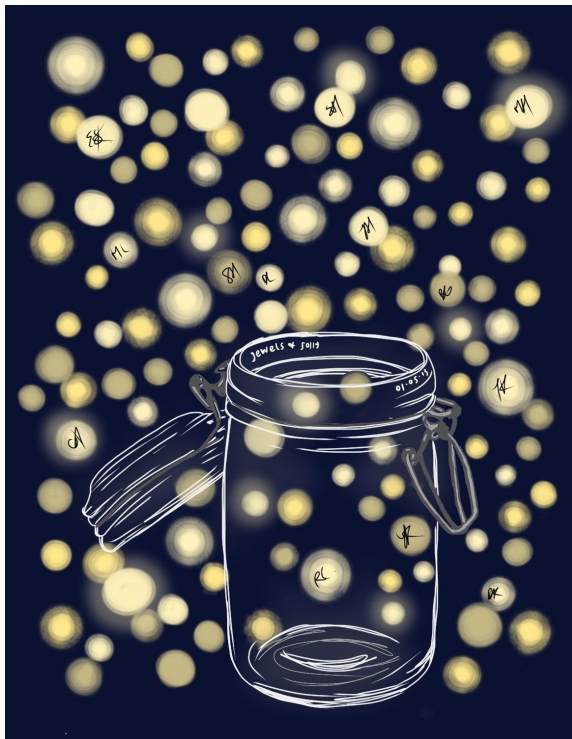


City Life & Welfare

Caroline, Monica, Alex, Michael, & Ben

Thesis



- A Moral reform from self-help to social awareness led to concern for the problems plaguing urban life, which in turn caused an expansion in government social intervention.
 - Visual Analysis: collecting fireflies in a jar

Introduction

- An important change in the general mindset of the people came when the idea of success and failure was no longer attributed to personal weakness.
- This allowed for more efforts to be undertaken in order to assist those in need

Introduction - Urban Life

- Immigrants & families from around the world came to the cities to work in factories
 - Unfortunately, for the poor living in cities resulted in a decreased standard of living, fewer city services, overcrowding, inadequate water supplies, unpaved streets and disease
- Estimated by 1904, 1 in 3 people living in cities close to starving to death



^“Under the Dump at West 35 Street”

>“Street Arabs in Sleeping Quarters [church corner]”



^“Lodgers in a crowded Bayard Street tenement”



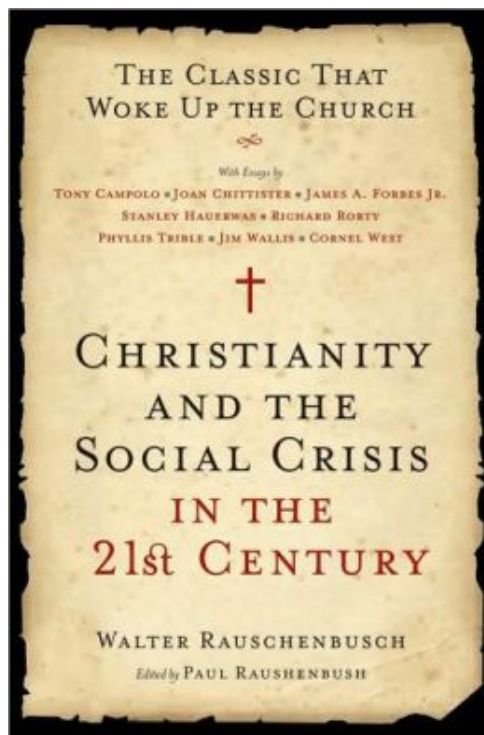
Changing Morality - Social Gospel Movement (SGM)



- In response to the rapid urbanization, industrialization, and mass immigration = a religious social-reform movement began led by the Protestant church (1870-1920)
- It applied Christian ethics to social problems especially issues of social justice
 - core idea: "work in this world to establish a Kingdom of God with social justice for all"
 - contrast previous notion which emphasized individual responsible for success/failures
- Social Gospel inspired many political and social reformers to look at reform in moral terms



Changing Morality- SGM



- 1907 - Theologian Walter Rauschenbusch publishes *Christianity and the Social Crisis*
 - Appalled by the living conditions of the urban working poor = sought to connect reform movements with Christian ideals
- “But in truth Jesus was not a social reformer of the modern type... he approached these facts purely from the moral, and not from the economic or historical point of view.”

Concern for Urban Problems - Muckrakers (MR)



- Simultaneously as meaning of morality & social duty shift = increase in concern for working class
 - one form of concern = muckraking
- Reveals to general public problems can no longer ignore

Concern for Urban Problems - MR

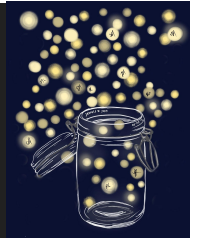


- 1890 - Jacob Riis -
How the Other Half Lives
 - “Crazy old buildings, crowded rear tenements in filthy yards, dark, damp basements, leaking garrets, shops, outhouses, and converted into dwellings, though scarcely fit to shelter brutes, are habitations of thousands of our fellow-beings in this wealthy, Christian city”
- Living conditions of the urban poor; focused on tenements
- NYC passed building codes to promote safety and health

