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Preface
Dr. Christie L. Richardson

School Voucher Programs:
Academic Achievement of Students and
Schools in Wisconsin and Florida
(Pages 4-35)
Marrissa D. George, Senior

Iran's Nuclear Ambitions:
Examining the Global Responsibility
Between the United States
and United Nations
(Pages 88-118)
Jeremy L. Roberts, Senior

Click Click Boom:
The Effects the NRA Has on
Assault Rifle Sales
(Pages 36-62)
Jackson May, Senior

Out of Bounds:
Federal Government's Undue Influence
Over State and Criminal Cases
(Pages 119-150)
Zadous L. Pollard, Senior

Media Soldiers:
Propaganda and the Impact on
Promoting Policy in a Time of War
(Pages 63-87)
Antoine A. Washington, Senior

Media Bias in the Courtroom:
Twists and Turns of the
Media and Social Networking
(Pages 151-182)
Markevis B. Greene, Senior

A few words . . .

This publication is the second online volume edition of the *Political Science Review*, which is now titled the *Journal of Political Science*. The name change is a professional one representing the hard work of students in the Department of Political Science and Public Affairs at Savannah State University. In this edition categorically students analyzed issues ranging from individual rights to international relations to finishing with legal assessments. The journal has made its way into the degree program as a benchmark for scholarship success among students reaching the milestone of graduation. Needless to say our students have quickly realized that walking across the stage at graduation is a team effort. Appreciation goes to the faculty and staff on campus, as well as family members and mentors of the students in making this issue a success.

Thank you and enjoy!

Dr. Christie L. Richardson, LP.D

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School Voucher Programs: Academic Achievement of Students and Schools in Wisconsin and Florida

Marrissa D. George, Senior

Abstract

Having a bachelor's degree used to be enough to get you in the career field you wanted and to make the money that you want. In the present-day career fields are now requiring people to have Master degrees or to be working on one. Education has always been an important aspect of American culture, but now it is more important than ever. Reformation is constantly taking place in the education system. If school systems were just as they were fifty years ago, it would not be conducive to students who are learning now. This study is to show the effect school voucher programs have on the public school system. School vouchers give students money to attend schools that are performing better than the ones that they currently attend. The school voucher programs in both Wisconsin and Florida affect the school system by creating a healthy competition between the public schools. This competition to improve schools student's academic scores in turn is improving the school system as a whole.

Introduction

Education in America is mandatory for all citizens up until high school, and highly encouraged post high school, be it community college, technical college, or full four-year university. The public school system has evolved over the many years to make it what it is today. All the reform has had one focus, the student. The student is the most important and key aspect of an education. An education public school system can teach students all they want, but the quality of what they are teaching matters the most. In the United States of America, the public school system is now available to every child for free. The public school system eliminates the problem of parents not being able to afford their child's schooling. Free public school system

programs are available to any child regardless of race, color, gender, or religion. Because of its availability to all, the American public school system is a great one. Regardless of how great it is, this system still lacks in some areas and overall could use some improvement.

Background & Significance

The quality of the public education system in the United States (U.S.) has caused drops in academic ranks of the world. Because of the decline of academic success, lower graduation and retention rates, scholars, politicians, and parents are looking to find a solution; and they want to find it fast. The creation of charter and magnet schools along with acts such as the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act 2001, have all been a product of states trying to find a solution to the education quality problem ("No child left," 2008). Finally, one community in Wisconsin got it right, in what seems to be a new way of creating quality educations and making sure all students have the opportunity to receive it as well.

In April of 1990 Republican Governor Tommy Thompson signed into law the United States' first modern private school choice program called Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Thompson, 2013). This program allows students who live in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin to attend an eligible and participating private or religious school of their choice with no charge for tuition (Evers, 2013). The private schools are then given financial aid from the state to provide for each eligible-student. These funds are known as taxpayer-funded school vouchers. For a student to become eligible, he or she must come from a family household that has an income that is below the federal poverty level based on family size (Evers, 2013).

Another program is the Florida A+ Program in the state of Florida. This program offers redeemable vouchers at private schools to students in public schools that continuously fail the

states accountability test. The purpose and key motivation behind this A+ Program is to generate competitiveness between low-performing schools and private schools (Green & Winters, 2003). Both of these programs have started a trend throughout the education community. Though they are far from perfect they are the beginning of the process of producing quality education for all students possible.

This study will identify the argument of those who believe that the MPCP tears down the public school system by taking away its talent and resources, along with vital public funding (Pietrowiak & Jacobsen, 2001). It will also evaluate the success of the Florida A+ Program and if it has any effect on the public school system that is directly influenced by the program.

Statement of the Problem

Getting schools to go from segregated to integrated was an extremely hard process in America. New ideas are extremely hard to process in America. New ideas, concepts, or situations always come with critic and an advocator. The proponents of the school voucher programs in both Wisconsin and Florida complain of the breakdown of the public school system are created with the implementation of these programs. The implementation of these programs cause students to leave the public schools to attend these voucher provided ones, in turn leaving the public school with the lower class of students to teach. Along with students leaving the schools to attend voucher program schools, teachers are more likely to leave a school with less resources and not the best students to teach for a school that pays more, has more resources, along with better students. With the voucher program drawing away great teachers and resources, it leaves the public school system to fend for itself. Less funding coming in based on school size, better educated or more qualified teachers are not looking for work in these schools, and the overall

morale of these schools are brought down. These are all reasons why proponents are against the school voucher program.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this research is to see whether the Parental Choice Program in Wisconsin along with the Florida A+ Program in Florida has an effect on the success of students and schools in the public school system. The research intends to explore not only the success of the programs, but the affect it has on the students along with the schools achievements in the respective states.

The U.S. government requires all children in the country to attend school for the first 18 years of their life. The U.S. also encourages all people to seek secondary education after high school. Not only is it encouraged but also for many career fields it is required for their top-earning employees to have a bachelor's and for some a master's degree. Due to the rising standard of education in the workforce, this research applies to all those in the U.S. who have gone through the public, private, or home education system. This study is significant especially for anyone who is putting their child through school presently, or has future plans of providing for children in the public school system. Funds that provide for the public school system come from taxes paid for by American citizens. Because of this one fact, this research is extremely important for all people in the United States. It is very important that everyone stay active when it comes to the education community. People should do everything possible to receive and give the best education possible.

Research Question

Wisconsin and Florida are just two states that are working hard to establish a higher education public school system that will give their students a better quality education.

Proponents do not believe these programs are beneficial while advocates do.

Research Question: Whether the Parental Choice Program in Wisconsin and the Florida A+ Program in Florida have created a change in the academic achievement of schools and students who remain in traditional public schools.

Definition of Terms

Academic Achievement: The academic success of a student determined by test scores and achievement of school based on students academic test scores. The academic achievement of a school in this research is determined by test scores of students in the school districts. The success and scores of the end of year test administered in the public schools also determine the student's academic achievement.

Advocators: A group, organization, or persons who are in support of a cause, situation, program, and/or topic. In the case of this research, advocates are those who are supportive of the school voucher program.

Creaming: Skimming off the best students who rise to the top in public schools and would be sought by private schools.

No Child Left Behind Act (2001): "The purpose of this title is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging State academic achievement standards and state academic assessments" ("No child left," 2008).

Private School: “A school that is owned or operated by a private person, firm, association, organization, or corporation, rather than by a public agency” (Edwards, n.d.)

Proponents: A group, organization, or persons who are against a cause, situation, program, and/or topic. In the case of this research, proponents are those who are not supportive of the school voucher program.

Public School System: “defined as a kindergarten through grade twelve and/or adult education that is supported through public funds” (Edwards, n.d.).

School Vouchers: State-funded monies given to students from low-income households to attend a school, private or public, outside their districts. The amount of how much each student receives varies.

Literature Review

Education has always caused heated discussions between scholars, politicians, and parents. Great thinkers, such as Pestalozzi, Montessori, and President Eisenhower, have over the decades reformed the way the public school system worked. The system has gone from introducing public and free primary schools in the 1800's, to allowing females to get a higher education, to giving African-Americans the opportunity to attend public segregated schools. Through the many years of reform it has all eventually led to a public school system available to any person regardless of their race, gender, or religion. Though all these changes to the school system did not happen overnight, and caused a lot of hard work and some legislation to be written, the goal of having a free and public school system was accomplished, but nothing great ever stays the same.

The NCLB Act 2001, charter and magnet school creation were two different ways that politicians tried to make a change within the educational system. But before the NCLB Act of

2001 was even thought of the MPCP was created by a hardworking governor who knew that no matter how much faith he has in the school system, there needed to be a change and/or improvement to it. When Republican Governor Tommy Thompson decided that action needed to take place to give parents a choice in their children's education along with giving students an opportunity to a valuable education, the impact it had on the community was not something that was expected (Thompson, 2013). MPCP might have been the first program of its type implemented in the school system, but officials in the education world in the state of Florida saw the results of the MPCP and followed suit by creating a prototype called the Florida A+ Program. The A+ Program gives vouchers for private or public schools to students in public schools that continuously fail the states accountability test.

Just like any changes or fixes concerning the public school system in the U.S., both of these programs has stirred many debates. This literature review identifies the argument of those who believe that the MPCP and the Florida A+ Program tears down the public school system by taking away its talent and resources, along with vital public funding (Pietrowiak & Jacobsen, 2001). Advocators reason the debate by reminding the public that it is important to give every American child an equal opportunity towards the best quality education possible; that is what the voucher system achieves (Pietrowiak & Jacobsen, 2001). Yet advocators for both voucher programs strongest argument is the creation of competition among the school systems, and how it improves the education standard for both public and private schools. This research will explore whether the Parental Choice Program in Milwaukee and the Florida A+ Program has created a change in the academic achievement of schools and students who remain in traditional public schools.

Competition Among the Schools

Since the creation of the MPCP a few other states in the United States have tried to adopt or create similar programs to better their public school system. This literature review is going to examine a voucher program in Florida. Florida has a very aggressive program called the Florida A+ Program that has caused a lot of controversy around the nation. The Florida A+ Program offers redeemable vouchers at private schools to students in public schools that continuously fail the states accountability test. The purpose and key motivation behind this A+ Program is to generate competitiveness between low-performing schools and private schools (Green & Winters, 2003). Advocators of the program believe that low-performing schools will have no choice but to change their methods to attract more students along with talented and resourceful teachers. The Florida A+ Program works in a unique way. Each school is held accountable of their performance by a state test called the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) (Green & Winters, 2003, p.1). Both students and schools are held accountable for their results on this statewide test. Students must pass it to advance to the next grade level and to graduate. The schools are graded on an A through F scale. If the school receives an F twice in a four-year period, the students then becomes eligible to receive vouchers that can be used at other public or private schools (Green & Winters, 2003).

