

charm, intimidation, his tall stature, and a willingness to get in other politicians' personal space to maximum effect in one-on-one conversations. His relentless pursuit rarely failed to deliver the response he wanted. Johnson perfected this tactic when he was in the Senate and continued to use it as president to get members of Congress to agree to his legislation.

**Kennedy, Robert F.** – The former attorney general and brother of the slain president entered the Democratic primary race in the spring of 1968 and quickly became a favorite among the nation's youth. Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles during the primaries on June 5, 1968.

**Kerner Report** – In the wake of a series of deadly riots in 1967, notably in Detroit, this report condemned the lack of economic opportunities for the nation's black communities.

**Kerry, John** – This 1966 graduate of Yale University served a brief tour in Vietnam as a Naval Reserve officer and returned to serve as the spokesperson for the antiwar organization Vietnam Veterans against the War. He later served as Senator from Massachusetts from 1985 to 2013 and then as Secretary of State.

**Khmer Rouge** – In the wake of the U.S. invasion in 1970, this Cambodian local insurgency toppled the republican government and installed the most brutal Communist regime in Southeast Asia.

**Khrushchev, Nikita** – The leader of the Soviet Union from 1953 to 1964 led the USSR out of Stalin's terror regime and by the end of his tenure accepted the need for limiting the arms race. Khrushchev led the Soviet Union during the U2 spy plane incident and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Kinsey Reports** – Alfred Kinsey's 1948 and 1953 publications on male and female sexuality challenged popular assumptions about heterosexual norms by showing the prevalence of both premarital sex and homosexuality.

**Kissinger, Henry** – A foreign policy expert, Nixon's National Security Advisor and Secretary of State was chiefly responsible for the President's foreign policy, including détente and the administration's strategy in Vietnam.

**La Raza Unida** – Students in Denver formed this political party that built on Mexicans' deep historical roots in ancient southwestern American civilizations.

**Leary, Timothy** – Fired from the faculty at Harvard, the psychologist became a leading figure in the counterculture for his celebration of LSD as a way to escape the constraints of normal society.

**Letter from a Birmingham Jail** – Arrested and in solitary confinement after a public march in April 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. wrote an [open letter](#) in response to three local clergymen's request for patience.

**Levitt & Sons** – These builders pioneered mass-production techniques in suburban housing construction. Their developments—like Levittown—became synonymous with postwar middle-class communities.

**Loving v. Virginia** – In this case from 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Virginia law banning interracial marriage between black and white spouses, thereby also terminating similar anti-miscegenation laws in sixteen states.

**Lunch counter sit-ins** – Civil rights activists publicized discrimination at public accommodations by sitting at lunch counters and not leaving when they were refused service. The first sit-in began in February 1960 in Greensboro, North Carolina. By the end of April, the practice had spread to seventy-eight cities, involving over 70,000 participants.

**Malcolm X** – Born Malcolm Little, the Black Power activist joined the Nation of Islam during a prison sentence for burglary in the late 1940s. By 1964, he left the NOI in disillusionment and became an advocate for black nationalism in his own right.

**McCarthyism** – Anti-communist fears in the United States reached a fever pitch between the early 1950s and mid-1950s, thanks in part to Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy's (R) unfounded accusations of disloyalty and treason. McCarthyism refers to the practice of charging people as communists without sufficient evidence.

**McGovern, George** – The 1972 Democratic presidential candidate from South Dakota suffered from his embrace of the antiwar movement, his support for innovative but not thought-out policy ideas, and an unsupportive party organization.

**Medicaid** – Passed with Medicare, this 1965 healthcare provision helped provide healthcare for families who could demonstrate the need for public assistance.

**Medicare** – This was a Great Society program that provided health insurance for all Americans over the

