Latinos Fight for Rights
Chapter 20 Sect 2

The Lives of Latinos

- 1960’s Latino population increased sharply due to the Immigration Act of 1965 which gave preference to immigrants with relatives in the US.
- 1960 80% of Mexican-Americans worked in low paying unskilled work like farm labor, factories, or household service.
- Schools they attended were inferior.
- 75% of Latinos dropped out of school.
- Were underrepresented in politics.

Latinos join the Civil Rights Movement

- Migrant Farm workers were the first to protest.
- They worked long hours for low pay.
- They were led by Cesar Chavez.
- He believed in nonviolence.
- The black Aztec Eagle became their symbol.
- Their strike was made more successful by having volunteers in front of grocery stores educating the public.
Latino Rights

- Mexican American activists took the name **Chicanos**
- Chicanos was a shortened version of Mexicanos: it **conveyed ethnic pride**.
- **Alianza**: A group that fought to bring attention to all the Mexicans that had land taken away by the US government after the Mexican-American War.
- Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzalez started “**Crusade for Justice**”: This group sought **Mexican American Nationalism**.
- They made the “**Spiritual Plan of Aztlan**”

Essential Questions

1. Why did the Latino population increase in the 1960’s?
2. Who is Cesar Chavez? What did he lead a protest on?
3. What was the symbol of Cesar Chavez’s movement?
4. What was the word Chicano supposed to convey?

MAYO

- **MAYO**: Mexican American Youth Organization. Formed by students in Texas. They focused on **better schools and education** for Latino youth.
- Their leader was **Jose Angel Gutierrez**.
- They used more aggressive tactics like protest and demonstrations to
- Later Gutierrez formed **La Raza Unida Party**. Soon branches formed in other cities in the Southwest
- They worked to get Latinos in government offices, registered to vote, and to get land rights back.
The Brown Berets

- **Brown Berets**: Most militant group in the Chicano movement.
- They fought against police brutality in East Los Angeles.
- They also fought for better schools and Chicano studies.
- They were very close to the Black Panther Movement and drew lots of media attention for their aggressive tactics.
- By 1972 the group disbanded after violent protests had gone wrong and the community turned against them.

The Boricua Movement

- **Boricua** is what Puerto Ricans refer to themselves as; it was used for ethnic pride like Chicano.
- It started off as a movement for **independence** for Puerto Rico, but later became a movement for **equal rights**
- **Young Lords**: A militant boricua group that fought for rights.
- Most **Cuban-American groups** were better off financially so they often fought for changes dealing with overthrowing Castro.

**Essential Questions**

1. What is MAYO? How were their tactics a bit different from other Groups?
2. What did the Brown Berets pattern themselves after?
3. Who were Boricuas? Were their demands any different than Chicanos?
4. How were Cuban groups different from other Latino groups?