Social Reforms and the Welfare State in America after the New Deal (1945-1969)

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Abstract : Throughout American history, many American presidents have tried to create new reforms to enhance the living conditions of the American citizens and promote their welfare. Among these reforms were those dealing with health care, education, as well as social security, which would facilitate accordingly the evolution of the American welfare state. After the New Deal, from 1945 to 1969, American presidents sought to carry out and enlarge the scope of the welfare state that emerged during the Roosevelt Administration by introducing new social reforms. Yet, there were some American presidents who succeeded, and there were some presidents who failed. The task of this research work is to depict the postwar period from 1945 to 1969. Some light will be shed on the main causes that led to the delay of many programs from 1945 to 1960. Further, the focus will be on the main factors that contributed to the reappearance of many social reforms and the dramatic expansion of the welfare state all along the 1960s.

Keywords: new deal, great society, medicaid, medicare, war on poverty, social reforms, welfare reforms

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