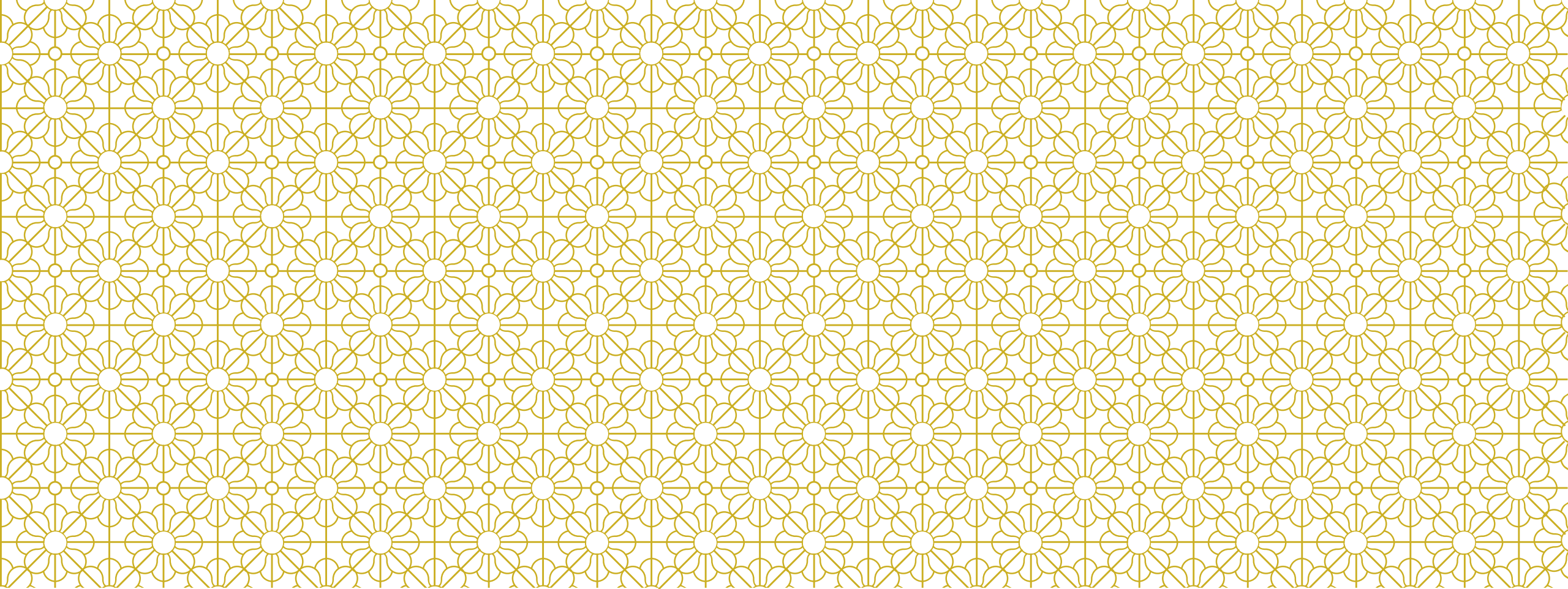


MODERN AMERICA

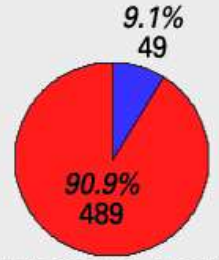
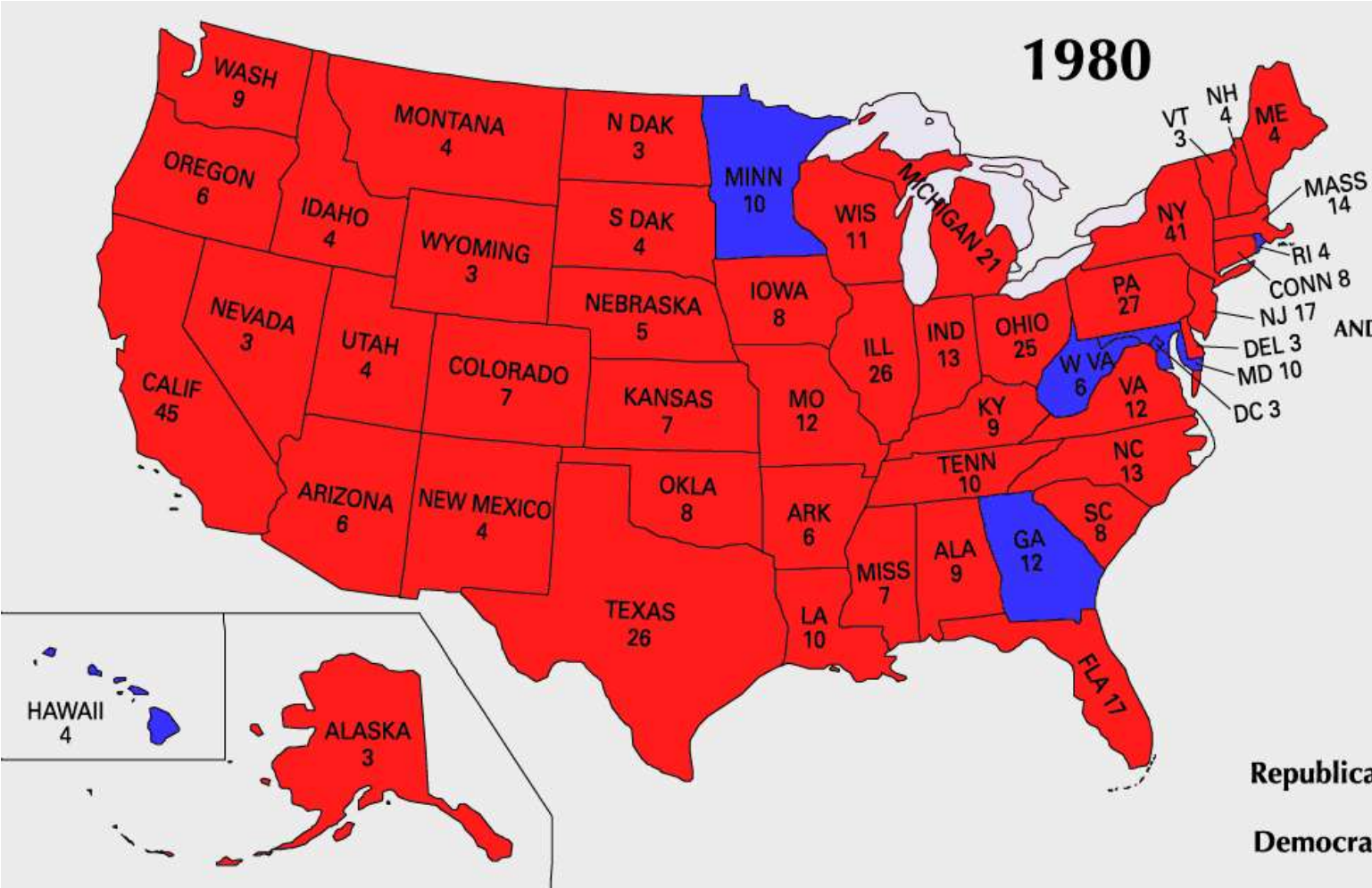
1980-now



