### Police
Policemen were a unique symbol for Britain = friendly bobby --> every police officer has it own beat. But in 1960 life became motorized. So did crime and so did the police. Police officers stopped being the good guy that they once were. They were dealing with a lot of demonstrations and with the activities of the 1960s counterculture --> police officers --> troubleshooter, fuzz, cops, pigs.

There is no national police force for Britain. All police employees work for one of the 50 forces, each with responsibility for a certain geographical area.

MET = Metropolitan Police.
CID = Criminal Investigation Department.
IRA = Irish Republican Army.
NWS = Educating people in crime prevention.

New Scotland Yard = the well known building which is the headquarters of its CID. The police lost much of their positive image in the second half of the twentieth century because trust in the honesty of the police declined.

### Police (cont)
Aware of this problem, police invest much time and energy in public relations --> Foot patrols, name-badges, not carrying guns.

**Miscarriages of justice:**
- The Bridgewater Four
- Cardiff Three
- M25 Three

**Miscarriages of IRA:**
- The Guildford Four
- The Birmingham Six
- Maguire Seven

The police cannot hold a person for more than 24 hours without formally charging this person with a crime (exception: terrorist suspect: 28 days without charge)

The fear of crime has increased:
1) The ability to catch criminals
2) Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

### Justice
The system of justice in England and Wales is an adversarial system. That means that in criminal cases, it is not the business of any court to find out the truth. Its job is simply to decide yes or no to a particular proposition after it has heard arguments and evidence from both sides.

The civil justice has its own courts. All civil cases go through country Courts & High Courts. Most of the cases are dealt in magistrates courts.

Magistrates are also known as: Justice of the Peace --> not trained lawyers! They are just ordinary people with a good reputation who have been appointed to the job by a local committee and they do not get a salary or fee. When a JP says guilty, then they refer the case to a Crown Court, where a professional lawyer acts as the judge.

Jury = 12 selected people random from the list of voters. In order to reach a verdict, there must be agreement among at least ten of them. If this does not happen --> the judge has to declare a mistrial and the case must start all over again with a different jury.

It is also the judge's job to impose a punishment (the pronouncing sentence) on those found guilty. A convicted person may appeal to the Court of Criminal Appeal in London to have the conviction quashed or to have the sentence reduced.

In Britain there are 2 types of lawyers:

1) Solicitors
2) Barristers

The highest court of all in Britain is the Supreme Court.

### Terms
**Beat** = A particular neighbourhood which it was the police's duty to patrol.

**MET** = Metropolitan Police.

**CID** = Criminal Investigation Department.

**IRA** = Irish Republican Army.

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### British People
In the days when Britain ruled the waves, British people had a rather patronizing attitude towards people in other countries and their ways.

But this attitude has dissipated with the dismantling of the empire.

These days, many foreign ways of doing things are admired and there is a greater openness to foreign influences.

Britain lost its empire in the second half of the 20th century BUT small remnants of it remain: e.g. Bermuda, Gibraltar, the Falklands/Malvinas etc.
### British People (cont)
- They all wish to continue with the imperial arrangement
- British government: these wishes cause pride but also embarrassment and irritation
- Pride: they suggest how beneficial the British imperial administration must have been
- Embarrassment: because the possession of colonial territories doesn't fit the image of a modern democracy
- Irritation: it costs money
  - In 1982 the British government spent hundreds of millions of pounds recapturing the Falklands from the invading Argentinians:
  - Popular support at home
- Rare modern occasion of active patriotism (people felt here Britain was finally doing something right and doing it well)

Opinions about military interventions since then:
- 1990’s: Britain’s role in the Gulf War and in Balkan peacekeeping efforts
- Majority acceptance
- 2003: government’s decision to go to Iraq
- Provoked heated debate
- Provoked largest public demonstration

### Britain’s armed forces
Britain has a loyalty towards the government of the British armed forces.
1) The Royal Navy
2) The Royal Air Force
3) The Army
(Navy = oldest, king alfred, senior service)

### Britain’s role in world affairs
There is no general agreement on what Britain’s ‘commitments in the world’ are and on whose behalf they should be undertaken.