After the implementation of this Florida A+ Program, it needed to be determined if the voucher program was initiating a competition between the schools. According to Green and Winters, there are five categories that determine these factors. The first school category is Voucher Eligible schools. These are the schools that have received F's for four continuous years and have the most incentive to improve their schools performance to retain their students (Green & Winters, 2003). The second category is Voucher Threatened Schools. These schools have

gotten an F for three continuous years and are eligible for the voucher program if it receives another F. So while they are not currently forced to compete with the competitive markets, these schools can face it sooner than they might want to. The third category is the Always D Schools. While these schools have never received an F grade they have always received a D and nothing else (Green & Winters, 2003). These schools perform low on their FCAT and are in more danger than other public schools of receiving an F in the next administration. Always D Schools do not face the same incentives as the Voucher Threatened Schools to improve their performance but they are tiptoeing on a very thin rope. Next category you have is the Ever D Schools. These schools have received a least one D but have never received an F. All Always D schools are considered to be apart of this category also. These schools manage to avoid receiving failing grades, therefore they face no voucher competition and usually make no improvements compared to the Always D category. The last category is the Formerly Threatened Schools. These schools have received an F in the first year of the FCAT grading administration but have not received an F since. These schools can receive another F and it not be considered apart of the four-year time period (Green & Winters, 2003). Though these schools do not face the voucher program threat any longer they do have the stigma of receiving an F and therefore should improve just as other schools that actually receive F grades.

Green and Winters analyzed all schools and their performances that fit into these five categories to the rest of Florida's public schools between the years 2001 and 2003. Their results showed that voucher competition does exist in Florida and is leading in the significance of student academic improvements in public schools (Green & Winters, 2003). Voucher Eligible Schools made the most improvements by 9.3 scale score points using a mean scale score on a scale of 100-500 (Green & Winters, 2003). Voucher threatened schools made the next highest

gain of 6.7 scale score points. These scores give confidence that the actuality or the prospect of voucher competition initiated larger gains than other public schools (Green & Winters, 2003, p.11). Always D and Ever D schools, which are not faced with the same threat of vouchers as the first two categories listed above, made some academic gains but not as large as the Voucher Eligible and Voucher Threatened Schools. This strengthens Green and Winters confidence that the voucher competition is the cause of the competition between the school systems.

Though these results seem to prove the Florida A+ Program is a successful and purposeful program some may argue that a change of demographics or simply the “failing stigma” has caused schools to continue to improve (Green & Winters, 2003). Regardless of the debate look at the argument that though there is an improvement of student’s academic performance, there is still a breakdown in the public school system created by the school voucher program.

Public School Breakdown

Marcia Parker is a principal at Turner Elementary located in Washington D.C. Her school is dealing with the loss of students along with resources ever since the implementation of school vouchers in her area. “...Ms. Parker said, dismissing vouchers and charters as 'a way of raping the public schools of students and resources’” (Schemo, 2006, p.1). She, along with other scholars, is not interested in the school voucher program because they believe it tears down the entire public school system.

Opponents of school vouchers claim that the programs drains the public school system of resources along with taking some of the schools best students, a method called “creaming” (Forster, 2011, p. 3). Public school systems around the nation have already been dealing with budget cuts, and never having enough money for school resources. Without the resources there is

a breakdown in learning. Highly qualified teachers are more likely to go to a public or private school that has better resources along with better performing students, rather than go to a low-income district school. This in turn leaves public schools with the less qualified and skilled teachers to teach students with no resources in already low-income communities. Proponents fight back this common ideology by stating from the years 1900 to 2006; all the school choice programs in the nation combined saved \$422 million for local public school districts, and \$22 million for state budgets. Not all the money that is allocated for each student in a public school system is lost whenever a student chooses to use the voucher program (Forster, 2011, p. 4).

Advocators claim that there is no benefit to using the program, that there has been no improvement in academics in either public or private schools. While advocates claim this to be the case, it has been shown in previous studies that improvement has occurred with the creation of school voucher programs. School systems are now competing to keep the best students in their schools; some just compete to keep students in their schools period. With the voucher program available to parents, they are able to hold accountability for their child's academic performance. If they do not like the results they are receiving they are able to take their child, if qualified, and go to a better school in their eyes. This option of removing their child from a school due to performance, under our current education system, is not available to every household, especially the low-income households. Since public school system is the number one education venue in the country, there is not one holding it accountable for the results they produce (Forster, 2011). Proponents think that if anything, the voucher program will create competition, therefore it will not break down the public school system, it will only improve it.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin implemented one of the first parent school choice programs. There was plenty of criticism from the start of the program. The same arguments are still being

argued. But now there are results that are available that give more insight of how the program truly is doing, and if it is bringing down the public school system. There have been six empirical studies done on the MPCP. All the studies have shown that the program does effect the public school system, but in a positive light (Forster, 2011). It has improved math, science, and reading scores in all areas where there are more voucher programs than in other places that are none or just a few (Forster, 2011). This is a great example of what the proponents have been arguing, that vouchers create a healthy competition. Another reason why people think that the public school system is being torn down by school voucher program is the process of taking all the good students away from it. Good students who could have sought out and chosen a private school had it not been for the money factor. This argument is hard to support due to the fact that there are certain requirements for a student to receive student voucher benefits.

School voucher programs are far from being flawless or perfect. Considering there are only a few states that have implemented these type of programs, including Washington DC, Florida, and Wisconsin, these programs still have a lot work to do in regards to getting nationwide acceptance. The few states that have implemented these programs have given hope to the education community that there is a way to help increase the quality of the education that students receive.

Research Methodology

The purpose of this analysis is to explore the school voucher programs implemented in the Wisconsin and Florida public school systems. The programs were put into place to give students from lower income areas a sound and quality education, as well as create a healthy competition among the public and private school systems; to propose that a student and schools performance is based on the implementation of the school voucher programs. Specifically this

study examines the correlation between school voucher programs and school's academic performance.

Research Question: Whether the Parental Choice Program in Wisconsin and the Florida A+ Program in Florida have created a change in the academic achievement of schools and students who remain in traditional public schools.

This chapter described the research design, the role of the researcher, the data collection, analysis and interpretation procedures, and the limitations that arose from the methodology selected for this investigation.

Research Design

The research design will consist of understanding the history of the school voucher programs in the United States and more specifically in the state of Wisconsin and Florida. The research will also touch base with The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and how school vouchers are a product of this act. The research will continue on with taking a closer look at the public school districts in Wisconsin and Florida; how certain schools in both states public school districts are eligible to take part in the Parental School Choice Program. Along with eligibility of the schools, the research will go on to tell the requirements of a student to be a recipient of the school vouchers. This researcher will explore among those who are recipients of the school vouchers the link between their school choice and their performance in the school, along with the schools overall academic performance. An interesting argument that the research will explore is if there is a correlation between schools performance and the threat of school voucher programs.

Data Collection & Analysis

This researcher is qualified for conducting research in the area of school vouchers based on the researcher's college career path in political science. The researcher also has first hand

personal experience of attending schools in the public school system along with family who have attended schools with similar programs as the Parental School Choice Program. The researcher is in the Navy Reserves and will be utilizing the public or private school system in the near future with her children.

The researcher will be collecting the data through a literature review, systemic and empirical studies, comparisons and statistical analysis of data. The researchers plan is to gather information from scholars who have researched and explored the same or similar topic. After a thorough analysis of the literature collected, this researcher will gather information from statutes such as, The No Child Left Behind Act and other studies that involve the public school system and school vouchers. The researcher will compare statistics and analyze data collected on the school voucher programs in Wisconsin and Florida. The research will end with explaining the results of the data.

Data Interpretation & Limitations

Overall, the researcher will use tables and graphs to present and analyze the data found on school performances. This researcher will also incorporate lists that will compare and contrast those students who are recipients of the voucher program and their test scores with the students who attend public schools and their test scores. The data will show the correlation between the voucher programs and the academic success of the students in the public school system. Throughout the rest of the research there will be certain limitations for the researcher. One of the limitations that the researcher will face is not being able to contact actual persons who have been affected by the public school system. Another limitation for the researcher is the lack of current information on the programs in both Wisconsin and Florida. The pilot programs have data but currently there is no data getting collected on the programs.

Data Presentation and Analysis

In this section the researcher will present the data analysis that was conducted. The data was collected and organized based off the responses to the problems presented in the chapters above. The focus of the research data was to determine if there is a correlation between the improvement or failing of schools with the implementation of the voucher program. The two programs that data was collected and analyzed is from the Florida A+ Program and the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program in Wisconsin. The researcher's objective was met through the analyzing of previous research done on the two programs. The MPCP collects yearly results in how well students do by examining the scores for the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE). For the Florida A+ Program the FCAT scores are examined and analyzed. Both these tests give the researcher knowledge on whether there is an incentive to improve the standards in the public school, and if the voucher program had any effect on that. The researcher will present possible alternatives to school improvements, which will determine if school vouchers were an active factor.

Research Question: Whether the Parental Choice Program in Wisconsin and the Florida A+ Program in Florida have created a change in the academic achievement of schools and students who remain in traditional public schools. The data collected and analyzed by the researcher predicts that the voucher programs in both Wisconsin and Florida have had an impact on the academic achievement of students who remain in traditional public schools.

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program

The type of data that has been collected in regards to the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program is slightly different from how the Florida A+ Program has been analyzed. The Florida A+ Program data was analyzed by putting schools in the state of Florida in a specific category.

The FCAT scores determined the category that these were placed in and the grade the school receives each administrative year. The category tells the researcher whether the school voucher program, Florida A+ Program, gave the schools incentive to improve its academics, in fear of having to be affected by it. The MPCP data was measured by comparing the results of one year's state exam, WKCE, with another year.

Table 1

State Level Results Reading and Mathematics Fall 2012

			State Level Exam Results Fall 2012							
			Reading				Mathematics			
Grade	# Enrolled	# Required to Test	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
3	61301	61257	31	33	27	8	14	38	40	8
4	60720	60677	31	36	27	6	13	38	40	9
5	60258	60206	27	38	29	6	13	36	39	12
6	61417	61380	25	40	30	5	14	33	37	15
7	62344	62305	21	41	33	4	17	35	36	11
8	61845	61777	18	41	35	5	20	35	33	12
10	64219	64114	18	43	34	4	18	36	34	10
Grand Total	432104	431716	24	39	31	6	16	36	37	11

Table 1 shows the MPCP results from the state reading and mathematics exam that is given to all students in public school. In Fall of 2012, Wisconsin students in grades 3 to 10 take a state exam every year that measures if students are progressing academically. A student's academic progress also is a telltale sign of whether the school and its curriculum are efficient for students.

Table 2

State Level Results for Reading and Math Fall 2011

			State Level Exam Results Fall 2011							
			Reading				Mathematics			
Grade	# Enrolled	# Required to Test	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
3	60267	60214	32	35	27	7	13	36	42	9
4	60134	60070	33	32	27	8	13	35	41	11
5	60988	60932	32	35	26	7	14	34	39	13
6	61854	61793	26	38	30	6	16	38	36	10
7	61493	61435	23	39	33	5	17	35	36	12
8	61462	61394	23	45	30	3	19	37	34	11
10	65165	65025	19	39	36	6	21	35	33	11
Grand Total	431363	430863	19	39	36	6	16	36	37	11

Table 2 demonstrates that in Fall 2011, 431,716 students enrolled in the public school system were opted to take the reading test for the state. Thirty-one percent of the students were proficient in reading while six percent of students are advanced. The year before 431,363 students enrolled in public schools took the test and scored higher in proficiency, thirty-six percent, and six percent advanced. In this same timeframe, 431,716 enrolled students took the mathematics portion of the state exam. Thirty-seven percent of those students scored proficient, while eleven percent scored as advanced. In 2011, 430,863 enrolled students scored a little bit higher than the previous year. The results of this data represents that public school students are slightly improving in the mathematic field, but failing to improve in the reading area. Though the state schools are improving this process results with more students being scored as proficient, the results below prove that the MPCP has more minimal proficient students improving their scores.

