

Contents

List of Symbolic Events	ix
Preface	xi
I. Introduction	
1. Collective Sadness, Fear, and Anger	3
<i>Social Disruption</i>	7
<i>Newsworthy Events</i>	10
<i>Causal Explanations</i>	14
<i>Psychological Modernity</i>	15
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	19
2. Society as Moral Community	20
<i>Shaping a National Identity</i>	21
<i>Disturbing a National Identity</i>	29
<i>Trusteeship</i>	33
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	36
II. Case Studies of National Trauma	
3. The Great Depression	39
<i>The Crisis of Capitalism</i>	43
<i>Economic Hardship</i>	45
<i>Remedial Action</i>	50
<i>The Legacy of the Great Depression</i>	53
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	55
4. The Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor	56
<i>Lack of Preparedness</i>	59
<i>Internment of Japanese Americans</i>	61
<i>War Mobilization</i>	64

	<i>Perceptions of the Japanese Warrior</i>	66
	<i>Ending the War</i>	68
	<i>Discussion Questions</i>	72
5.	The Fear of Communism	73
	<i>The Korean War</i>	74
	<i>McCarthyism</i>	77
	<i>The Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	81
	<i>Surviving Nuclear War</i>	84
	<i>Discussion Questions</i>	88
6.	The Vietnam War	90
	<i>Conduct of the War</i>	91
	<i>Veterans in Vietnam</i>	93
	<i>Opposition to the War</i>	97
	<i>Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome</i>	100
	<i>The Vietnam Veterans Memorial</i>	104
	<i>Discussion Questions</i>	106
7.	Political Assassinations of the 1960s	107
	<i>The Sanctification of Kennedy</i>	109
	<i>Who Killed Kennedy?</i>	112
	<i>The Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.</i>	115
	<i>A Fragmented Society</i>	117
	<i>Strategies of Nonviolent Resistance</i>	120
	<i>Discussion Questions</i>	123
8.	The Watergate Affair	124
	<i>High Crimes and Misdemeanors</i>	126
	<i>The Morality of Power</i>	131
	<i>The Legacy of Watergate</i>	134
	<i>Discussion Questions</i>	140
9.	Technological Accidents	141
	<i>Space Program Tragedies</i>	142
	<i>Travel Accidents</i>	146
	<i>Three Mile Island</i>	152
	<i>Calamities to Come</i>	157
	<i>Discussion Questions</i>	159

10. Domestic Terrorism, USA	160
<i>Estrangement from Society: The Unabomber, Columbine, and the Bombing of Abortion Clinics</i>	163
<i>Vigilante Terrorism</i>	167
<i>Insurgency Terrorism: Ruby Ridge and Waco</i>	170
<i>Oklahoma City Bombing</i>	173
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	177
11. The Terrorist Attack of September 11	178
<i>Shattered Assumptions</i>	180
<i>Causal Explanations</i>	183
<i>The War on Terrorism</i>	185
<i>Homeland Security</i>	189
<i>The Culture of Fear</i>	192
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	194
III. Epilogue	195
12. Collective Memory	197
<i>Generational Effects</i>	200
<i>Commemoration</i>	203
<i>Popular Culture and Mass Entertainment</i>	209
<i>Links Between the Past and the Future</i>	212
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	214
Bibliography	217
Index	233
About the Author	241