

THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF THE UNITED STATES AS A
MILITARY SUPERPOWER

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Individual Website

Choosing a topic:

From the second I heard the topic for this year's competition I knew that I wanted to create a project on United States foreign intervention. Our foreign policy is currently in the news often, with the ongoing issues of potential United States intervention in Syria and Ukraine. I have always been interested in America's military history and I feel that foreign intervention is a very hot topic of discussion. I originally planned on making my website on the full history of United States intervention, but I soon realized that topic would be too broad. I decided to look at the United States' policy of intervention from when it became a superpower. I had known from previous experiences in school that after WWII the United States became a superpower, which led it to intervene in foreign nations more frequently. In this website I will be covering the three time periods: the Cold War, Post Cold War, and post 9/11.

How I conducted my research:

The first step I took while conducting my research was to watch documentaries on each war. Secondly, I talked to a librarian at the public library and she pointed out some insightful websites where I could find information on important policies in America's presidential history. I also went to *ProQuest Historical Newspapers* to read about and evaluate the feelings of the American people at the time. Then, I conducted interviews with a soldier, who was directly impacted by the war, and a white house official who gave his personal opinion stance on America intervention.

How I developed my project:

I decided to make a website to showcase my project; I felt that this was the best medium to showcase my work. By using Weebly I was able to upload clips from documentaries that I felt would help the layout and the look of my website. I was also able to showcase a plethora of images that I felt would improve the look of my website. I felt that by creating a website I would be able to layer information onto each page, allowing me to present primary sources and documentaries to explain/support my text. I used the website Clipconverter.cc to edit the documentaries, and the program Wavepad to edit the audio.

How my project relates to the theme

My project “The rights and responsibilities of the United States to intervene in foreign nations” clearly connects to this year’s theme- Rights and Responsibilities in History. With the signing of the Atlantic charter, the United States assumed the right to protect the world’s human, democratic, and economic rights. Many interpret this as the United States saying that they will act as the world’s policeman. My project clearly relates to military history by portraying multiple wars in which American troops have fought, and unfortunately, died in. I have also portrayed U.S. presidential history by showing the policies that the sitting Presidents during those wars created and how those policies connect to America’s responsibility to intervene in those wars to protect some combination of human rights, democratic rights, security rights and/or economic rights.

WORD COUNT: 500