Table 3

MPCP Test Scores in Reading and Mathematics Fall 2012

			Milwaukee Parental Choice Program Fall 2012							
			Reading				Mathematics			
Grade	# Enrolled	# Required to Test	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
3	1859	1872	61	29	9	1	39	47	13	1
4	1893	1872	60	29	10	1	41	44	14	1
5	1896	1866	58	30	10	1	42	43	13	1
6	1888	1859	52	39	9	0	42	42	14	1
7	1842	1819	47	39	12	1	51	36	12	1
8	1766	1754	39	46	13	1	55	34	9	1
10	1296	1153	46	40	11	1	56	33	8	1
Grand Total	12440	12150	52	36	10	1	46	40	12	1

Table 3 displays the test results of students who are participants of the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) in the year of 2012. Of the 12,150 students who took the reading test, there was ten percent proficiency with only a one percent advance. Mathematics showed a twelve percent proficiency in that subject, with also a one percent advance.

Table 4

MPCP Test Scores in Reading and Mathematics Fall 2011

			Milwaukee Parental Choice Program Fall 2011							
			Reading				Mathematics			
Grade	# Enrolled	# Required to Test	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Minimal Performance	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced
3	1730	1707	65%	24%	7%	1%	47%	41%	8%	1%
4	1664	1638	68%	23%	6%	1%	48%	39%	10%	1%
5	1633	1615	63%	26%	8%	0%	48%	40%	9%	0%
6	1647	1635	58%	32%	7%	0%	50%	37%	9%	1%
7	1532	1523	50%	36%	11%	0%	54%	33%	10%	1%
8	1405	1400	45%	41%	11%	0%	60%	29%	8%	1%
10	1038	993	54%	34%	6%	0%	58%	30%	4%	0%
Grand Total	10649	10511	58%	31%	8%	0%	52%	36%	8%	1%

Table 4 test results are very clear as far as the success of the students in Fall 2011. There was a 58% minimal proficiency in reading and a 52% minimal proficiency in mathematics. Zero

percent of the students scored advanced in reading, and out of 10,511 students, only one percent scored advanced on the state test.

Compared to the state exam results, the MPCP has more students score either minimal proficiency or basic, while the state exam has a higher percentage in proficiency and advanced scores. MPCP is retaining their students and maintaining their academics, while the state exam results display the improvement of student's academics.

Florida A+ Program

There has been a large amount of research that has shown that the voucher program has had a great impact on the performance of students who use it (Green & Winters, 2003). Most recently, there has been research and data collected on the impact the voucher program has had on students who are not participating in the program. The analysis collected is from the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 administrations of the FCAT. Demographic information was also collected for every school in Florida along with their school grades for every year since the start of the FCAT was administered in the 1998-1999 school year. The first set of graphs (Figures 1 through 4) compares the four different categories of schools and the average reading and math scores from the administration years of 2001-02 and 2002-03. These scores will allow the researcher to test whether the voucher programs create competition in the school system, which in turn produces improvement in the public school system.

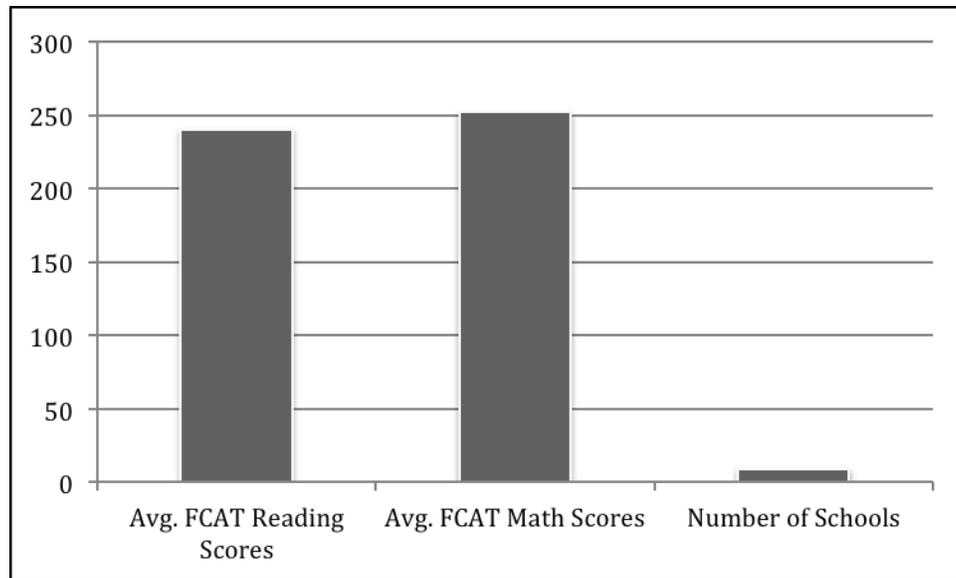


Figure 1. Voucher Eligible Schools Results 2001-2002.

Figure 1 shows that there was nine Voucher Eligible Schools compared and analyzed. These schools have a large population of poor minority students. The percent of students enrolled in the free or reduced price lunch program was 88%, 18% have limited English proficiencies, and only 1% of their students are white (Green & Winters, 2003). The research suggests that these schools are currently facing the greatest incentives to improve their test scores because of the voucher program, compared to the other schools in the four other categories.

In Figure 2 the results of Voucher Threatened Schools from the year 2001-2002 is displayed below.

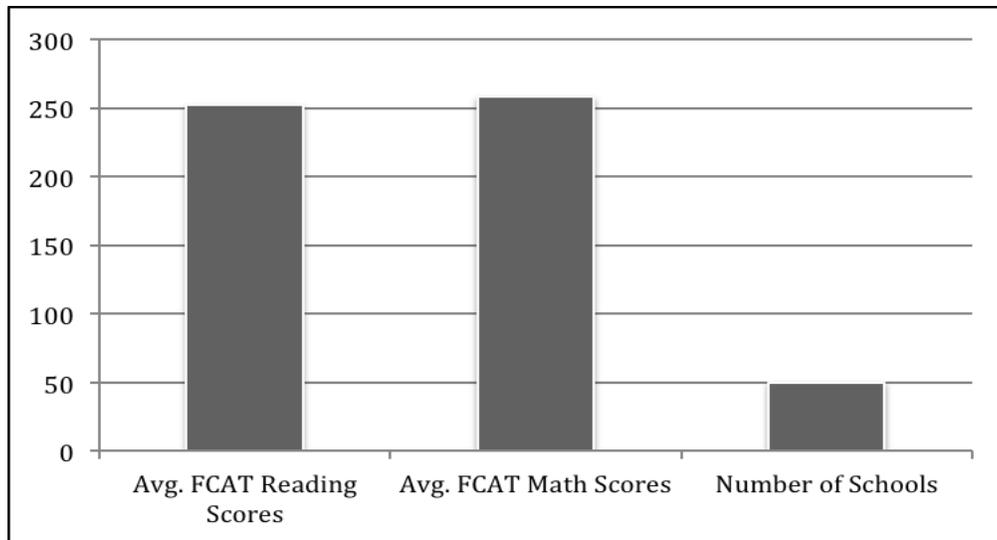


Figure 2. Voucher Threatened Schools Results 2001-2002.

Voucher Threatened Schools have received F scores three years prior to the administration of the 2002-2003 FCAT (Green & Winters, 2003). These schools are not yet dealing with the voucher program, but are facing the threat of voucher program competition. This graph shows the low scores or score of F's gives them the incentive to improve their scores so that the competition does not become a reality.

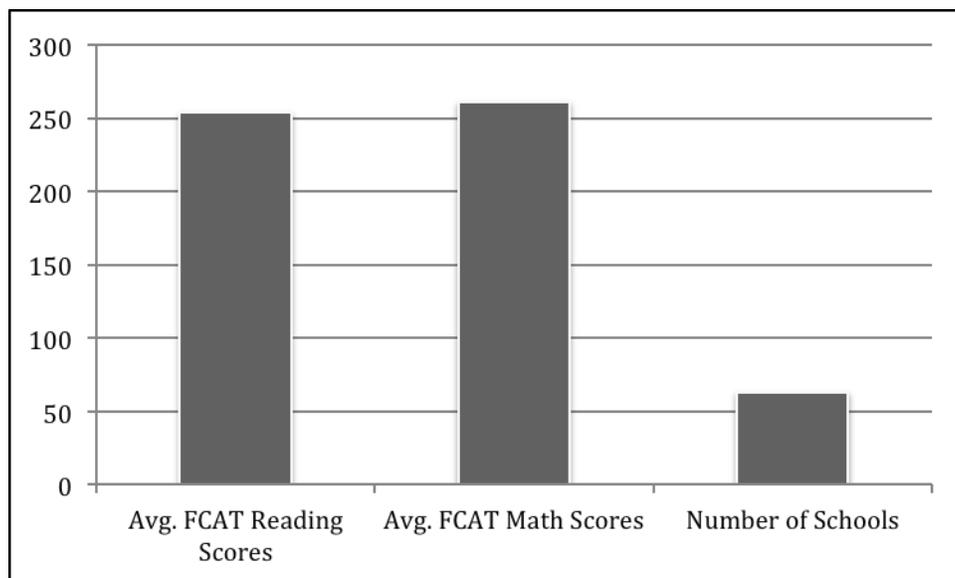


Figure 3. Always D Schools Results.

Figure 3 shows the scores of 63 schools where the research was conducted and analyzed. They averaged scores of 254.2 in reading and 261.2 in math. These schools have about 5% white students, and 77% enrolled in the free or reduced price lunch program (Green & Winters, 2003). Always D schools have never performed well on the FCAT and are in more danger than other schools in receiving an F grade in the next administration. Because of their low performance on tests and their population of students, the schools in this category, though with no current voucher competition, must improve their academics (Green & Winters, 2003). They face receiving an F on their school grade, therefore should have more incentive to improve on their test scores, in fear of placing themselves in another category.

In Figure 4, Formerly Threatened Schools' data is displayed. Formerly Threatened Schools received an F grade in their first year of FCAT grading, but have not received another one since. Because of this they do not currently face the voucher competition. The research was done on 59 Formerly Threatened Schools to see if once the threat of the voucher program was taken away, there were still improvements among the schools. Formerly Threatened Schools have a higher percentage of white students, along with a high percentage of students enrolled in the free or reduced price lunch program.