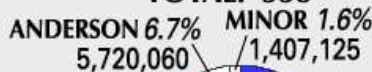
NEW CONSERVATISM



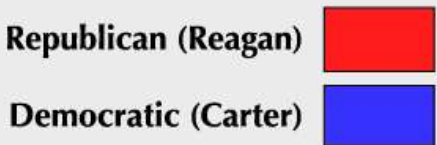
1980



ELECTORAL VOTE TOTAL: 538



POPULAR VOTE TOTAL: 86,515,221



CONSERVATIVE REVOLUTION

President Carter criticized as ineffectual both domestically and abroad in economic downturn

Conservatism was gaining popularity as taxpayers sought to control where their money was spent

Christian fundamentalists became more influential as Americans looked to “traditional family values” for strength

RONALD REAGAN

Ronald Reagan, former governor of California elected President in 1980.

Former movie star and governor of California

As a conservative, Reagan believed that the federal government should have a smaller role in American life.

Pursued an economic policy critics called “Reaganomics”; included lower taxes, smaller government, and a stronger military

“Reaganomics” (sometimes referred to as supply-side economics or “trickle-down” economics) is generally thought to have benefitted wealthier Americans while penalizing the poor.



Trickle-Down Economics



Chattanooga Times Free Press Bennett

DEREGULATION IN REAGAN'S FIRST TERM

Congress agreed and passed a federal bill to cut taxes by 25% over a three year period

As a result, many federally funded social programs were cut or eliminated altogether

Defense spending increased at unprecedented peacetime rate

Deregulated telephone and trucking industries

Other government regulations such as clean air standards for automobiles and factories were lifted

