

Americanization: Then and Now

Guiding Questions

- What is nationalism? What is classism? How do these harm marginalized communities?
- Are there any aspects to the pamphlet that surprised you? Why?
- It's still incredibly difficult to immigrate to, and be an immigrant in, the United States. Why has there been so little change over the past 100 years?
- What is a "warrior aristocrat?" Why do aristocrats typically have different political values than the working class?
- What do you think motivated the APS members to join the National Security League?
- What was happening in the U.S. and globally in 1919? How does "Americanization" match national or global trends?

Classroom Activities

- Research early U.S. policy (19th and early 20th century) on immigration and how certain points mentioned in this pamphlet either reflect or reject those policies.
 - Do you think everything mentioned in this pamphlet coincides with the idea of "Americanization"? How or how does it not coincide?
- Examine how "Americanization" places a higher emphasis on American culture over other cultures. America prides itself on being a "melting pot" and celebrating diversity, yet some of the ideas in this pamphlet contradict the celebration of diversity.
 - What are the benefits derived from diversity in a country such as the United States?
 - How does learning about and respecting other cultures and ways of life provide us with compassion and understanding?