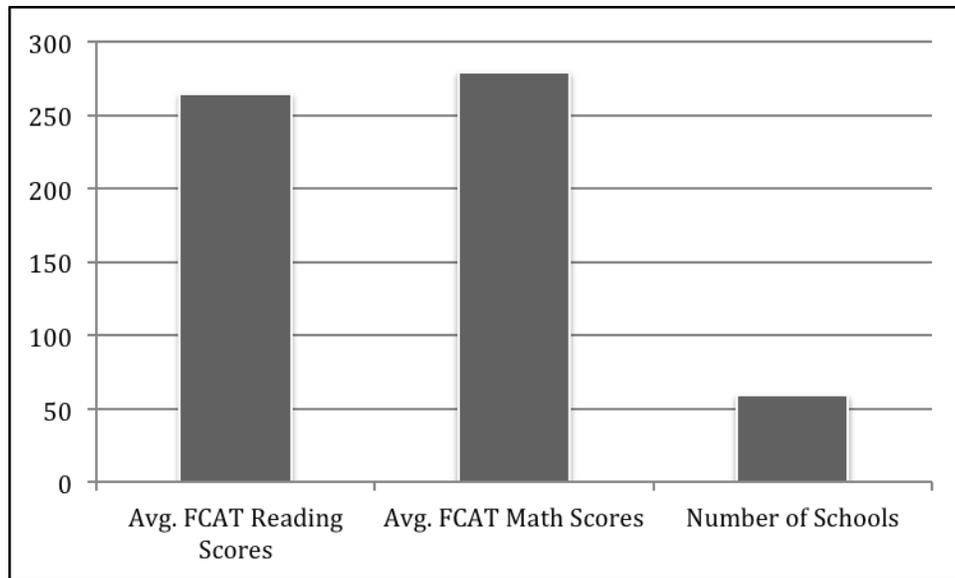


Figure 4. Formerly Threatened Schools.

Educators might say that the voucher program is detrimental for the public school system. But the data proves it otherwise. The MPCP data analysis shows that both state and voucher participant schools are improving and working hard to constantly improve their student's academics. The Florida A+ Program data analysis displays to the researcher that the voucher program is creating a healthy competition among the public and private school sectors. The competition that is created through the voucher program not only gives public schools an incentive to improve their curriculum and to better prepare their students, but also keeps the schools with voucher's constantly improving their scores and schools.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations

While new ideas are extremely hard to process in America, some states have started the process of accepting change. Wisconsin and Florida are two states have made progress in overcoming the effect of change. The school voucher program in both these states has caused both critics and advocates to accept change and look past the old way of things. Proponents of the school voucher programs in Wisconsin believe that the voucher program causes a financial

breakdown in the public school system. Florida's A+ Program is believed to create incentives for public schools to improve their academics, to stay clear of the voucher program. With anything new, there is always good and bad that comes with it. Students who do not participate in the voucher program might suffer in public schools because of the financial breakdown that is caused by the voucher program. Students in Florida might be receiving a better education due to the voucher programs installation.

The purpose of this research was to see whether the Parental Choice Program in Wisconsin along with the Florida A+ Program in Florida has an effect on the success of students and schools in the public school system. The research intends to explore not only the success of the programs, but the affect it has on the students along with the schools achievements in the respective states. The researcher looks closely at the state test scores in Florida along with the grade of the school to see if there is an improvement of academics due to the fact that if their school scores low they will be affected by the implementation of the voucher program. The researcher will not only look at the improvement of scores, but also the financial data in public schools in Milwaukee, Wisconsin after the implementation of the Parental Choice Program.

Conclusion

The public school system still has a long way to go when it comes to reform. Each generation of students who enter the school system, be it public or private, are requiring new teaching methods to be invented. How a generation Baby Boomer learned in school is different to how Generation Y needs to learn. Regardless of how the schools are being ran there must always be an improvement. In Florida the school voucher program creates a healthy competition between the schools in the public system. The Florida A+ Program causes schools that are not within standards to improve their academic achievement or risk setting up their students to

become eligible for the program. In Wisconsin there needs to be more studies done and data collected to determine one hundred percent the effect of the Parental Choice Program on public schools. From the years 1900 to 2006, all the school choice programs in the nation combined saved \$422 million for local public school districts, and \$22 million for state budgets (Fosters, 2011, p. 4). The data that has been collected thus far is pretty clear in showing that the MPCP does not take away money or resources from the public school system.

Recommendations

School voucher programs are a rising and hot topic in America. Wisconsin and Florida are the first two states to implement these programs and to do extensive studies on them. Everyone in the U.S. must receive an education; therefore, it is extremely important that everyone pay attention to the changing ways of how students are learning and what school systems are doing to consistently improve their academics. The recommendation is that more research be done on school voucher programs across America. There is still so much more to learn from the programs to see if they are truly working and helping improve the academics of students countrywide and in the long run. Further studies need to be done on school voucher programs in countries other than the United States. The research done on the programs in other countries versus the ones implemented in the U.S. combined can only improve the ones that are up and running now. Change is difficult and for some almost impossible to overcome. If Americans stay open to the idea of school voucher programs and constantly work to improve them and fix flaws, the education value in America would go up tremendously.

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Appendix A: List of Acronyms

FCAT	Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test
MPCP	Milwaukee Parental Choice Program
NCLB	No Child Left Behind Act 2001
U.S.	United States
WKCE	Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam

Appendix B: List of Authorities

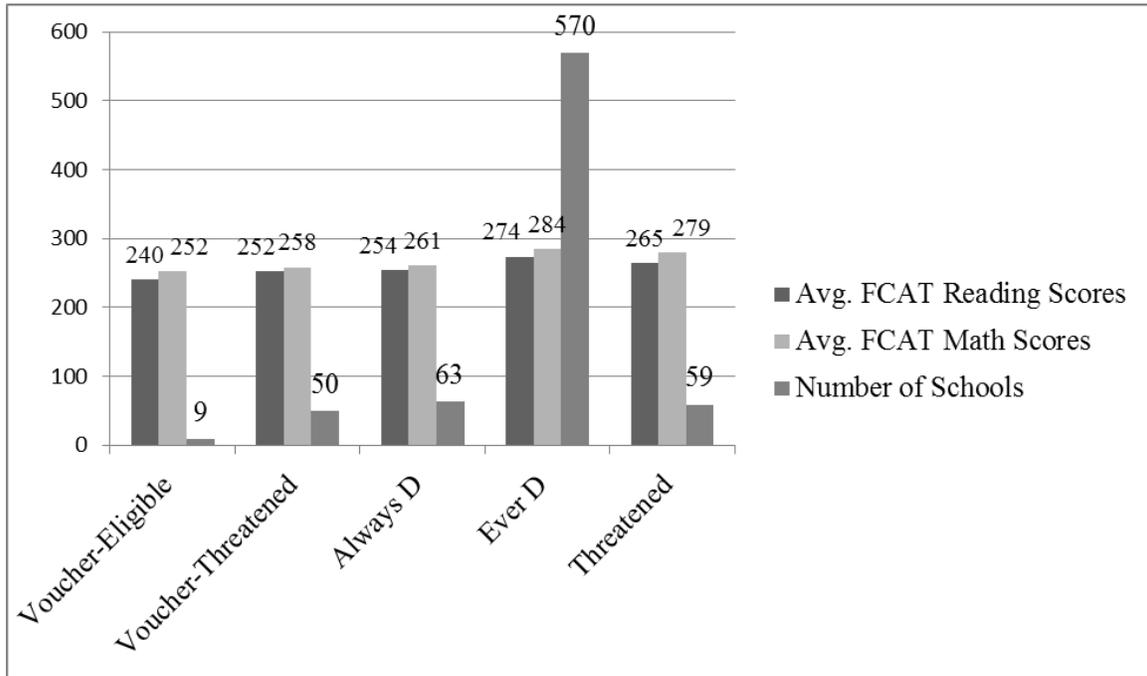
Case

Cochran v. Louisiana State Board of Education, 281 U.S. 370 (1930)

Statute

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.

Appendix C: Comprehensive Florida A+ Program



Reference: Forster, G. (2011). A win-win solution: The empirical evidence on school vouchers. The foundation of education crisis, Retrieved from <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED517753.pdf>

Appendix D: School Voucher Programs in the United States 2011-2012

School Voucher Programs in the United States 2011-2012			
State	Program Name	Purpose	# Enrolled Students
Florida	John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with special needs in Florida.	22,861
Georgia	Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with special needs in Georgia.	2,965
Indiana	Choice Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children from low- and middle-income families in Indiana.	3,919
Louisiana	Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children from low-income families in failing schools in Louisiana.	1,848
Louisiana	School Choice Pilot Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with special needs in Louisiana.	186
Mississippi	Mississippi Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship for Students with Dyslexia Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with dyslexia in Mississippi	Does not start until 2012-2013
Ohio	Autism Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with autism in Ohio.	2,236
Ohio	Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children from low-income families in Cleveland, Ohio.	5,603
Ohio	Educational Choice Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children in failing schools in Ohio.	16,136
Ohio	Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with special needs in Ohio.	Does not start until 2012-2013
Oklahoma	Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with special needs in Oklahoma.	160
Utah	Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarship	Provides private school vouchers to assist children with special needs in Utah.	635
Washington, D.C.	D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children from low-income families in Washington, D.C.	1,615
Wisconsin	Milwaukee Parental Choice Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children from low-income families in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.	23,198
Wisconsin	Racine Parental Choice Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children from low-income families in Racine, Wisconsin.	228
Colorado	Douglas County Choice Scholarship Program	Provides private school vouchers to assist children living in the Douglas County School District.	This program is not running due to a court injunction

Reference: Alliance for school choice. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.allianceforschoolchoice.org/school-choice-programs-in-america-the-facts>

Click Click Boom: The Effects the NRA Has on Assault Rifle Sales

Jackson May, Senior

Abstract

The National Rifle Association (NRA) is one of America's oldest and most storied lobbying organizations in existence. What was once an organization that was created for the shooting enthusiast has evolved over the years to a political powerhouse. In the wake of recent tragedies, such as the Sandy Hook school shooting and the Aurora, Colorado movie theatre, assault rifles and the NRA are hot topics at Capitol Hill. The remarks that the NRA makes, or the comments that are made about the organization by those with status, have an effect on assault rifle sales. This study investigates this theory and tries to solve this question by a mixed methods approach. Scholarly materials, along with an interview with a representative from Daniel Defense, and a brief survey are used in the argument. The results of this study are inconclusive, in that there is evidence that the NRA does affect the sales of assault rifle sales.

Introduction

The Brady Bill and Federal Assault Weapons Ban (AWB) expired in late 2004 causing a tremendous increase in the weapon sales of assault rifles. These types of guns have become the number one selling model for some, if not all, major firearms manufacturers. Before the AWB, when citizens could own assault rifles, sales for these guns had never reached such high numbers as present day. Now with the political movement to ban these types of weapons, another contributing factor is the latest spike in assault rifle sales in response to the recent massacre shootings of the Aurora, Colorado theatre shooting and the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut at Sandy Hook Elementary.