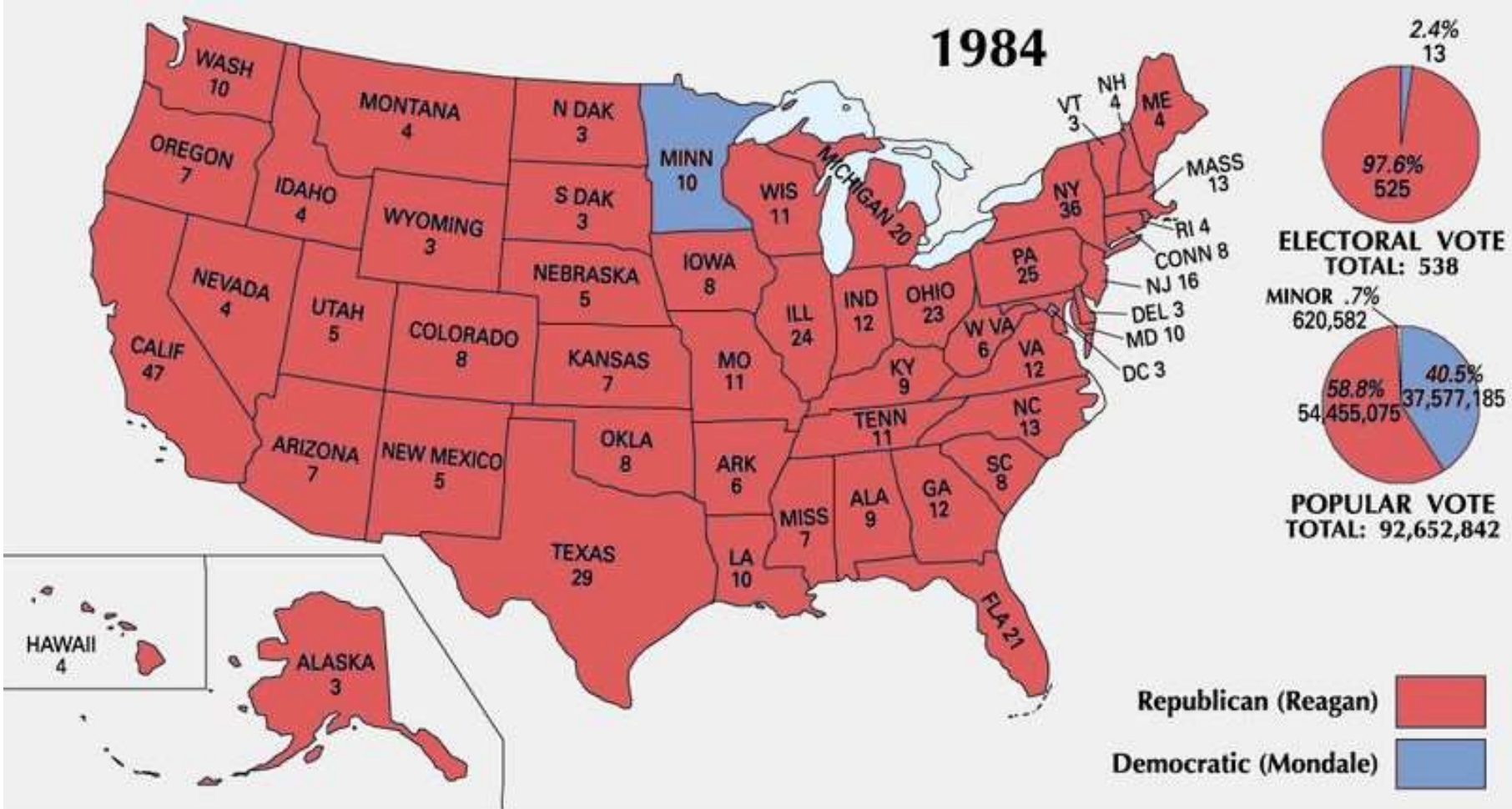
Deregulation of savings and loan industry, many in the 1980s began making risky investments to increase profits

--By mid-1980s, some of these institutions were collapsing and taxpayers would have to foot the bill

Strike of air traffic controllers in 1981 –safety concern when workers walked off the job illegally

--In controversial stand, Reagan fired all of the controllers and temporarily replaced with military personnel (Air traffic controllers' union destroyed)

1984



IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL

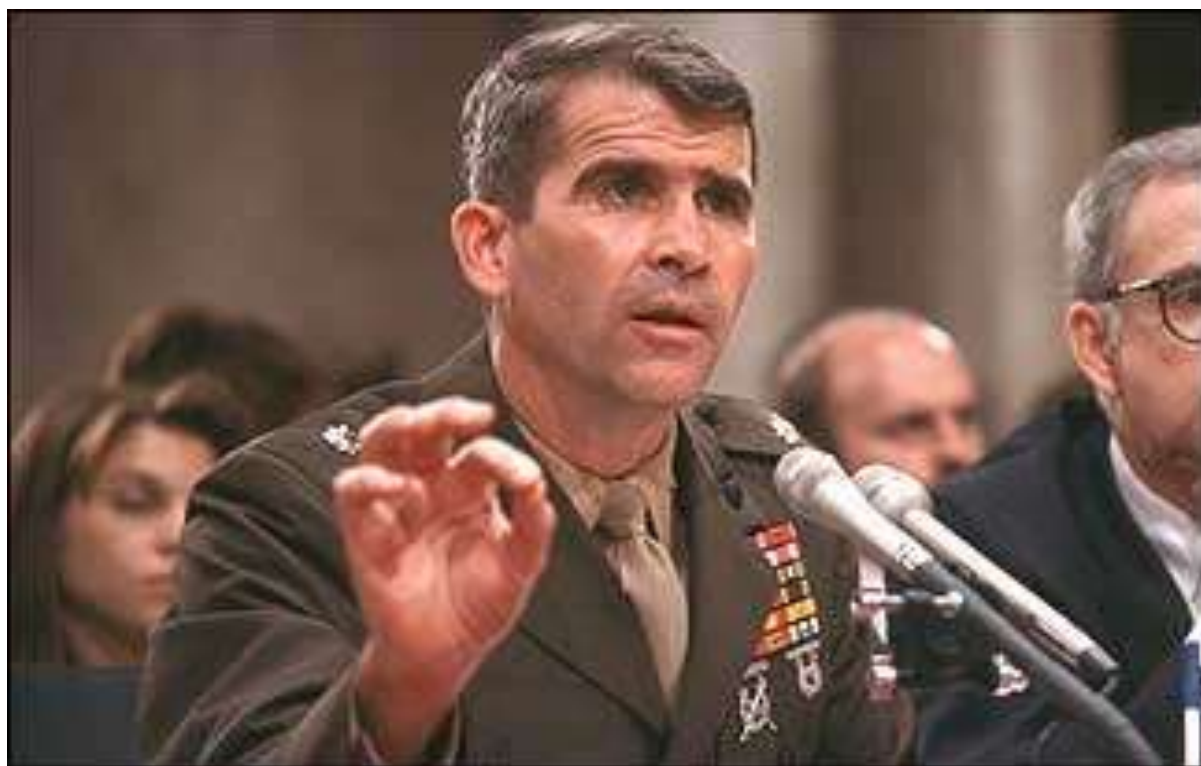
During Reagan's second term, a scandal involving the sale of weapons tarnished his administration.

