friend. We would never kill someone over a crumb
5. Da ist kein warum en Auschwitz?
6. I know myself, my identity, I would not act certain ways

I. The constellation of Racism

A. Racist ideology - one race is superior because of inherent attributes, that makes other races inferior because of inherent attributes

B. Personal racism - internalize racist ideology, you accept it as true -- express it, vandalism, hate crimes

C. Institutional racism, what i have discussed in slavery, souther segregation, and northern urban ghettos

1. social organization -- society is organized in a way that the "superior" group is dominant in terms of power, wealth, income, presige, jobs, and the inferior groups are subordinate, hierarchical stratification
2. social institutions reflect this dominant subordinate relationship through exclusions, marginalization, limited access, or denied access, education and jobs

D. racism is Machiavellian, the end justifies the means

1. land, American expansion, Native Americans and Mexicans
   - Polk wanted California, so did big business
   - 1846 provoked war with Mexico
   - 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo took one-third of Mexico
   - guaranteed land to Mexican citizens and then stole it, cheated, legally
2. labor, slavery,
3. Mexican Americans and migrant labor
   - Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882
   - Immigration Act of 1917 barred non-whites, Mexicans were considered white
   - industrial and agricultural expansion needed cheap labor, come on over 1,000.000
   - segregated division of labor, segregated towns,
   - Great Depression, get out, its your fault, some legal immigrants, some U.S. citizens
   - during WWII we need you come on in
   "We used to own our slaves, now we rent them from the government"
   - present, Latinos make up majority of migrant labor force, 49 years of age, disease, poor living and sanitary condition, exposure to pesticides, 50% below the poverty level, many poor-poor
   - meat packing industry

E. Blame the victim - machiavellian = deception

1. scapegoating - blame subordinate racial group for social problem
2. Ca blames Latinos for sapping the healthcare system, making demands on the educational system

3. Immigration is the problem, what is the cause of immigration -- anything to do with neo-colonialism
4. this has the effect of dividing groups with similar interest, poor whites, poor blacks, women, Latinos