Countless numbers of anti-gun and pro-gun speeches have been made from the President of the United States to local mayors with varying opinions on how we as a nation should solve

this issue. The 21st century political environment, together with an anti-gun Democrat President, has an effect on these sales. The NRA, one of most influential interest groups on Capitol Hill, has an enormous stake in this issue. The organization takes a very aggressive and published stance on issues involving the assault style rifle. This stance could influence non-prospective buyers to make an investment in a gun and become potential buyers just based on what is said throughout the news.

The NRA is one of, if not the most, powerful interest groups currently in our society. They stand for and endorse such things as the right to carry, the right to carry confidentially, and the castle doctrine. The Institute of Legislative Action (ILA) carries out these fights in the legal branch of the NRA, which handles all interactions with those that lobby for the NRA. The policies and laws that our representatives create obviously have a huge effect on us as American citizens. These policies implicated by those supported by the NRA affect assault rifle sales and thus the economy as a whole.

Purpose & Significance of the Study

The purpose of the study is to better understand what effects the NRA has on the sales of the assault rifle style commonly known as the AR-15. The NRA is one of if not the most powerful lobbyist groups in Washington. This study is to better understand how the decisions made by this organization affect not only the sales of the rifle, but how those sales affect the economy as a whole. The goal of the thesis is to understand how those persons inside the NRA and the policies they endorse affect the gun manufacturers, which in turn affect gun sales, specifically those of the assault rifle.

The NRA has been in existence for more than 100 years. Throughout these years, the organization has grown from a local, gun-enthusiast establishment that focused more on

competitions of marksmanship to a nationally known lobbyist powerhouse. This growth is mainly in part to the sheer numbers of members and the values that draw citizens in to be members. One of the most current examples of this change is its Vice President Wayne LaPierre's attitude on guns in schools. In the early 1990's he opposed the idea of having guns anywhere near schools. Since the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut at Sandy Hook Elementary, he has changed his position and believes guns are needed at schools.

LaPierre's new stance as he puts it is, "[t]he only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun" (Memmott 2012). That may seem somewhat drastic but, nevertheless, this statement may cause some fearful citizens to go out and buy a gun. Since there are no credentials, or written exam that is to determine personality types, anybody can be who they choose to be. The fear was created when a gunman with an assault-style rifle terrorized the Sandy Hook Elementary School. Acting on the fear that was felt by citizens across the country, the NRA encouraged people to buy a gun. The presumption of a good guy is an option that cannot be backed up by facts. Nevertheless the fear that was created ties into the researcher's initial question, whether if any of what the NRA says or lobbies affect assault rifle guns sales and thus the larger economy.

Research Question

This study addressed the following research question to identify and analyze the political, legal, and economical aspects surrounding the issue of the influence of the NRA and its impact on the sales of the assault style weapon.

Research Question: Whether the NRA's stance on assault rifles is used to affect the gun market and thus the economy as a whole.

Definition of Terms

Assault Rifle: A semiautomatic, center fire that has the ability to accept a detachable magazine and has at least one of the following components: Folding or telescoping stock, forward pistol grip, flash suppressor, grenade launcher, flare launcher (Cooke, 2013, p.5).

Brady Bill: Originally named for Ronald Reagan's press secretary, Jim Brady. Brady was shot on March 31, 1981 during the assassination attempt on the President. President Clinton signs into law the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, which includes the first-ever federal Assault Weapons Ban, banning the future manufacture and importation of military-style assault weapons (Our History, 2013).

Interest Group: refers to any group, on the basis of one or more attributes, makes certain claims upon other groups in the society for the establishment, maintenance, or enhancement of forms of behavior that are implied by the shared attributes (Marwell, 1979, p. 235).

National Rifle Association (NRA): founded in 1871 by two men, a lawyer and a former reporter from the New York Times. For most of its history, the N.R.A. was chiefly a sporting and hunting association. To the extent that the N.R.A. had a political arm, it opposed some gun-control measures and supported many others, lobbying for new state laws in the nineteen-twenties and thirties, which introduced waiting periods for handgun buyers and required permits for anyone wishing to carry a concealed weapon (Lepore, 2012, p. 1).

National Rifle Association-Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA): The Institute for Legislative Action (ILA) summaries of the findings of the research, a bibliography of research (particularly on the constitutional right to keep and bear arms), and reproduction of material by academic researchers on the gun issue.

Literature Review

The 1994 Brady Bill was enacted to put tighter restrictions on gun control namely those on assault rifles. Putting tighter restrictions on items or commodities makes their economies slow down; however, these restrictions do not get put in place without fierce debate from those that oppose the restrictions. In this instance the main opponent for this ban would be the NRA. This interest group is well funded by the millions of members that support them financially and morally. They have a loyal member base of some five million people strong and growing steadily, and they are one of the oldest lobbyist groups in existence. The undertaking of this research is to see the relationship between how bans on small arms such as the Brady Bill affect the gun market and thus the larger economy of America. In turn, the research will look at the effect of the NRA's stance on if these bans are passed and the economy.

NRA = No Rational Argument

With the NRA being so large in size, they have a tremendous influence over its members and also with the ordinary citizen. While those individuals that have joined the NRA express not only are members, but feel the same on issues as other members of the organization. On the other side of the coin you have the common citizen who may relate to the organization but does not affiliate with it. Being one of the biggest lobbyist parties attracts an extreme amount of media coverage. This fact alone makes the NRA's messages and statements reach a wide variety of audiences. Each citizen interrupts the statements differently. Some see it in a positive sense others in a negative. For example, Charlton Heston (former NRA president) stated, "[a]s I have stood in the crosshairs of those who target Second Amendment freedoms, I've realized that firearms are not the only issue. No, it's much, much bigger than that. I've come to understand that a cultural war is raging across our land" (Heston, 1999).

This quote was part of a speech that Heston delivered at Harvard Law School Forum in 1999. It expresses how the majority of the public is uneducated about guns and the world around them. It also suggests that the media portrays guns in a negative way. The cultural war he speaks of is the modern day society that conforms so easily. He is partly speaking of his own experiences where he was present some of the most incredible displays of disobedience.

Additionally an example of how what the NRA says is perceived in a biased sense is reflective in this segment of an article.

“There is also a strong perception that the NRA has the ability to swing elections. Many Democrats believe the NRA and the gun control issue cost Al Gore the White House in 2000. Others argue that the assault weapons ban and the Brady Bill were responsible for the Republican take-over of Congress in 1994. Supporters of the NRA are likely to be single-issue voters—they will cast their ballot based solely on a candidate's position on gun control” (Medlock, 2005, p. 42).

While most of this is just speculation, one could think of ways that some of what is encompassed in the article could be plausible. Nevertheless, it shows how what is said either for or against the NRA weighs heavily with the public. This provides evidence to support the NRA by showing that when a respected person of society speaks about them, everyone pays attention. These high profile members have vast power among the elites in Washington; after all, these are individuals in one of the more powerful lobbying groups.

Additional, those that speak on behalf of the NRA or in opposition of the organization are more less front men. These persons such as former mayor Jessie Ventura and President Obama know that they have what the average person does not, respect of the people. With the respect of the people that these two examples already possess they are invaluable campaign endorsers.

These spokespersons seem to deflect (in the case of the NRA) or reemphasize their morals and the morals of those that back them.

NRA vs. America

The NRA is one of the oldest and most storied lobbyist groups that exist today. They once were a group of backwoods, gun-loving, conservatives that kept to themselves. Now in the years after such tragedies, such as Sandy Hook and Aurora, Colorado, they have been more and more outspoken. While the interest group is highly covered in the media, this is not the first time in the past couple of decades that they have received such intense media attention. In the mid-nineties the group gained publicity by opposing the Brady Bill that made the sale of assault weapons illegal. Now their focus has shifted given that the Brady Bill expired almost ten years ago (2004).

The current Vice President and CEO of the NRA, Wayne LaPierre, has been in his current position since 1991. He has been one of those that have turned the NRA's low-key place in society to a household name that has influence on any and every gun issue that tries to make its way to Washington. Evidence of how LaPierre stand on guns and schools has changed over the years. In the article, LaPierre stated, "[w]e believe in absolutely gun-free, zero tolerance, and totally safe schools. That means no guns in America's schools period" (Dickinson, 2013, p. 1). This is highly different take on a gun stance than just years before massacres such as those in Newtown, Connecticut and Aurora, Colorado. He later goes on to say, "[s]uch behavior in our schools should be prosecuted just as certainly as such behaviors in our airports is prosecuted" (Dickinson, 2013, p. 1). These comments were made in the late 1990s; however, his attitude would change over the years.

These comments seem to be along the lines of what the attitude was in 1999. Now when asked about guns in schools in 2013, Mr. LaPierre has a different position. He now believes “[t]he only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun” (Dickinson, 2013, p. 1). LaPierre’s quote is more evidence that the NRA is slowly and slowly becoming a spokesman for all guns and gun manufacturers everywhere. By suggesting that ‘only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun,’ the NRA’s members’ economy goes from a small group of Americans to almost all Americans.

Appealing to the predominantly good-natured people of the American public, this position opens up millions of new potential customers. These new gun customers will buy firearms that they have never previously had opportunity to purchase, including the modern sporting rifle or the assault rifle. The assault rifle style of weapon is a highly customizable gun that is made by over ten different manufacturers here in the United States. They are also rather expensive. While a typical handgun can cost several hundreds of dollars, these types of weapons can fetch two and three times that value. The price usually depends on the caliber, make, and accessories. These ‘modern sporting rifles’ can cost from a couple hundred dollars to a couple thousand dollars.

Not only will this new found appeal generate more sales (which in return generates more profits), but if schools require a ‘good guy with a gun’ to be present at all times, budget concerns must be considered. There will be a need to generate that money from somewhere inside the education budget, which is already stretched thin. The argument is that this would create thousands of new jobs all across the country (if the school districts can afford the new hire). More people would no longer need unemployment, which would save the taxpayers money. This process could also take the stance of a stronger economy, since there are now thousands of

people generating revenue that they previously did not have. The NRA's stance as certainly changed over the years, as noted that,

NRA still claims to represent the interests of marksmen, hunters, and responsible gun owners. But over the past decade and a half, the NRA has morphed into a front group for the firearms industry, who profits are increasingly dependent on the sale of military-bred weapons like the assault rifles used in the massacres at Newtown and Aurora, Colorado.

"When I was at the NRA, we said very specifically, We do not represent the firearm industry," says Richard Feldman, a longtime gun lobbyist who left the NRA in 1991.

"We represent gun owners. End of Story" But in the association's more recent history, he says "[t]hey have really gone after the gun industry" (Dickinson, 2013, p. 1).

While the NRA's start in the 1800's was to represent the interests of the marksmen, hunters, and gun owners, this statement is evidence that they are quickly selling out. This perceived notion has made the NRA one of the most powerful and successful groups in passing, removing, or blocking of the new gun legislation, such as the Brady Bill. Focus has shifted from representing the interests of the organization to making money.

Later on in the article more evidence is provided. Proof of that can be found later in the article,

"The NRA's unbending opposition to better gun-control measures does not actually reflect the views of the nation's gun owners or, for that matter its claimed 4 million members. A May 2012 poll conducted by Republican pollster Frank Luntz revealed surprising moderation on behalf of NRA members: Three out of four believed that background checks should be completed before every gun purchase. Nearly two-thirds

supported a requirement that gun owners alert police when their firearms are lost or stolen” (Dickinson, 2013, p. 1).