In an attempt to free 7 American hostages from Iran, Reagan's administration offered to sell Iran weapons for the hostage's release.

This money would in turn be used to fund the rebellion of anti-Communist fighters (called "Contras") in the Latin American country of Nicaragua.

Both the sale of arms to Iran and the funding of the Nicaraguan Contras violated acts of Congress.



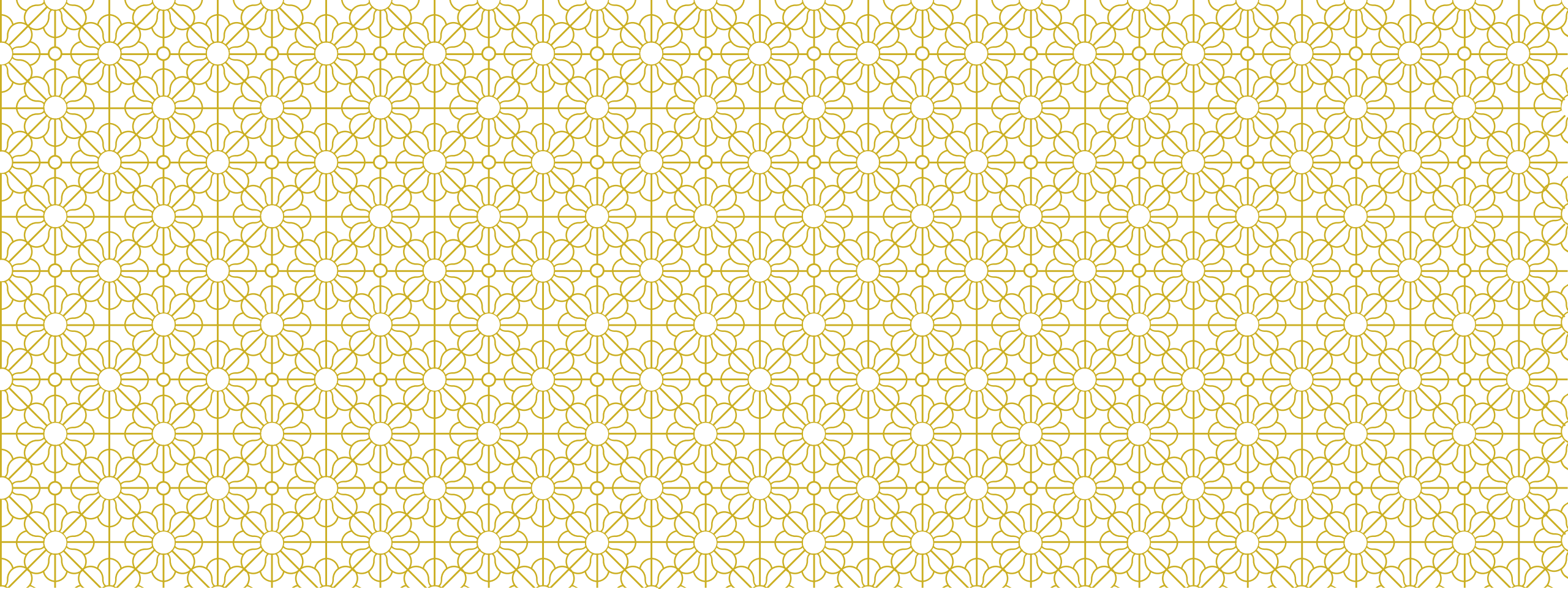


THE CHALLENGER DISASTER



Reagan had to soothe Americans when, on January 28, 1986, the NASA space shuttle *Challenger* exploded shortly after takeoff

Killed all seven astronauts aboard, including the first teacher to serve as an astronaut, Christa McAuliffe



THE END OF THE COLD WAR



END TO DETENTE

After Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and US boycott of the 1980 Olympics, it was clear that détente was a thing of the past

Reagan called USSR the “Evil Empire”

Reagan pushed for the funding of the Strategic Defense System (SDI), more popularly known as “Star Wars”

Planned to station satellites in orbit that could defend against nuclear attack with lasers

US shifts focus to arms race

Put pressure on Soviet economy, as USSR tried to keep up



Reagan is credited with pursuing a foreign policy of pressuring Soviet leaders to grant more individual freedoms to its citizens.

Reagan, while decreasing domestic spending, increased military spending.

