

# Timeline of the Degeneration of the “Golden Generation”

1940's	Aldous Huxley introduced to hallucinogens by Aleister Crowley
1945	Death of Franklin Roosevelt - abandonment of post-war anti-colonial perspective Atomic Bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki
1946	Mass production of television sets begins Benjamin Spock - <i>Common Sense Book of Child Care</i>
1947	Levittown opens, beginning “suburbanization” of America Howdy Doody premieres - First daily children's TV show (runs till 1960, to be followed by Captain Kangaroo, Romper Room, etc.)
1948	HUAC anti-communist hearings (to be followed by McCarthy hearings) Kinsey Report - “Sexual Behavior of the Human Male” (Rockefeller Foundation) <i>Cybernetics</i> published - Norbert Wiener
1949	Soviet Union detonates its first nuclear bomb
1950	Congress for Cultural Freedom founded (at Berlin Conference)
1950-53	Korean War
1951	<i>Catcher in the Rye</i> published (existential teenage angst) Film - <b>The Day the Earth Stood Still</b>
1953	Hydrogen bomb detonated at Bikini Thorazine (first tranquilizer) introduced Second Kinsey Report - “Sexual Behavior of the Human Female” Playboy magazine publishes first issue
1954	Rock Around the Clock - first rock & roll hit <i>Doors of Perception</i> published - Aldous Huxley <i>Lord of the Rings</i> published (launches "fantasy" genre) Scientology founded (spawns EST and other “personal improvement” cults)
1955	First Government mandated national air raid drill 6 Gallery poetry reading (San Francisco) launches Beat Movement - Kerouac, Ginsberg, McClure, Snyder, etc. <i>Howl</i> published - Alan Ginsberg Ginsberg takes peyote; Huxley takes LSD; Anais Nin takes LSD RCA signs Elvis Presley Disneyland opens Micky Mouse Club on TV five days a week. (Mousecater clubs recruit millions of boomer children) <i>Catch 22</i> published Film - <b>Rebel Without a Cause</b> <i>Eros &amp; Civilization</i> published - Herbert Marcuse MK-ULTRA project launched (CIA & Rand Corp)

<b>Mid-50's</b>	New Math spreads through public schools
<b>1956</b>	<i><b>On the Road</b></i> published (written 1951) - Jack Kerouac Founding of Pugwash Conference
<b>1957</b>	American Bandstand on TV (Rock & Roll 5 days a week in your living room)
<b>(1957-58)</b>	recession
<b>1958</b>	Alan Watts ( <i><b>The Way of Zen</b></i> ) takes LSD with Huxley
<b>1959</b>	<i><b>Lady Chatterly's Lover</b></i> declared not obscene by U.S. Supreme Court (to be followed by Henry Miller's books, thus legalizing pornography) Ken Kesey's first LSD trip at Menlo Park Vet. Hospital - Gregory Bateson Ginsberg given LSD by Bateson SF Mime troupe founded <i><b>Naked Lunch</b></i> published - William Burroughs Dobie Gillis on TV (First Beat inspired TV show; also Route 66, etc.)
<b>1959 - 1964</b>	Folk Music - Kingston Trio, New Christy Minstrels, Joan Baez, Jim Kweskin, Peter Paul & Mary, Phil Ochs, etc.
<b>1960</b>	May - 160 million Americans participate in 7th National Air Raid Alert First oral contraceptives introduced First LSD trip by Timothy Leary <i><b>Growing up Absurd</b></i> published - Paul Goodman <i><b>Summerhill, A radical approach to child rearing</b></i> published - A.S. Neill Leary publishes <i><b>Tibetan Book of the Dead</b></i> (Grateful Dead name)
<b>1961</b>	Berlin Wall erected Leary starts Harvard LSD experiments World Wildlife Fund founded (Julian Huxley, et al)
<b>1962</b>	Cuban Missile Crisis Esalen Institute founded - (spawns T-Groups, consciousness raising, etc.) Port Huron statement of SDS - (birth of anti-labor New Left) <i><b>Silent Spring</b></i> published - Rachel Carson Bob Dylan's first album
<b>1963</b>	Kennedy Assassination Film - <i><b>Dr. Strangelove</b></i> Betty Friedan's <i><b>The Feminine Mystique</b></i> launches feminist movement
<b>1964</b>	<i><b>Triple Revolution</b></i> published (Robert Hutchins' Fund for the Republic) <i><b>One Dimensional Man</b></i> published - Marcuse Merry Pranksters founded Beatles on Ed Sullivan (75 million watch; they take name from Beats) First Baby Boomers enter college Shindig premiers on prime-time TV (followed by Hullabaloo)