This quote clearly proves that change has taken place within the NRA. Once their stance was to have no guns near schools, now they are calling to have ‘good guys’ stop ‘bad guys’ with guns. The changes within the NRA seem to be completely transformed from what the stance was less than fifteen years ago within its organization.

The research question of whether the NRA’s stance on assault rifles affect the gun market and the thus the larger economy is the reason behind the investigation for all guns, especially the assault style weapon, as well as its ties to our struggling economy. This study hopes to decipher why the NRA has morphed into the lobbyist bully and the reasons behind its change.

Research Methodology

The study of this analysis is to address issues that involve assault rifles, specifically those that lie more focused on how the NRA’s stance on such weapons affects the gun community. This association along with its supporters and rivals all are affected by the stance the NRA takes. The researcher has to determine whether the NRA’s stance on assault rifles affect the gun market and thus the larger economy. The history of the NRA is a long and storied one. Starting out in the late nineteenth century the association started out as a group strictly for those that owned and were passionate about firearms. Lately those morals and principals that were at the root of its organization have become skewed ("A brief history," 2013). This article further investigates those changes and specifically looks into the AR-15 and how the NRA’s stance on the weapon affects the gun market and thus the larger economy. This chapter describes the research design, the role of the researcher and the data collection. It also encompasses the analysis and

interpretation of data, procedures and limitations that arose from the methodology selected for this investigation.

Research Design

This research design will consist of a mixed methods approach. Those methods include but are not limited to quantitative research, qualitative research, and personal interviews with a highly qualified person in this field. The interviewee will be disclosed under his discretion. If he chooses not to reveal his identity, then a brief summary of his credentials will be provided. The interview will be from the local area. The role of the researcher is to perform research that will better help him and also benefit those that have similar interests. This topic relates to the researcher because he is a consumer of these products while also being a strong advocate of the second amendment and the freedoms that come along with it. The researcher is to provide accurate data to support the findings.

Data Collection & Analysis

The researcher will be collecting the data through interviews. Data will also be obtained from reputable sources such as government or independent resources. The interview will be conducted in the most economical way either by email, telephone or personal interview. The questions will be catered to the specific source, in respect to his expertise in the field. The questions asked to the interviewee were asked with some previous knowledge of the person and company. The researcher felt it was in the best interest of the study to be knowledgeable of the intuitions he was interview, this also could gain the respect of the reprehensive although there is no proof. The researcher did a minimal amount of research on the establishments to better use the limited time. The survey will be a brief survey that will be sent electronically. It will consist of ten questions that cover not only the demographics of the respondent, but also the subject of

the study. Survey answers were all multiple choice to make answers easier for the researcher to analyze.

Data Interpretation & Limitations

The researcher, for the purpose of this study, will conduct the data collection and the interpretation of the research. It will be analyzed not only for accuracy, but for correctness as well. Along with being analyzed for accuracy, it will be studied but also trends as it relates to other data, and certain dates. This evaluation is to see if any patterns or trends form. The statistical information will be displayed in precise easy to read charts and graphs that will further support the researcher's findings.

Throughout the rest of the research there will be certain limitations. Those limitations will affect how in-depth the research will be. Limitations include, but are not limited to, statistical information from reputable government sources and how current that information is. Another limitation the researcher could face is the chance that the data is skewed in some way. For reasons that are unclear to the researcher, the publishers of the information may be biased depending on the publisher's political stance. Other limitations include the ability to obtain sales data in a timely matter. Since most if not all gun manufactures are private companies it is up to their digression whether to release to the public or exclusively to the researcher this data. Even if such data is released to the public, or specifically to the researcher, there is no certainty that it will contain dates, which plays a critical role in this study.

Data Presentation and Analysis

The researcher decided to focus primarily on one gun manufacturer since time, money, and other constraints were adding up. The researcher chose to focus on the most convenient and local manufacturer. The researcher chose to target a more local customer base since a study of

the entire nation would take resources that were not obtainable. A study of that size would also call for the cooperation of multiple private companies.

Along with choosing one company to focus on the researcher also conducted a survey on his peers along with other that he associates with. The researcher's survey was completely anonymous to protect the identity of the participants. The survey consisted of ten brief questions that included generalized questions to obtain background information along with others that were asked to better support his research question. All responses to the survey were done with an online program, to ensure accurate data analysis.

The researcher chose to focus on the most convenient and local company that made assault style weapons. The company the researcher chose to concentrate on was Daniel Defense. They are a manufacturer of assault style rifles for both military and civilian purchase. They currently have two plants that operate in the area—one in Black Creek, GA and the other in Ridgeland, SC. One reason this company is doing so well in the sales column is that there are one of only a hand full of companies that produced their rifle barrels through this process. This process is called Cold Hammer Forge, which this procedure makes their barrels among the elite throughout the world. It is so unique that only four other machines are found to exist though out the world.

Daniel Defense, a supporter of the NRA has been one of the fastest growing companies in rifle sales. The company has experience 100% growth every year for the past ten years. This company founded by Marty Daniel has grown into a multi-million dollar company that sells directly to the public through its website along with providing law enforcement with specialized guns.

The researcher decided to make a hypothesis and gather as much information as possible in order to support the hypothesis. Hypothesis: Statements made by the NRA do affect sales of assault rifles and thus affects the larger economy. In the interview the research conducted with Daniel Defense one question was “Is the company a member of the NRA?” While they are not members of the NRA, they do support it. Another question that was posed to the representative was “Do you know who Wayne LaPierre is? Do you have any comment on his stop a bad guy speech?” The representative knew exactly who Mr. LaPierre was and also had a comment on his speech. “I view a gun as if it was a parachute, if I need it it’s there and it will save my life, but if I don’t need it then I am ok too.” The last inquiry for the representative was if he could comment on how the political world in Washington affects the sales of Daniel Defense. He commented that “the things that go on in Washington affects their sales, but people are afraid of them (the government) taking their guns, mainly from what they see on the news.”

Buy a Gun

The researcher arrives at the notion of if this weapon, an assault rifle, is such a menacing weapon then the public would not buy them. However, on the contrary, in one of the survey questions conducted by the researcher the attitude was completely contradictory towards those perceived attitudes.

In a poll conducted by the researcher the overwhelming number of participants said yes they would consider buying an assault rifle. The numbers are evidence of that fact in almost a 2:1 ratio of “yes” the participant would consider buying an assault rifle to no I would not consider buying an assault rifle. These results are not conclusive in saying that the NRA and its political stances affect assault rifle sales, but it does discredit the theory that the NRA does affect sales.

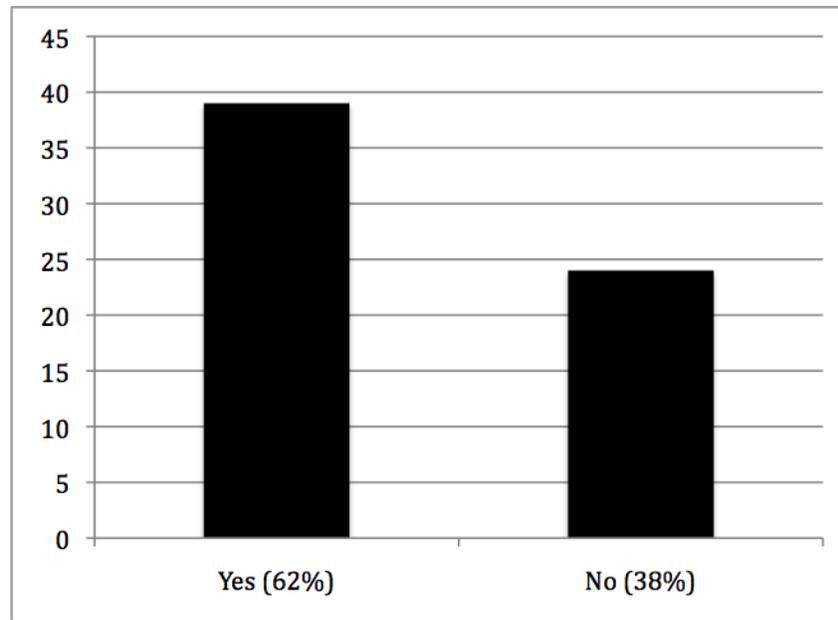


Figure 1. Consideration of Purchasing an Assault Rifle.

Figure 1 demonstrates a majority of the participants answered “yes” they would ever consider buying an assault rifle. This is significant in that even though the assault rifle has received a bad name in the wake of tragic shooting, average persons would still consider buying one. There is not enough evidence in this one question to defiantly say yes, the NRA’s political stance has affected the respondent’s answer, but it also cannot be ruled out.

Perception of a Firearm

One of the aspects that affects people buying and owning guns is how they perceive them. After all you would not have a pet lion, because it would probably kill you. Those that perceive guns, namely assault rifles, as to be more of a good thing than a bad, are more likely to own and use an assault rifle. Below is a chart based on the researcher’s survey question of “In one word describe a firearm.”

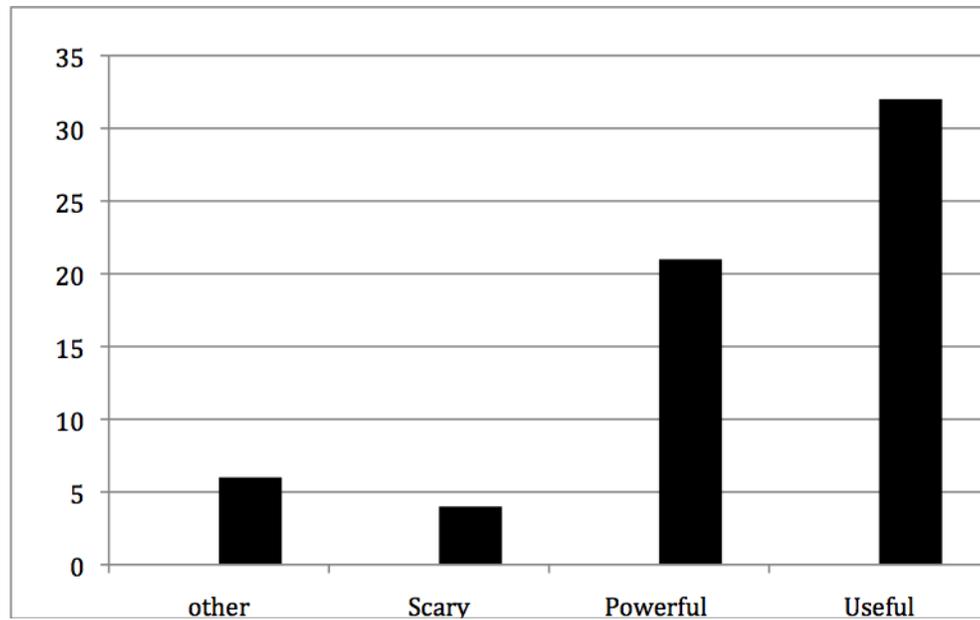


Figure 2. Description of Firearm in One Word.