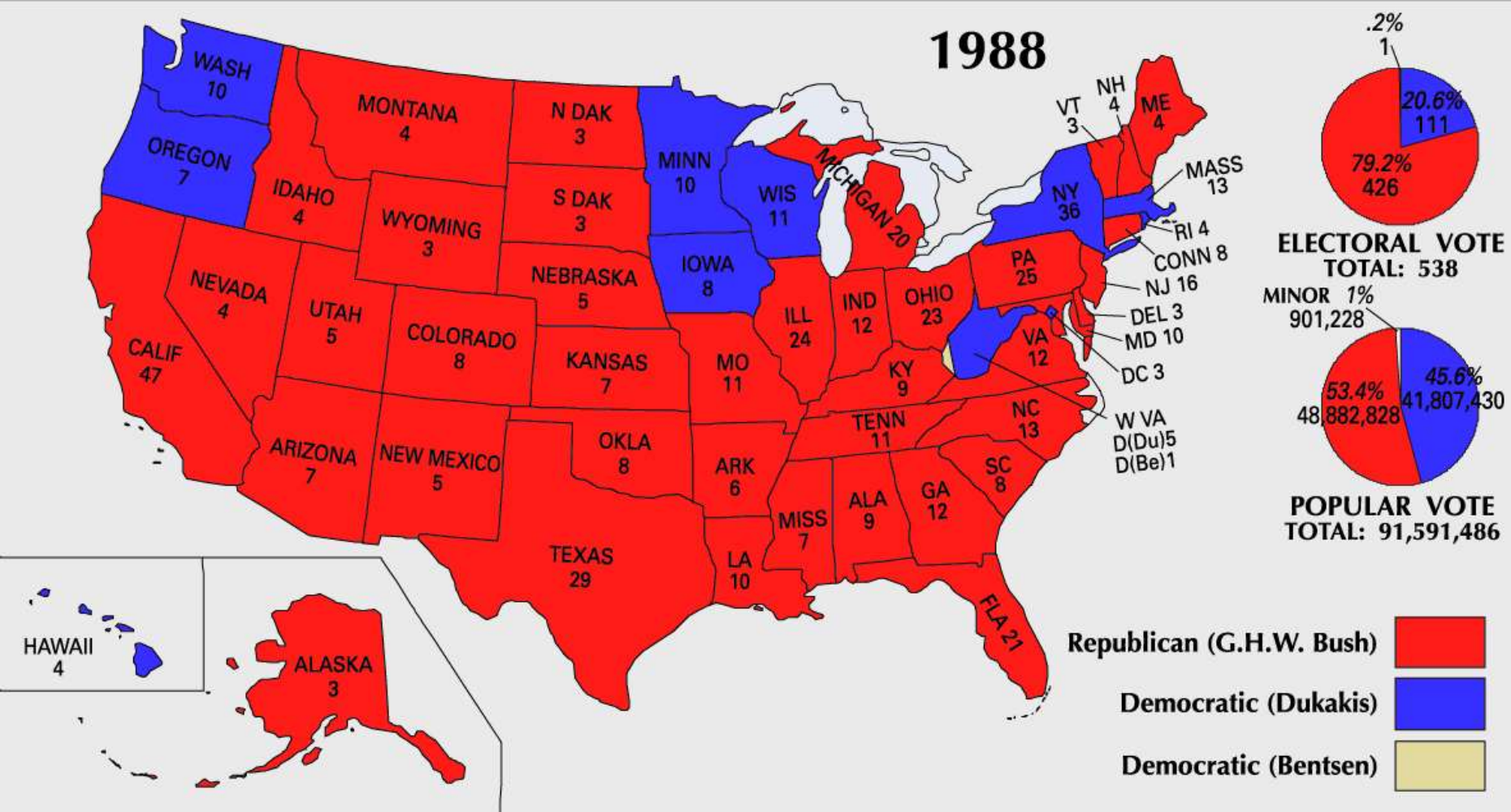
Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev (right) instituted the policies of *glasnost* (openness) and *perestroika* (restructuring) that led to economic changes in the communist nation.

Glasnost =openness; easing Stalinist laws to limit individual freedoms

Perestroika =restructuring; opening up Soviet economy to free-market mechanism



1988



COMMUNISM UNDER FIRE

As George Bush took office, communism around the world was under fire.

Spring 1989: student uprising in China demanding democratic reforms;
Beijing crushed uprising

Eastern Bloc countries experiencing problems

Gorbachev warned countries such as Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia that the USSR would no longer be providing them with military assistance in order to cut back on military spending

“Iron curtain” was beginning to fall in Europe as movements spread in Eastern Bloc countries

FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

Reagan famously encouraged Soviet leader Gorbachev to end Soviet control of its satellite nations.

“Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!”

October 1989 – Berlin Wall torn down

Reunification of communist East Germany and capitalist West Germany



COLD WAR COMES TO AN END

On Christmas Day in 1991, Gorbachev resigns as leader of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union is dissolved into 15 individual republics including Russia, the Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

The collapse signified the over 50 year standoff between the US and the Soviet Union known as the Cold War.