- Feeling in the country that Britain should be able to make significant contributions to international ‘peacekeeping’.
- Question about nuclear weapons
  - Since the 1950s the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) has argued that Britain should cease to be a nuclear power, on economic and moral grounds
  - But they don’t have consistent support

### Relationship USA & UK
Public feeling about the relationship = ambivalent
- On the one hand: reassuring to be so diplomatically close to the most powerful nation in the world and the shared language gives people some sense of belonging with America
- On the other hand: some mild bitterness about the power of the USA, little distrust but remarks are often made about Britain being only a fifty-first state of the USA

* In any case: relationship declined since Britain joined the European Communities. The opening of the channel tunnel emphasized that Britain’s links are now more to Europe
* Also: tourist statistics: before the 1990’s: mostly American tourists in Britain, now the majority of visitors are from Europe

### European Relations
BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARDS ITS MEMBERSHIP OF THE EU
- Attitude = ambivalent
- One hand: as an economic necessity and a political advantage
- The other hand: acceptance has never meant enthusiasm
- Dominant attitude: profound lack of enthusiasm, tends to be seen as a necessary evil
- Causes: The British sense of apartness
- Results in the fact that EU laws and regulations are often viewed as interference by a ‘foreign’ organisation (according to some politicians and the media: these rules are a threat to the autonomy and independence of the UK)
- (according to the average person: threat to the British ‘way of life’)
- News about EU regulations pertaining to everyday life and habits seems to irritate the British.
European Relations (cont)

- Possible reason: the British tend to take laws and regulations seriously and to interpret them literally. Also, they like to have as few laws and regulations as possible because they believe law should be applied consistently and precisely. But they see a lot of rules coming from Brussels.

- What is even worse is that many of the rules seem to be about standardization, what means restriction, boring uniformity and inconvenience to them!

Relations inside Great Britain

SCOTLAND

Before the 1980s: were happy to be part of the UK but there was always some resentment about the way they were treated by the central government in London. From the mid-1980s onwards: majority of the Scottish population wanted either self-government within the UK or compete independence.

A referendum decided in 1999 that the Scottish Parliament was reborn (300 years after it abolished itself). It has considerable powers over internal Scottish affairs.

Wales

Different situation
Nationalism is felt mostly in the central and western parts of the country but not politically, more culturally.

However: also a growing support of greater self-government.

Great Britain & Northern Ireland

TWO VIEWPOINTS

Catholic viewpoint = nationalist or republican: in support of the idea of a single Irish nation and its republican government

Protestant viewpoint = unionist or loyalist: loyal to the union with Britain.

AFTER THE PARTITION OF IRELAND IN 1920

Northern Ireland was given its own parliament and Prime Minister Protestant majority had always had the economic power in the six counties

Internal self-government allowed them to take all the political power as well.

All the positions of power were always filled by Protestants.

LATE 1960’S

Catholic civil rights movement began and there was a violent Protestant reaction.

In 1969 British troops were sent in to keep order.

- At first: welcomed by the Catholics
- But troops often act without regard to democratic rights and sensibilities

- Violence increased
- British government imposed certain measures which are not normally acceptable in a modern democracy
- Welcome disappeared entirely after 30 January 1972 (Bloody Sunday, troops shot dead 14 unarmed Catholic marchers)

LATE 1960’S (cont)

- Extremist organisations and acts of terrorism increased (IRA started a bombing campaign on the British mainland while Loyalist paramilitaries started committing terrorist attacks in the Republic of Ireland

- Result: British government imposed direct rule from London. There was a hardening of attitudes in both communities and support for extremist parties increased.

First important step towards resolution: Good Friday Agreement of 1998: gave the Republic of Ireland a small degree of power sharing and everybody born in Northern Ireland the right to be a citizen of the Republic. Also it said that the 6 counties will remain part of the UK as long as the majority of its people wanted to.

But sporadic violence and political statements continued.

In 2007: start of internal self-government, with an elected assembly and a cross-party cabinet.
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<th><strong>LATE 1960'S (cont)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Note</strong></th>
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| Changed climate: e.g. ‘First Minister’ (Protestant) and ‘Deputy First Minister’ (Catholic) came from the more extremist wings of their communities but during the ceremony for their new positions they sat chatting and joking together over a cup of tea. | Ulster = name used for the part of Ireland which belongs to the UK. Wales is not in the flag of the Union Jack because they don't like the idea of being fixed into a symbol of the union from which they would like to secede, according to the nationalists. But the Welsh MP asked for a change in the Union flag, they want the Welsh dragon to appear on it somewhere. Jerry = a nickname which was used to denote the German people collectively.
| Three other factors that helped to end the violence and soften extremist views | |
| o The gradual process of righting the economic and social wrongs (which led to the Civil Rights movement in the first place). Catholics now have the same rights as Protestants. | |
| o The events of September 11th 2001 in the USA: helped to persuade terrorist groups to disarm | |
| o The transformation of the south or Ireland during the 1990s from a backward and (in Protestant eyes) priest-ridden country to a modern economy in which the Catholic church has lost most of its former power. (Now, if Northern Ireland gets swallowed up by the Republic, the Protestants would find it less terrible) | |