Figure 2 displays the majority of the responses to the survey conducted by the researcher answered favorably to an assault rifle than unfavorably to an assault rifle. While these responses do not conclusively indicate that an assault rifle to be a positive thing, it also does not decisively conclude that an assault rifle is a bad entity either.

The other aspect of the research is the economic side. The hypothesis is that the assault rifle market is affected by the remarks made by the NRA and this affects the larger economy. Evidence that supports this hypothesis is evident in a number of the responses to questions that were asked to the Daniel Defense representative. The question proposed to the representative was “Are your sales up, down or even from five years ago?” He responded emphatically “that we have experienced 100% growth every year, for the past ten years.” When asked to explain those sales numbers, he replied, “that first the majority of their numbers were military sales but, now they have seen an increase in the civilian market.” These two questions along with their responses emphatically support the hypothesis that the NRA and its remarks not only affect

assault rifle sales but, have driven Daniel Defense into a multi-million dollar company (History, 2013).

To go along with the above remarks regarding gun sales, many of the top manufacturers, including Benelli Armi S.p.A. (Benelli,) and Sturm, Ruger & Co. (Ruger), have ties to the NRA. For example, Benelli will match your donation to the NRA-ILA up to \$250,000. Each time an individual or entity makes a donation to the NRA to help support the fight for second amendment rights, Benelli will back the donor. Along with Benelli, Ruger donated over one million dollars to the NRA, as it built and shipped more than one million firearms. This evidence is a clear example of how the NRA and various gun manufactures work hand in hand. Both sides need each other and both benefit from the others successes.

The last characteristic that suggests the NRA has an effect on assault rifle sales has to do with membership. Since the lapse of the AWB and assault weapons ban in 2004 the NRA has seen vast growth. After this ban was lifted Americans could now own and possess assault rifle that they could not do so in the period of 1994-2004. Rifle sales before and after the Brady Bill and assault weapons bans lapse spiked in items manufactured directly relates to sales. While these numbers are total rifle manufactured and not just assault rifle sales, the evidence is not definite the assault rifle is currently the most popular version of any rifle.

Figure 3 below shows how much of a dramatic change the market has seen in years that the previous mentioned ban was in effect and the sales after. It supports the hypothesis, since the NRA had a major effect on the ban expiring. While this data supports the hypothesis that the NRA had a major effect on the ban expiring and thus a boost in the economy, the argument could be made that there was also a higher population in 2011 than 2003, meaning more potential buyers. The fact remains that more guns were manufactured before the AWB than after.

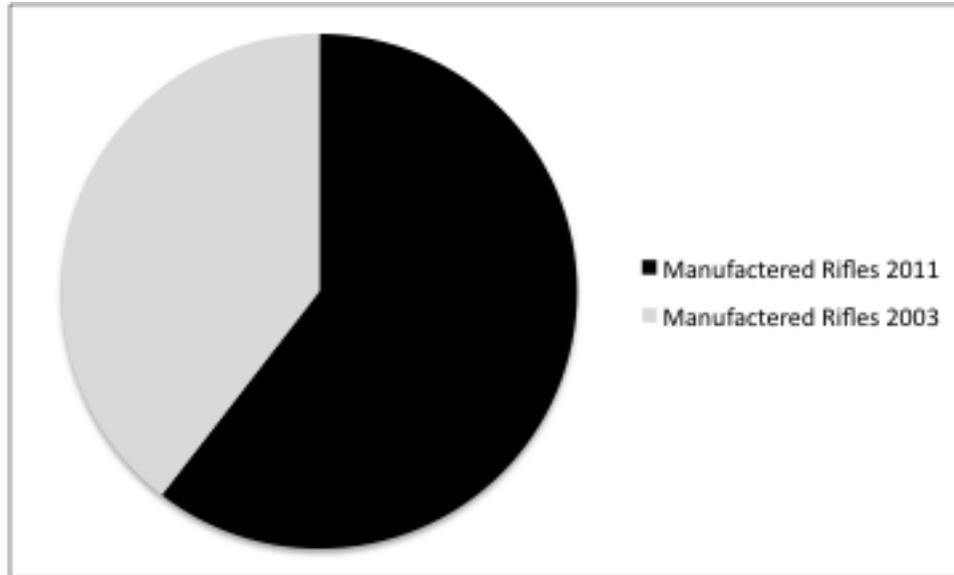


Figure 3. Manufacturing of Rifles.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations

The NRA is one of, if not the most, powerful interest groups currently in our society. They stand for and endorse such things as the right to carry, the right to carry confidentially, and the castle doctrine. The Institute of Legislative Action (ILA) carries out these fights in the NRA, which handles all lobby interactions between the NRA and Capital Hill. The policies and laws that our representatives create obviously have a huge effect on us as American citizens. These policies are not created with some endorsement from or opposition from various lobbying groups. The NRA being one of the biggest lobbyist groups has a major impact on the millions of people that not only are members but non-members as well. Here lies the root of the problem that perhaps the policies implicated by those supported by the NRA affect assault rifle sales and thus the economy as a whole. Furthermore, maybe these policies help, hurt, or have no effect on these sales and to what extent.

The purpose of this research is to determine if the NRA and its members have an effect on the sales of assault rifles and therefore the economy. Also the policies that the organization

stands for or endorses are under analysis. Performing this research will help better understand why the organization endorses the products it does. Additionally, the contributing factor that the researcher considers to the latest spike in assault rifle sales and cannot overlook is the recent massacre shootings around the country. The most recent shootings being the Aurora, Colorado shooting and the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut at Sandy Hook Elementary.

Conclusion

The researcher has learned many things over the course of this study. The answers that can be concluded were that the NRA, with its ever-increasing number of members, influences the gun particularly the assault rifle market. While it is unclear how much effect the organization has directly on the market, they almost certainly affect it in-directly. The organization affects the market in-directly more than directly by the policies they create, or more so do not create. If the NRA were not in existence there would be a countless number of laws, policies, and statues created because there would be no opposition. The government would be one sided which would make us citizens live in oppression. Thomas Paine once said that, “[t]he balance of power is the scale of peace” (Paine, 1894, para. 3). This quote still holds true today in that if we did not have a balance of power than we would not have a balance of peace. The organization affects the market directly is with their actions and statements. These statements can be made through speeches or in literature in periodicals and newspapers. Either way by directly, or in directly the NRA and its actions do affect the assault rifle market, or this is part of the greater economy.

Recommendations

The study conducted here is one that not only took a vast amount of time, but the coordination of a number of resources. The first recommendation would be to have a clear definition of an assault rifle. The second recommendation is to allot a small amount of funding

for each researcher, which would lead into company-/organization-sponsored research.

Increased funding will more likely than not produce tighter results. Under different laws or statutes depending on the state, one gun could be considered an assault rifle, while it may not be in another state. Funding would assist in the capability to gather more data and provide incentives for unwilling participants to participate. Furthermore, these funds could help to unlock private databases that may contain private company's sales/marketing/membership information, as well as cover the printing cost.

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Appendix A: List of Acronyms

AR-15	Armalite-15
AWB	Assault Weapons Ban
NRA	National Rifle Association (of America)
NRA-ILA	National Rifle Association – Institute for Legislative Action

Appendix B: List of Authorities

H.R. 437—103rd Congress: Assault Weapons Ban of 2013 (1994)

H.R. 1025—103rd Congress: Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (1993)

U.S. Const. Amend. II

Appendix C: List of Survey Questions

1. Male or Female?
2. What age group do you fall in?
3. What race do you consider yourself?
4. Are you a current member or veteran of the Armed Forces?
5. Do you own a firearm?
6. Is there a firearm inside your household?
7. Are you a current or former member of the NRA?
8. Would you ever consider buying an assault rifle?
9. What purpose would you use your assault rifle?
10. In one word describe a firearm.

Appendix D: Assault Rifle Ban Status

<i>States without Bans</i>		<i>States with Bans</i>
Alabama	Nevada	California
Alaska	New Hampshire	Connecticut
Arizona	New Mexico	Hawaii
Arkansas	North Carolina	Maryland
Colorado	North Dakota	Massachusetts
Delaware	Ohio	New Jersey
Florida	Oklahoma	New York
Georgia	Oregon	
Idaho	Pennsylvania	
Illinois	Rhode Island	
Indiana	South Carolina	
Iowa	South Dakota	
Kansas	Tennessee	
Kentucky	Texas	
Louisiana	Utah	
Maine	Vermont	
Michigan	Virginia	
Minnesota	Washington	
Mississippi	West Virginia	
Missouri	Wisconsin	
Montana	Wyoming	
Nebraska		

Reference: Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence – Gun Violence Information Experts. (n.d).
Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence RSS. Retrieved November 7, 2013, from
<http://smartgunlaws.org/assault-weapons-policy-summary>

Media Soldiers: Propaganda and the Impact on Promoting Policy in a Time of War

Antoine A. Washington, Senior

Abstract

Since its conception mass media has made a major impact on the fate of many nations due its level of influence on the public. For example, On October 30th, 1938, the United States experienced mass hysteria due to a radio broadcast put on by Orson Welles and his Mercury Theater on the Air show. The public reaction his broadcast has put into work decades of research into mass hysteria, this research has been used by the US military around the world to design information warfare against enemy troops and civilian populace ("War-of-the-worlds.org," 2007). This paper will compare two points in the history of the western world, when propaganda was believed at its most prevalent. The first point in history is the Nazi party political rule of Germany in the early 20th century. The Nazis or the German National Socialist Party was the party that controlled Germany during world war two and one of the most infamous political regimes.

Introduction

In the political article, *The Death and Life of Propaganda*, propaganda is defined as “as a form of coercion without the appearance of coercion: its purpose is ‘the deliberate and systematic attempt to shape perceptions, manipulate cognitions and direct behavior to achieve a response that furthers the desired intent of the propagandist’” (O’Shaughnessy, 2012). This article’s definition stresses that propaganda, in a political sense, is meant to shape the opinions of the masses, distort any background information, and guide people’s actions, all to the ends of the government in charge. Propaganda and persuasion go hand in hand, as it is the mission of propaganda to persuade citizens to adopt the ideals of the ones promoting the propaganda.

Two periods of history will be compared to see if they share any similarities of propaganda tactics. The first is period directly after the Nazi party took control of Germany up until the war will be analyzed. This period of time was chosen due to the high amount of political propaganda that was used by the Nazi government to build momentum to start World War II. The second is the period of time right after the terrorist attacks of 9/11 up until the invasion of Iraq on 19 March 2003 ("The invasion of," 2004). Newspaper articles from both periods will be analyzed based on the definition above, meaning what the opinion that the author was trying to get the public to adopt, how back ground information was distorted for said article, how the article guided the public's actions, and finally what was the end goal of the article in relation to its government's plans.