Source: Sue Ann Kime and Paul Stich, *Global History*, N & N Publishing (adapted)

START I & START II

President Bush and new Russian President, Boris Yeltsin worked to dismantle the large amount of nuclear warheads that had been built up over the past four decades

START I signed in 1991 (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), drastically reduced number of warheads in both countries

START II signed in 1993 further reduced number of warheads, with added promise of US aid for Russian economy



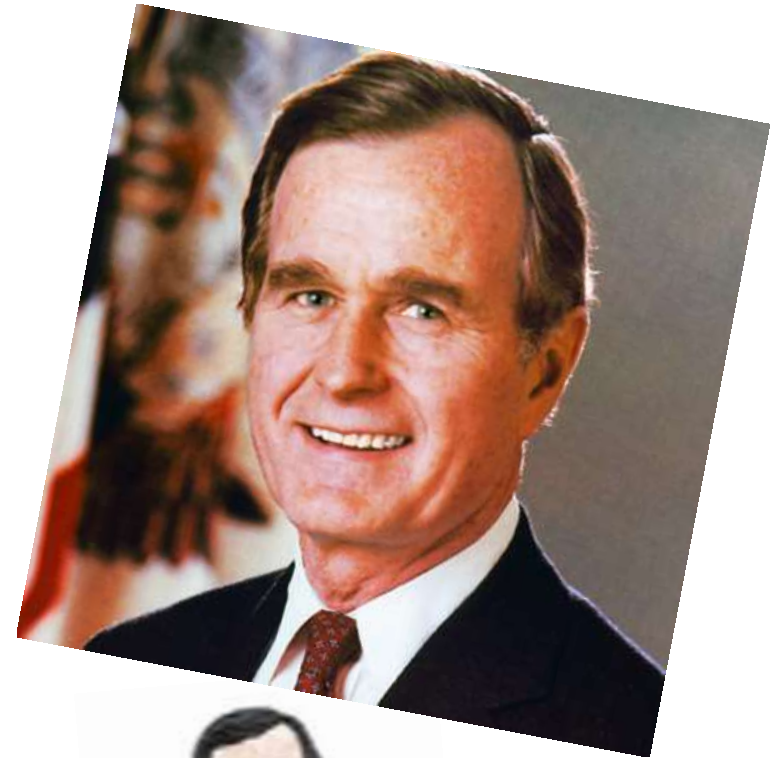
GEORGE H. W. BUSH

Reagan's VP George H.W. Bush wins the presidency in 1988.

Remembered mostly for guiding the US through the Persian Gulf War (the 1st Iraqi War).

August 1990 – Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi army invade neighboring Kuwait

US sends in troops to turn back the approaching Iraqi Army and liberate Kuwait.



G. H. W. Bush



LIVING IN A MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY

World was becoming globalized through mass communication and the Internet

Immigration increased between 1965 and 2000

Increased immigration led to the reemergence of nativism

Many neo-nativists focus energies on limiting undocumented workers' access to public services (education, medical care, etc.)

Some have even pushed to make English the official language of the US

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DEBATES

Debates over affirmative action continued

Some cited the ruling of the Supreme Court that the University of California's admission system could result in "reverse discrimination," where more qualified white applicants might be denied in favor of less qualified minority applicants

Later, in 1996, Proposition 209 was passed barring affirmative action laws in the state of California

Several other states followed suit, passing laws to stop affirmative action

THE CLINTON PRESIDENCY

William Jefferson "Bill" Clinton served as the 42nd President of the United States.

Worked to reform healthcare and welfare

He was challenged by disunity on Capitol Hill; after the midterm election in 1994 Congress was in the hands of Republicans under the leadership of House Speaker Newt Gingrich

Opposition from Republicans and Conservative Democrats prevented him from passing healthcare reform, but he was able to make reforms to welfare

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) removed all tariffs on trade between the United States, Canada, and Mexico.



IMPEACHMENT AND ACQUITTAL

Clinton's second term was consumed with defending himself against charges of personal and political misconduct

The two charges were for perjury and obstruction of justice.

- The perjury charge arose from Clinton's testimony about his relationship to Monica Lewinsky during a sexual harassment lawsuit brought by former Arkansas state employee Paula Jones.
- The obstruction charge was based on his actions during the subsequent investigation of that testimony.

Both counts fell short of the Constitutional two-thirds majority requirement to convict and remove an office holder.