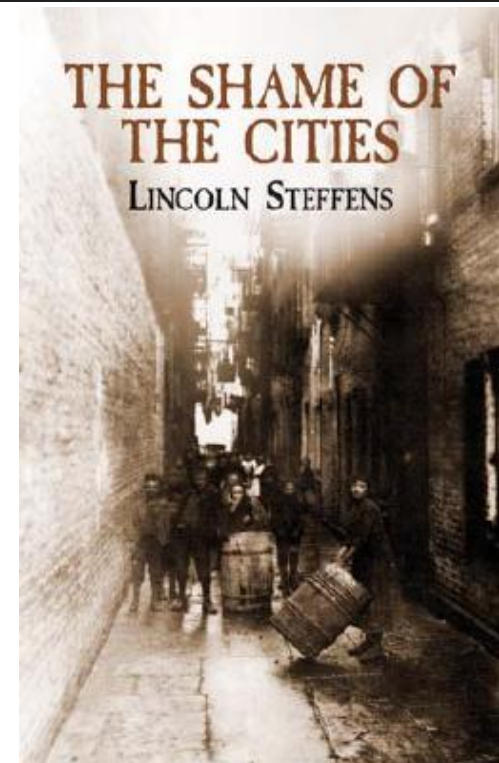


<“Quarters for the night”

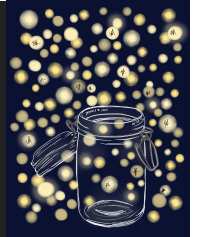
Concern for Urban Problems - MR



- 1904 - Lincoln Steffans' *The Shame of the Cities*
 - "In all cities, the better classes -- the businessmen -- are the sources of corruption but they are so rarely pursued and caught that we do not fully realize whence the trouble comes."
- Expose political corruption in cities across US
- Cities began to use city commissions and city managers (experts hired to run single aspect of city gov)



Government Intervention - MR



- Increasing social awareness -> exposure of urban problems
- It is evident governmental intervention can no longer be postponed
 - people demanded gov have more intervention in lives (railroad regulation, building codes, political corruption in cities)
 - demand gov combat corporation for individual working man

Concern for Urban Problems - Settlement Houses (SH)

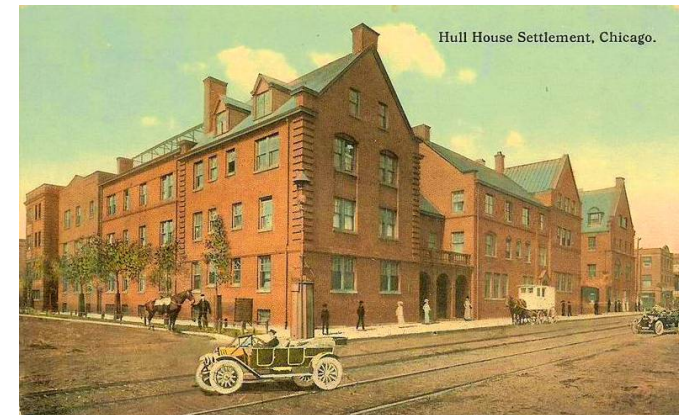


- shift in morality -> development of SH
- staffed by middle class residents (young educated men & women)
 - many inspired by social gospel movement = emphasize Christian responsibility for addressing urban problems
- served as community centers
 - provided refuge and educational services for poor immigrants
 - assist immigrants in assimilation
 - Hull house had meeting rooms, art gallery, clubs for kids & adults & kindergarten

Concern for Urban Probs - SH

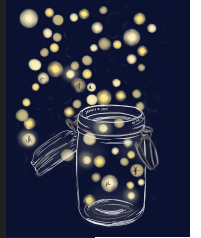


- 1886 - Stanton Coit founded Neighborhood Guild in NYC = 1st US SH
- 1889 - Jane Addams & her colleagues (e.g. Florence Kelley & Ellen Starr) found Hull House in Chicago = became most famous SH in US
- By 1887, 74 SH in US
- By 1890 - over 400
 - 40% SH in Boston, Chicago, & NY = leading industrial centers
 - but most small cities had at least 1 SH



^Hull House

Concern for Urban Probs - SH

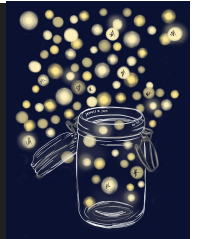


Jane Addams>



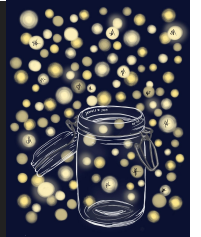
- Addams & her colleagues, such as Florence Kelley, called on lawmakers to bring about reforms: ending child labor, instituting better factory working conditions, & compulsory education
- Addams herself led battles for garbage removal, playgrounds, better street lighting, & police protection
- Many members from Hull House went on to lead change to better legislation & protection of the individual

Gov Intervention - National Consumers' League (NCL)



- 1899 - Florence Kelley (a founder of Hull House) organizes the National Consumers' League
 - Women organizations lobby on behalf of women & children
 - advocate for better working conditions for women & children, health care, enforcement of child-labor laws, & a minimum wage
- 1908 - in *Muller v. Oregon* - upheld Oregon law and limited the workday for women to 10 hours
 - one of NCL's successes
 - the argument was that women needed more time at home to better themselves and their families

Gov Intervention - NCL

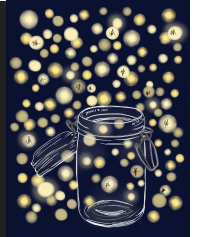


- 1912 - first minimum wage law for women in MA
- More effective child labor laws in many states
- Federal Level
 - 1912 - Children's bureau
 - 1920 - Women's bureau
- Women progressives constructed a "maternalist" welfare system
 - reflect social duty

Florence Kelley>



Conclusion



- The measures undertaken in the city were a step forward in improving life for the urban poor
- the government, with the urging of the people became more involved and enacted social policies in order to improve the quality of life
- this was a step forward towards modern social policies