

**HOMEWORK: The Human Face of the Great Depression**

- I. Initial Impact
- Many factories cut back on production and some just closed their doors.
  - More than 4 million Americans were out of work in 1930. By 1932 that number had increased to 12 million.
  - Unemployment caused rates of eviction and foreclosure to soar. More than 200,000 people were evicted in NYC in 1930.

II. Impact on Various Social Classes

a. THE RICH

- Those who invested heavily in the stock market lost everything. Some were able to remain millionaires by selling short as the market went down (Joseph Kennedy).
- Many rich people began to hoard gold and fear revolution.

b. THE MIDDLE CLASS

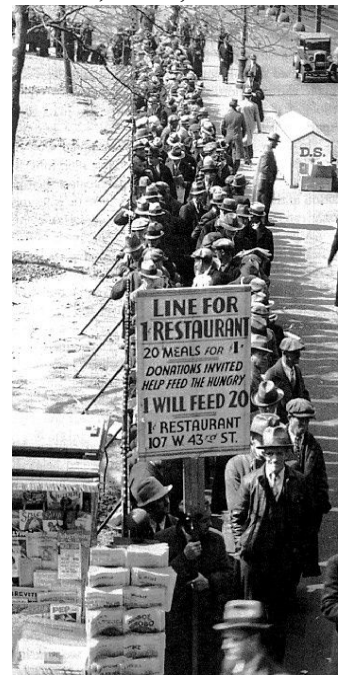
- The 98% of Americans who did not own stock would have hardly noticed the crash; rather, the Depression meant... (explain how the Depr. impacted the mid. class)

c. LOWER CLASSES

- What impact did the Depr. have on unemployed blacks and tenant farmers? (WHY?)
- Municipal and private charity funds were quickly exhausted.
- Many families could not afford to feed their children.

III. SEE THE READING & ATTACHED CHART:

- What impact did the Depression have on families? (Cite 2-3 specific examples from the reading.)



- How did families maintain outward appearances during the Depression? (Give 1-2 exs.)

IV. Psychological Impact

- a. Many victims tended to blame themselves.
- b. People felt ashamed that they could no longer support themselves.
  - i. This trend especially applied to men – why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. Women then bore the psychological burden on dealing with unemployed husbands, hungry children, and unpaid bills.

V. What impact did the Depression have on the family unit? (cite 2 positive/2 negative)

VI. Answer the following questions using the Walker Evans and Dorothea Lange photos.

- a. What do the photos show about life for people during the Great Depression?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. What feeling(s) do the images evoke? How do you they make you feel seeing them?

VII. Hoover's Shame(s)

- a. Shanty towns that popped up near all large cities were called “\_\_\_\_\_” and the privies “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- b. The shanty towns and the breadlines that abounded became symbols of Hoover's presidency.

VIII. Hoover's Attitude Problem

- a. Hoover approached the Depression with an attitude that many found impractical for the emotional and physical needs of the American populace at that time.
- b. What was Hoover willing/unwilling to do?