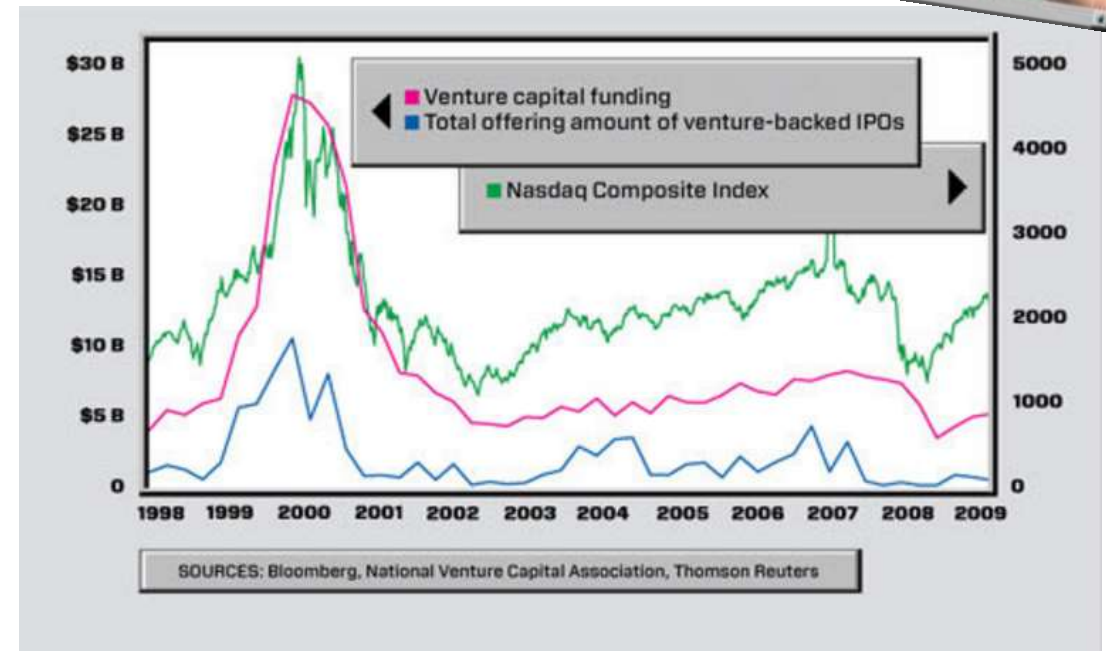
BUDGET SURPLUS & DOT-COM BUST

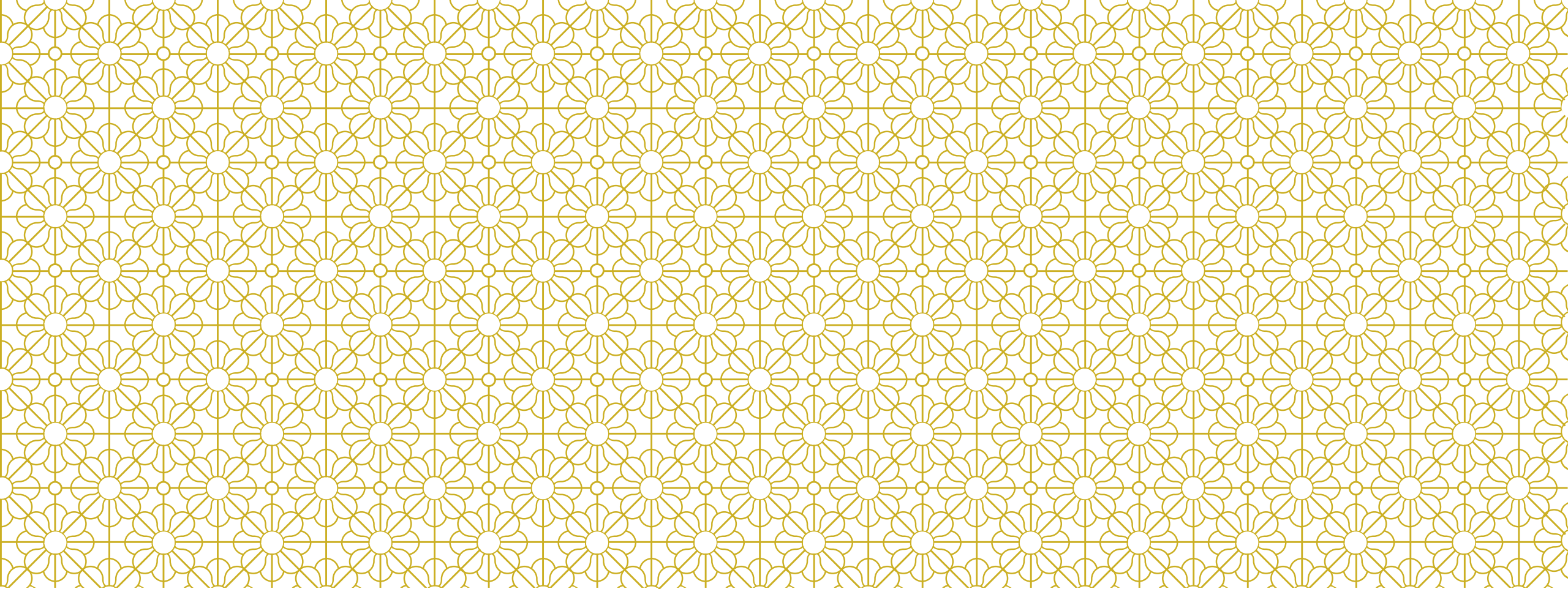
The American economy grew rapidly during the Clinton years

When he left office, the US enjoyed a massive budget surplus

The historic growth of internet-based businesses between 1997-2000 came to a halt as many of these new “dot-coms” failed

The Dot-Com Bust caused a mini-depression during the beginning of President Bush’s first term





21ST CENTURY |

PRESENT-DAY GRAYING OF AMERICA

The baby boomers of WWII are now reaching later stages of life

The “graying” of America began in the mid-1990s and will continue through the 2050s

The number of Americans over 65 will increase as baby boomers age and improved health care increases the average life span

It is projected that $\frac{1}{4}$ of all Americans will be over the age of 85 by the year 2030

The effects of this demographic shift are still being debated

SCI-FI BECOMES A REALITY

What was once the stuff of science fiction movies and literature became reality between the years 1965 and 2000

