SYLLIBUS

TURNING POINTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY - IN OUR LIFETIME

Winter, 2019, Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30
Facilitator: Jim Grow (303)761-4118 or jgrow@q.com

“Turning Points” is a study and discussion of historic changes that have changed our life, thoughts and opinions, to what they are now! These pivotal events happen wherever a society makes a break with its past and enters a new phase of development. Often, we are not aware of all of the new influence that these changes have made in the redirection of our opinions and possibly even our deep “life values”.

Each break with the past has introduced us to new themes of history that unfold as the study of surprises. New directions are made by both towering figures or by many faceless and nameless people who take matters into their own hands and achieve historical change. “Turning Points” is a study of choices made by people and nothing is inevitable.

We shall concentrate on eight major events, in our lifetime, from which there has been no retreat. Each of these changes has had its effect on our cultural expectations and hopes. We will remember, examine and discuss both where we have been, and how we have evolved with the times. Our joint experience might also elicit insight as to, where we are going next. This will be fun.

Week 1 - January 15th – 1950 – Tuning In - The Birth of Television.

Week 2 - January 22nd – 1960 – The Power to Choose - The Pill.


Week 4 - February 5th – 1969 – Disaster - The Birth of Environmentalism.


Week 7 - February 26th – 1989 – Collapse – The End of the Cold War.


**Discussion will be based on excellent lectures by Professor Edward T. O’Donnell of the College of Holy Cross, entitled “Turning Points of American History” and assembled by The Great Courses Company.**