

The Unfinished Journey: America Since World War II

By William H. Chafe


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This popular and classic text chronicles America's roller-coaster journey through the decades since World War II. Considering both the paradoxes and the possibilities of postwar America, William H. Chafe portrays the significant cultural and political themes that have colored our country's past and present, including issues of race, class, gender, foreign policy, and economic and social reform. He examines such subjects as the Vietnam War, the civil rights movement, the origins and the end of the Cold War, the culture of the 1970s, the rise of the New Right, the events of September 11th and their aftermath, and various presidencies.

Now thoroughly revised and updated, the seventh edition of *The Unfinished Journey* combines and reorganizes several chapters. The former Chapter 14, "New Rules, Old Realities," is now divided into two chapters. The new Chapter 14, "An Era of Political Malaise," covers the political history of the 1970s. It is followed by Chapter 15, "A Divided Culture, A Divided Society," which assesses the shifting cultural landscape of the 1970s and the emergence of major fissures in the social system of the nation. The final chapter contains substantial new material on the administration of George W. Bush, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the election of 2008, and the first year of Barack Obama's presidency. Brilliantly written by a prize-winning historian, *The Unfinished Journey*, Seventh Edition, is an essential text for all students of recent American history.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

From 1941 to 1984, the United States achieved an amazing record of economic growth while witnessing the decline of its diplomacy and the fragmenting of its society. Author Chafe recounts the period in an exceptionally well-written study that bristles with telling anecdotes and quotations. His interpretation of events prior to 1968 is fairly routine but is supported with a sparkling density of statistical detail. However, after that signal date, his writing becomes more impressionistic and fails to fully account for the emergence of the New Right. The shift of traditionally liberal Jewish voters and the disaffection of blue-collar workers away from the left requires further research. For informed laypersons as well as scholars and specialists.

James L. Jablonowski, History Dept., Marquette Univ., Milwaukee

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Review

"Still the best-written text on the period."--Paul Barrett, Illinois Institute of Technology "Beautifully written. . . . Unquestionably the finest history of the post-World War Two era."--Lewis H. Carlson, Western Michigan University "The Unfinished Journey still makes our students feel the history of the postwar era and is unsurpassed in its civil rights coverage."--Mollie C. Davis, Queens College

About the Author

William H. Chafe is Alice Mary Baldwin Professor of History at Duke University. He is the author or coeditor of several books, including *Remembering Jim Crow: African Americans Tell About Life in the Segregated South* (2008), *The Rise and Fall of the American Century: The United States from 1890-2009* (OUP, 2007), *A History of Our Time: Readings on Postwar America*, Seventh Edition (OUP, 2007), *Private Lives/Public Consequences: Personality and Politics in Modern America* (2005), and *Never Stop Running: Allard K. Lowenstein and the Struggle to Save American Liberalism* (1998). He is a former president of the Organization of American Historians and his books have been recognized with the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award (1981), the Sidney Hillman Book Award (1994), and the Lillian Smith Book Award (2003).

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Domingo Adams:

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