The Team Party: PSD Topic List

PART 1. American High: 1945-1963

ISSUE 1. Was the United States Responsible for the Cold War?
YES: Thomas G. Paterson, from *Meeting the Communist Threat: Truman to Reagan*
NO: John Lewis Gaddis, from *Russia, the Soviet Union, and the United States: An Interpretive History*, 2d ed.

ISSUE 2. Did Communism Threaten America's Internal Security After World War II?
YES: John Earl Haynes and Harvey Klehr, from *Venona: Decoding Soviet Espionage in America*
NO: Richard M. Fried, from *Nightmare in Red: The McCarthy Era in Perspective*

ISSUE 3. Should President Truman Have Fired General MacArthur?
YES: John S. Spanier, from "The Politics of the Korean War," in Phil Williams, Donald M. Goldstein, and Henry L. Andrews, Jr., eds., *Security in Korea: War, Statemate, and Negotiation*
NO: D. Clayton James with Anne Sharp Wells, from *Refighting the Last War: Command and Crisis in Korea, 1950-1953*

ISSUE 4. Were the 1950s America's "Happy Days?"
YES: Melvyn Dubofsky and Athan Theoharis, from *Imperial Democracy: The United States Since 1945*, 2d ed.
NO: Douglas T. Miller and Marion Nowak, from *The Fifties: The Way We Really Were*

ISSUE 5. Did Lee Harvey Oswald Kill President Kennedy by Himself?
YES: President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, from *The Warren Report: Report of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy*
NO: Michael L. Kurtz, from *Crime of the Century: The Kennedy Assassination From a Historian's Perspective*, 2d ed.


ISSUE 6. Was Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Leadership Essential to the Success of the Civil Rights Revolution?
YES: Adam Fairclough, from "Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Quest for Nonviolent Social Change," *Phylon*
NO: Clayborne Carson, from "Martin Luther King, Jr.: Charismatic Leadership in a Mass Struggle," *Journal of American History*

ISSUE 7. Did the Great Society Fail?
YES: Charles Murray, from "The Legacy of the 60's," *Commentary*
NO: Joseph A. Califano, Jr., from "How Great Was the Great Society?" in Barbara C. Jordan and Elspeth D. Rostow, eds., *The Great Society: A Twenty Year Critique*

ISSUE 8. Was the Americanization of the War in Vietnam Inevitable?
YES: Brian VanDeMark, from *Into the Quagmire: Lyndon Johnson and the Escalation of the Vietnam War*
NO: H. R. McMaster, from *Dereliction of Duty: Lyndon Johnson, Robert McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Lies That Led to Vietnam*

ISSUE 9. Has the Women's Liberation Movement Been Harmful to American Women?
YES: F. Carolyn Graglia, from *Domestic Tranquility: A Brief Against Feminism*
ISSUE 10. Will History Forgive Richard Nixon?
NO: Stanley I. Kutler, from "Et Tu, Bob?" *The Nation*


ISSUE 11. Did President Reagan Win the Cold War?
YES: John Lewis Gaddis, from *The United States and the End of the Cold War: Implications, Reconsiderations, Provocations*
NO: Daniel Deudney and G. John Ikenberry, from "Who Won the Cold War?" *Foreign Policy*

ISSUE 12. Did President George Bush Achieve His Objectives in the Gulf War?
YES: Colin L. Powell, from *My American Journey*
NO: Michael R. Gordon and Bernard E. Trainor, from *The Generals' War: The Inside Story of the Conflict in the Gulf*
YES: Tamar Jacoby, from "Too Many Immigrants?" *Commentary*
NO: Patrick J. Buchanan, from *The Death of the West: How Dying Populations and Immigrant Invasions Imperil Our Country and Civilization*

ISSUE 14. Will History Consider William Jefferson Clinton a Reasonably Good Chief Executive?
YES: Nicholas Thompson, from "Graduating With Honors: The Hits and Misses of a Protean President," *The Washington Monthly*
NO: James MacGregor Burns and Georgia J. Sorenson et al., from *Dead Center: Clinton-Gore Leadership and the Perils of Moderation*

ISSUE 15. Did the Supreme Court Hijack the 2000 Presidential Election From Al Gore?
NO: John C. Yoo, from "In Defense of the Court's Legitimacy," in Cass R. Sunstein and Richard A. Epstein, eds., *The Vote: Bush, Gore, and the Supreme Court*

ISSUE 16. Environmentalism: Is the Earth Out of Balance?
NO: Bjørn Lomborg, from "Yes, It Looks Bad, But..." "Running on Empty," and "Why Kyoto Will Not Stop This," *The Guardian*