

Chapter 1 : CQ Press - January

Publication of Historic Documents of carries through a ninth year the project launched by Congressional Quarterly with Historic Documents The purpose of this continuing series of volumes is to give students, scholars, librarians, journalists and citizens convenient access to documents of basic importance in the broad range of public.

Life in the s Courtesy of Rolling Stone The eighties were a decade where style reigned supreme, and few artists had as much style as Madonna. Her hit "Material Girl" spoke volumes about what is remembered as an image-driven decade. One major transformation was the new, expanded role of television. Cable television, although available in the s, became standard for most American households. This change ushered in a whole host of new programming. Nickelodeon catered to the children of the baby boomers with youth-centered daily programming, and to the boomers themselves by broadcasting reruns of classic sitcoms at night. Americans could catch up with the news at any time by watching CNN. MTV, or Music Television, brought a revolution to the recording industry. MTV broadcast music video interpretations of popular songs. Stars like Madonna and Michael Jackson were much more able to convey an image as well as music. Rude, crude, and with a bad attitude, the "Garbage Pail Kids" collector cards took the U. The videocassette recorder VCR allowed Americans to record television shows and watch them according to their own schedule and view feature films in the privacy of their own homes. Perhaps the product that introduced the greatest change in American lifestyles of the s was the personal computer. Introduced by Apple in , the personal computer allowed management of personal finances, quick word-processing, and desktop publishing from the home. Businesses could manage payroll, mailing lists, and inventories from one small machine. Gone were the ledgers of the past. The Silicon Valley of California, which was the home to many of the firms that produced the processors that made these computers run, became the symbolic heart of the American technological economy. With the growing economy, many middle-class Americans rushed to invest in the bullish stock market and to flaunt their newly acquired wealth. Young Urban Professionals, or yuppies, replaced the socially conscious hippie of the previous generation of youth. Yuppies sought executive track jobs in large corporations and spent their money on upscale consumer products like Ray-Ban sunglasses, Polo apparel, and Mercedes and BMW automobiles. The health and fitness industry exploded as many yuppies engaged in regular fitness routines. The computing revolution of the s began with the introduction of the Apple II series. Sometimes referred to as the "Model-T" of computers, the Apple II allowed businesses to streamline operations and brought the wonders of digital data management into the home. The hedonism of the s was being re-evaluated. This deadly disease was most commonly communicated by sexual contact and the sharing of intravenous needles. With the risks of promiscuous behavior rising to a mortal level, monogamy and "safe sex" with condoms were practiced more regularly.

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Chapter 6 : Life in the s [www.nxgvision.com]

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