Advances in biotechnology, mass communications, and computers have brought the world together, bringing excitement and danger along with progress

Y2K (AKA MILLENNIUM BUG)

Due to a minor issue with some computers that had not been coded to update calendars into the new century (1999 ⇨ 2000)

Some people prepared for the end of the world as power grids, banks, businesses, etc. were expected to shut down from the chaos; dooms day preppers worried and waited on New Years Eve

Many computers could be successfully programed to fix the glitch before New Years and the world did not end



ADVANCES IN HEALTH

Through advances in medicine such as organ transplant, artificial life support, and advanced drug therapy, human life can be extended greatly

Previously deadly bacteria can now be treated easily with antibiotics

Some diseases still have a very deadly effect --in an effort to find cures for diseases such as AIDS, cancer, and diabetes, researchers mapped the entire human genome in 2003

Medical researchers have been experimenting with using human stem cells in an effort to regenerate damaged cells to cure a variety of illnesses

The use of embryos in stem cell research has proven to be highly controversial in the US

ADVANCES IN COMMUNICATION

Portable communication in the 1960s was only an idea that appeared in spy stories

The first portable telephones were introduced in the 1980s at prices only the wealthy could afford

Cable changed television in 1970s and 1980s because cable programs are not held to the same standard as broadcast networks and can push the boundaries with more explicit programming

Cable news stations changed television news into a 24-hour affair

Satellite communications opened up the world to television audiences, as news from around the world can be transmitted in seconds

The World Wide Web developed from smaller networks of computers

Bill Gates developed the technology to create the personal computer

By the late 1990s almost every person in the US had used the Internet at some point

GLOBALIZATION

In the 21st century, the US is linked to a broader global economy in a way that it never has been before

Economic crises in other parts of the world can affect the US



FEAR OF TERRORISM

For most of the 20th century, the US remained isolated from the effects of terrorism

In 1995, when the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was destroyed by a bomb that killed 168 people

Timothy McVeigh (an American and right-wing extremist) and two other accomplices were convicted

In the meantime, Islamist groups opposed to American foreign policy and presence in the Middle East were forming in countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, Syria, and Afghanistan

Al-Qaeda led by Osama Bin Laden had established a training camp to prepare members to attack Western targets

Al-Qaeda began by attacking the World Trade Center in 1993, causing minimal damage but killing six people

2000 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The election was a contest between Democratic candidate Al Gore and Republican candidate George W. Bush.

Bush narrowly won the November 7 election, with 271 electoral votes to Gore's 266.

The election featured a controversy over who won Florida's 25 electoral votes, the recount process in that state, and the unusual event that the losing candidate had received more counted popular votes than the winner.

This elections led to election reform movements designed to improve the counting of votes and the way people voted.

THE BUSH PRESIDENCY

George Walker Bush served as the 43rd President of the United States.



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The September 11 attacks were a series of coordinated suicide attacks by al-Qaeda upon the United States

19 Islamist terrorists affiliated with al-Qaeda hijacked four commercial passenger jet airliners.



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The hijackers intentionally crashed two of the airliners into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City.

Both buildings collapsed within two hours, destroying at least two nearby buildings and damaging others.



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The hijackers crashed a third airliner into the Pentagon.



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The fourth plane crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

The crash happened after some of its passengers and flight crew attempted to retake control of the plane, which the hijackers had redirected toward Washington, D.C.



THE WAR ON TERROR

After September 11, Bush announced a global War on Terrorism.

Bush ordered the invasion of Afghanistan to overthrow the Taliban regime.

- The invasion was called Operation Enduring Freedom.
- On October 7, 2001, U.S. and Australian forces initiated bombing campaigns.
- The United States is still involved in Afghanistan to this day.

The invasion of Iraq commenced on March 20, 2003 and the Iraqi military was quickly defeated.

- In an effort to remove threatening dictator, Saddam Hussein
- He was refusing to cooperate with UN weapons inspections, and there was a fear that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction
- The United States withdrew from Iraq in 2011, but conflict and insurgency continues in Iraq

THE OBAMA PRESIDENCY

The election of 2008 was a historic election because Barack Obama became the first person of color to be elected to the presidency.

The youth and minority voter turnout was significantly higher than previous elections.

His platform in 2008 centered upon “Hope and Change”

Best remembered for the controversial Health Care Reform (Obamacare) successfully enacted during his presidency

Also remembered for the elimination of Osama Bin Laden the prime target of the War on Terror after the 9/11 attacks



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The world's population continues to grow at a rapid rate

It is unknown whether or not the planet will be able to sustain future growth

Contemporary environmental issues: genetically engineered food, overpopulation, global warming, resource conservation, and natural disasters

The nation faces serious choices regarding resource conservation, energy resources, and environmental protection

CURRENT EVENTS IN US HISTORY

The economy –Recession of 2008-2012

Government gridlock –Government shut down

International diplomacy

Continuing wars in the Middle East

Civil Rights Debates

What else???????



AP PRACTICE TEST LEQ CHOICES

Compare and contrast the policies of the New Deal and the Great Society.

Compare and contrast the leadership and economic policies of presidents Ronald Reagan and Franklin Roosevelt.