






- 1  **End of Vietnam**
- 2  **Media and the War**
 - First war covered on a daily basis
 - Americans saw reports and video of dead and wounded soldiers
 - Material was not as censored as past wars
 - Because of new technology, TV
 - Americans saw reports on TV that contradicted government reports
- 3  **Turning Point**
 - Doves – opposed the war
 - Hawks – supported the war
 - Tet Offensive – 1968
 - Public opinion turns against the war
 - Saigon under attack, US stronghold
 - Chicago Convention – 1968 Democratic Convention
 - 10,000 antiwar protesters gather outside hotel, riot breaks out, when police are called to clear out rioters
 - Robert F. Kennedy assassinated
 - Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated
- 4  **Turning Point**
 - Nixon wins election of 1968
 - Henry Kissinger was Nixon's key foreign policy adviser
 - Kissinger & Nixon come up with plan to end war called "Vietnamization"
 - Withdraw US troops and turn fighting over to South Vietnamese
 - Secretly Nixon planned to expand war into Cambodia to cut North Vietnamese supply lines
- 5  **Nixon and Vietnamization**
 - Early in 1969 Nixon begins bombing of Cambodia
 - Wants to show North Vietnamese that US is willing to use force to end war and even expand the war
 - Nixon and Kissinger conceal the Cambodia air strikes from the American people, Congress, and key military leaders
 - Even Secretary of the Air Force

6  **War Ends**

- Antiwar protests rage at home with tragic shootings at Kent State and Jackson State
- Pentagon Papers are released which shows the government misled the American people about the war
 - leads to more distrust b/w American people and their government
- 1972 War still going on, re-election time

7  **War Ends**

- Nixon vs. George McGovern of South Dakota
 - Nixon wins in landslide, carries 48 states
- 26th Amendment passed, lowered voting age from 21 to 18
- January 27, 1973 cease-fire agreed to
 - US withdraws remaining troops
 - Nixon secretly pledged US would come to South Vietnam's aid if fighting resumed
- 2 years later, 1975 SV military gov. collapses, NV invades, US rushes to get thousands of Americans out
- April 30th, 1975 South Vietnam surrenders unconditionally to North

8  **Aftermath**

- The feared Domino Theory never happens
 - Mini fights b/w communist leaders of China, Vietnam, and Cambodia break out
- International communism not as unified a world force as US feared
- More than 2 million Americans involved in Vietnam
 - More than 58,000 killed; 300,000 wounded; 2,500 missing in action
- Vietnam Vets met with stony silence, treated very poorly

9  **Aftermath**

- War shakes confidence in government
- War Powers Act passed to prevent another Vietnam
- Reaffirms Congress's constitutional right to declare war by setting a 60-day limit on the presidential commitment of US troops to foreign affairs
- Vietnam War Memorial built in 1982 to honor all of those who

died in Vietnam