

# The Progressive Era

What kinds of action can bring  
about social change?

# What were the problems “progressives” were responding to?

- A. Unregulated industry (Trusts/Monopolies)
- B. Quick urbanization (development of cities and suburbs causing harsh conditions)
- C. Social Darwinism (survival of the fittest)
- D. Inequalities – unfair practices
- E. Political corruption – bribes and lies
- F. Moral decline of Americans

# What is a “progressive”?

- People pushing for reform dealt with problems caused by industrialization and immigration.
- Focused on solving crime and political corruption within America

# Who is uncovering all this “Dirt”?



## **Muckrakers -**

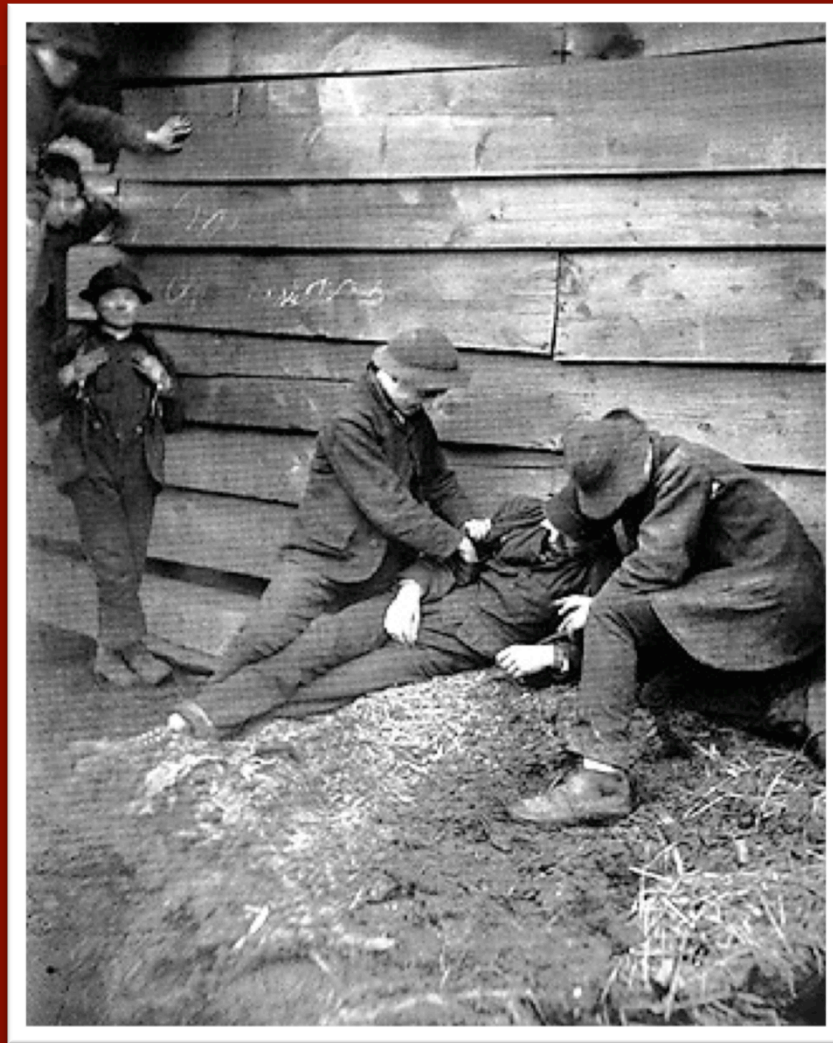
- Journalists/writers who uncover abuse and corruption in a society
- Analogy – raking up the dirt and filth, or muck, on the ground.
- Nicknamed by President Teddy Roosevelt

# Who is uncovering all this “Dirt”?

## Jacob Riis

- *How the Other Half Lives*
- Published photographs and descriptions of the poverty, disease, and crime that afflicted many immigrant neighborhoods in NYC

## A Growler Gang in Session (Robbing a Lush), 1887



## Street Arabs in Sleeping Quarters, c.1880s





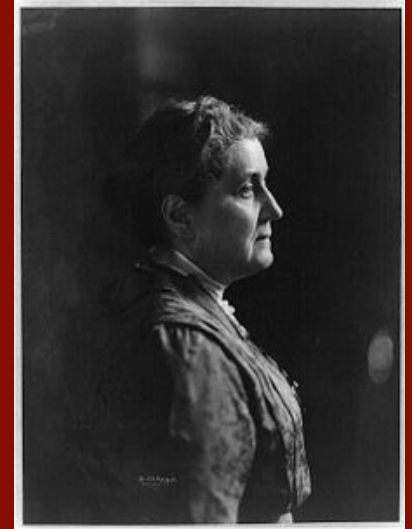
## Family Living in a one-room tenement





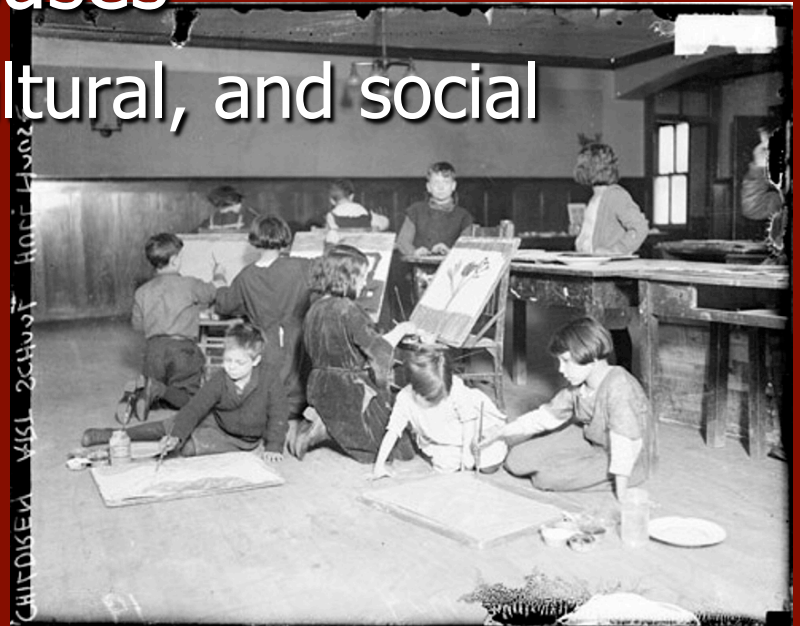
# Jane Addams

- Founded Chicago's Hull House
- One of the most influential members of the movement
- Won the Nobel Peace Prize for her advocacy of racial justice, quality of life issues, infant mortality, and better care for the aged



# Settlement Houses

- Community centers in slum neighborhoods that provided assistance to people in the area
- Over 400 settlement houses
  - Provided educational, cultural, and social services
  - Visiting nurses
  - YMCA



# Hull House

- Community center where neighborhood societies learn English, talk politics, medical services, nursery for children with working parents, etc.



# Public Education

- There is an increase in public education opportunities