<b>1965</b>	<p>Acid tests start in California - (LSD still legal)</p> <p><b>Rappaport Report</b> released (London Tavistock Institute)</p> <p>Ralph Nader's <b>Unsafe at Any Speed</b> - (beginning of 'consumer' movement)</p> <p>Hare Krishna founded</p>
<b>1966</b>	<p>Trips Festival (Jan 21-23, 1966, San Francisco)</p> <p>"Eve of Destruction" released (fastest song in history to #1 on pop charts)</p> <p>Mamas &amp; Papas - California Dreaming</p> <p>Masters and Johnson's <b>Human Sexuality</b> published</p> <p>Anton LaVey founds Church of Satan</p> <p>"Black Power" movement launched (Black Panther Party - Oakland, CA; Stokely Carmichael)</p>
<b>(1966-67)</b>	Massive escalation of Vietnam War (more than 200,000 flee to Canada)
<b>(1967-1971)</b>	Series of Monetary shocks
<b>1967</b>	<p>March on Pentagon (first big anti-war demonstration)</p> <p>Human Be-In - San Francisco (Leary, Ginsberg, Watts, Snyder, McClure)</p> <p>Summer of Love - Haight-Ashbury, Fillmore concerts, Diggers ("Do your own thing," "Today is the first day of the rest of your life"), Zap Comics</p> <p>Monterey Pop Festival (first big rock concert)</p> <p><b>Rolling Stone</b> magazine founded</p> <p><b>Hair</b> opens in NYC ("Age of Aquarius," "Masturbation can be fun")</p> <p>Yippies founded (Hoffman, Rubin, Krassner)</p> <p><b>Trout Fishing in America</b> published</p> <p>Films - <b>The Graduate</b>, <b>Battle of Algiers</b></p> <p>R.D. Laing's <b>Politics of Experience</b> published (Tavistock Institute)</p> <p>Music -Get Together, Sgt. Peppers, All You Need is Love, Sounds of Silence, If you're going to SF, Good Vibrations, Turn Turn Turn</p> <p>First Superbowl (initiates Roman-style mass spectator sports cult)</p>
<b>1966-69</b>	<p>Spread of Counterculture ideas on campuses, etc. -</p> <p>Books - Hesse (<b>Siddhartha</b>), <b>Stranger in a Strange Land</b>, Wilhelm Reich, etc.</p> <p>Occultism - Transcendental Meditation, Gurdjeff (Ouspensky), Theosophy, Buddhism, I-Ching</p> <p>French Existentialism - Sartre, Camus, Genet, Artaud, Cocteau, etc.</p> <p>Organic Food cult starts - Macrobiotics, etc.</p>
<b>1968</b>	<p>Film <b>I am Curious, Yellow</b> declared not obscene by Supreme Court, effectively legalizing pornographic movies</p> <p>Ehrlich's <b>The Population Bomb</b> published</p> <p>Leary's <b>Politics of Ecstasy</b> published</p> <p>Beatle's "Yellow Submarine"</p> <p>Massive university campus demonstrations (Columbia, etc.)</p> <p>Chicago Democratic Convention</p> <p>Assassinations of Martin Luther King &amp; Bobby Kennedy</p>

<b>1969</b>	Woodstock Earth Day (founding of mass-based environmentalist movement)
<b>1970</b>	<i>Sexual Politics</i> published - Kate Millet Film - <b>Jesus Christ Superstar</b>
<b>1971</b>	Alvin Toffler's <i>Future Shock</i> published (followed by <i>The Third Wave</i> ) <i>Our Bodies, Our Selves</i> published EST founded (followed by Lifespring in 1974) - leading to today's 'personal improvement' cults (Tony Robbins, Peter Lowe, etc.) Aug 15 - Collapse of the Bretton Woods monetary system
<b>1972</b>	<i>Limits to Growth</i> published (Club of Rome) NSSM-200 issued by Henry Kissinger (population reduction) <i>The Way to an Ecology of Mind</i> published- Bateson <i>World Without Borders</i> published - Lester Brown <i>The Female Eunuch</i> published - Germaine Greer Last Apollo Mission to Moon (ending Kennedy's space commitment) <i>Joy of Sex</i> published Unification Church (Moonies) established in USA
<b>1973</b>	Roe vs. Wade
<b>1974</b>	Bucharest UN Conference on World Population (J.D. Rockefeller) <i>High Times</i> magazine founded (drug legalization) First "oil shock"
<b>1975</b>	Cable TV begins Microsoft founded <b>Rocky Horror Picture Show</b> premieres in London
<b>1976</b>	Apple Computer founded Jimmy Carter elected (energy conservation; drug decriminalization)
<b>1977</b>	Film - <b>Star Wars</b>
<b>1979</b>	Three Mile Island (the beginning of the end for the American nuclear industry) Film - <b>The China Syndrome</b>
<b>1981</b>	MTV airs first broadcast (rock videos 24 hours a day)
<b>1985</b>	Stewart Brand founds "The Well" (Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link), the first internet-based "community." Brand, a former "Merry Prankster," had published the <i>Whole Earth Catalog</i> in 1968
<b>1980's and beyond</b>	"Globalization" of the world economy Expansion of the Internet; propaganda for "new information economy" Spread of "end times" pseudo-Christian churches Emergence of "family values" as the dominant culture among aging Boomers