Statement of the Problem

Propaganda is information put out by an organization or government to promote a policy, idea, or cause; usually only one side of any given issue is shown. Both countries, United States and Nazi Germany, made use of private media outlets in addition to speeches to push their agenda. Nazi Germany used a heavy propaganda campaign to gain control of the German citizens, and in recent years the level of propaganda being used in the Bush administration is coming to light. Two main sources covered in the literature review will provide the context of how both nations carried their propaganda machines during the war during the war. A propaganda machine is the whole process by which a government or private media outlet produces propaganda; therefore, an assortment of newspapers will be used to clear examples of propaganda that lead to major conflict for both of these nations.

Purpose & Significance of the Study

The purpose of this research is to analyze the similarities between propaganda in post 9/11 media versus the propaganda in World War II Nazi Germany. The key element of this thesis will be how both of these propaganda machines motivated support for their cause by. In relation to Nazi Germany, the tactics of its propaganda machine will be discussed, for Bush-era America the propaganda tactics of the Bush administration, and American media outlets post 9/11 is discussed; this will all be done with respect to the propaganda of the time.

There are cases from all over the world describing the level of involvement that the government has in media. Libya under the rule of Muammar Qaddafi is a great example of this; while in power Qaddafi's government controlled most if not all print and broadcast media, this harsh censorship is not foreign to other nations (CPJ Staff, 2012). The level of involvement in the media by the government is excessive even by Middle East regional standard (CPJ Staff, 2012). Above are examples of government's hand in its media; moreover, there are many harsher examples around the world. In North Korea a munitions train exploded in April of 2004 near the Chinese border, the KCNA, Korean Central News Agency, reported that citizens displayed the "spirit of guarding the leader with their very lives" by running into the inferno "before searching for their family members or saving their family members" (CPJ Staff, 2012). The international press was not allowed to enter the scene 150 people died and thousands were injured (CPJ Staff, 2012).

The significance of the study is rooted in the core of the future of politics. To every citizen of every free democracy on this planet, and to every government who uses propaganda as a tool to shape minds. It is the purpose of this study to give every citizen the key to filter what they are reading and make informed choices based on this thesis document will display horrors

of what can happen when the wrong people are given the right power and use it. Propaganda does have an influence on politics, as the growing strength of digital media propaganda's power will only increase with time. By taking a deeper look into the strategies of the Nazi and Bush regime, mankind will hopefully take a closer look at what the media is distributing. Finally, this study is indispensable to any future political science major as they will be the guardians for the next generation.

Research Question

The hypothesis that will be tested is that the Bush administration is using propaganda tactics similar to the one used by Nazi Germany. The question explored by this section of the introduction is a testable version of the hypothesis above in the literature review different sources will be brought to gather and fact will be pulled from them for the purpose of answering this central question. In the methodology my hypothesis will be tested and categorized, the data analysis section is self-explanatory, and finally in the conclusion the answer to the following question will be displayed.

Research Question: Whether media propaganda is similar or different between post-9/11 Bush-era America and Nazi-era Germany.

Definition of Terms

Ad hominem. An argument that attacks an opponent's character rather than answering said argument.

Appeal to authority. An argument that something is true because an authority such as an expert says that it is.

Appeal to fear. Claiming that action should be taken to prevent undesirable consequences of not taking actions.

Appeal to prejudice. One will notice the amount of loaded or biased statements that leads the audience in a specific direction.

Nazi. A member of the fascist German National Socialist Party that came to power under the leadership of Adolf Hitler in 1933.

Print media. Media distributed using print as a base, for example newspapers or magazines.

Propaganda. Information put out by an organization or government to promote a policy, idea, or cause. It usually only shows one side of any given issue.

Propaganda machine. The whole process by which a government or private media outlet produces propaganda.

Terrorism. Violence or the threat of violence, especially bombing, kidnapping, and assassination, carried out for political purposes.

Literature Review

The purpose of this literature review is to develop knowledge on the subject in addition to building a data pool that will assist with forming a conclusion. The types of literature that will be used in this thesis are newspaper articles from the time period in question and scholarly journals whose topic has significance to propaganda, the time period, or both.

Setting the Tone

Before going into the articles an understanding of propaganda must be developed. After careful review of scholarly sources, it has been determined that each piece of propaganda must have at least some of the following characteristics. These characteristics are as follows: ad hominem, appeal to authority, appeal to fear, and an appeal to prejudice. It is not mandatory that

all four are place in the article however for the sake of consistency three out of the four must be in the article.

Before application an understanding of each term must be made. First, ad hominem is defined as an argument that attacks an opponent's character rather than answering said argument. An example of an ad hominem argument would be in a debate, where one side makes logical arguments and the other's response to said arguments is an attempt to deflate the character of their opponent by making outlandish claims or attacking their opponent's character.

The second characteristic of propaganda is an appeal to authority; an appeal to authority is seen as an argument that something is true because an authority such as an expert says that it is ("Appeal to authority," n.d). For example in the following quote one will see an appeal to authority made by former President Bush.

"This is an extraordinary period for America's economy . . . [t]he government's top economic experts warn that with immediate action by Congress, America could slip into a financial panic and a distressing scenario would unfold. More banks could fail including some in your community, the stock market would drop even more which would reduce the value of your retiring account" (Bush, 2008, p. 1).

Within this quote the point that President Bush makes is his appeal to authority when he says "the government's top economic experts." It would have been a better statement had he stated which experts the information was received from (Bush, 2008, p. 1).

The third common point of propaganda is the use of fear, or appealing to fear, as an argument. An appeal to fear is claiming that action should be taken to prevent undesirable consequences of not taking actions ("Uk-skeptics," 2004). An example can be seen in the following quote made by Adolf Hitler in 1932,

"The streets of our country are in turmoil. The universities are filled with students rebelling and rioting. Communists are seeking to destroy our country. Russia is threatening us with her might, and the Republic is in danger. Yes - danger from within and without. We need law and order! Without it our nation cannot survive" ("Uk-skeptics," 2004).

Within this quote there are quite a few points where Hitler appeals to fear. First, he states that the nation is in turmoil, and then he goes on to say that the universities are full of rebelling students, later he states that Germany is being threatened by the might of Russia, lastly he states that law and order is need and without it Germany cannot survive.

The final characteristic of propaganda is an appeal to prejudice. When this characteristic is encountered, one will notice the amount of loaded or biased statements that leads the audience in a specific direction. In addition to that an emotive quality is found that strikes of a specific pro- or anti- response ("Propaganda theory," 2012). An example of this would be when in an argument that one sides states that the other is wrong due to the cultural background of the opponent.

The purpose of David Welch's *Nazi Propaganda and the Volksgemeinschaft: Constructing a People's Community* in this thesis is to show how important propaganda was goal and mission of the Nazi party (Welch, 2004). Nazi party used propaganda gain support and slowly gained control of a nation by creating a semi classes "national community."

Welch's primary focus is the response of German youth and the Industrial working class. Early on in the article the author explained the intent of the Nazi propaganda machine, the formation of a national community, the author explains that propaganda would be an active force in forming this community (Welch, 2004). Meaning that the Nazi party saw that media would be

a major tool in achieving their goals, one could argue that the party saw propaganda was used to hold the nation together. This claim is supported in the journal by the author, as he states that

“ . . . fundamental in the propaganda presentation was the attempt to forge an awareness of the notion of 'experience' as the spiritual bond that cemented individuals to this new all-embracing ethnic community. The conscious experience of 'inclusion' as a comrade of the community (as opposed to being an 'outsider') was a critical part of the pseudo-religious vision of a 'national awakening’” (Welch, 2004).

The ‘national awakening’ was the primary focus of the Nazi state, as the author has made the argument that propaganda in the Nazi regime was a key instrument in its raise.

The Revival of The Propaganda State: US Propaganda at Home and Abroad since 9/11

by Nancy Snow article’s purpose is to analyze the strategies that America used to manipulate information in wake of 9/11 and during the ongoing war on terror (Snow, 2006). To that end this journal article will give a frame for the importance of propaganda to beginning the “Global War in Terror.” The article goes into great detail about the media in the years after 9/11 with respect to how the American government used the media to its advantage with promoting war in the Middle East, using the September 11th attacks to gain the necessary power to begin the “Global War on Terror,” this would be relatively easy due to the fact that the September 11th attacks were the first attacks on US soil since the war of 1812 and later the attack on Pearl Harbor (Snow, 2006). This attack brought out a sense of fear that the American people haven’t had in over 200 years. The article goes on to explain the rationale of the US media during that time. Snow states that “the owners of major media outlets in the US are a part of the political elite so they often have a stake in military enterprises” (Snow, 2006, p. 36). The success of propaganda on the

American government is a key feature of this article in addition to the failure of propaganda on other countries (Snow, 2006, p. 36).

Bush-Era Articles

The article titled *A New World Disorder* was a timed account of President Bush's day after receiving word about the attack. Within this article the president was portrayed as receiving a great burden, he was equated to other wartime presidents who, in the opinion of the media, had great tasks in front of them; therefore, he was the equal of Truman or Eisenhower. Prior to this attack Bush was seen as a "lame duck president" meaning that much was not expected from his term. This article made complete 360-turn in relation to the nature of his presidency and what was to be expected from him (Martin, 2012).

The final article in the Newsweek magazine was titled *A War We Must Win*. The purpose of this article was to rally support for the upcoming "Global War On Terror." The first point that the article made was to indicate that Osama Bin Laden and his organization was responsible for the attacks of 9/11. To that end the author states that rather than trying to put a few terrorist to trial the final aim of the American public should be to win a war that was not started by us, however it is our duty to finish it (Martin, 2012).

The next article was also a part of the same Newsweek publication, which the title of the article was *The Day Evil Came Home*. In the article Senator McCain was interviewed after the September 11th attacks. In the first part of the article the author gave an explanation of how they felt as a reporter after the attacks. In the article it is stated that, "for the first time in my reporting career the enemies followed me home" (Borgia, 2001, p. 1). In the article the parts that Senator McCain was quoted were in good spirits (Borgia, 2001). He was confident that the American people would start to ask from their politicians.

In a Newsweek magazine published on September 24th titled “After the Terror: God Bless America,” the article titled *A War We Must Win* went into detail about America’s duty to wage war on the individuals who caused the attacks on New York and the Pentagon. The first part of the article was focused on building up an emotional support for the coming war and instilling fear into the reader. The second part of the article was focused of connecting Iraq to the attacks on the world trade center. The support for this claim was a statement from Laurie Mylorie’s book titled *Study of Revenge*, in the book it was stated that the 1993 bombings of the World Trade Center was financed in some way shape or form by Iraq (Barone, 2001). She was able to infer this because she had access to the court proceedings of the master conspirator of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. With this the author inferred that eventually we would find evidence that would lead the trail of responsibility back to Saddam and Iraq (Barone, 2001). It is obvious that the author lacks explicit details to prove that Iraq had something to do with the event of 9/11 and is desperately trying to draw conclusions.

Nazi-Era Articles

In the article *Unexpected Consequences, The Bombing War: Overcoming and Revenge*, the author by the name of Hans Schwarz van Berk covered the bombing that took place near the end of the World War Two as a serious issue however, he had the understanding that Germany put up a grand defense that was overcoming the onslaught by sheer determination (Bytwerk, 2001). First the author goes on to explain that it is the very nature of German people to be disciplined and that only in German cities have order not given way to the chaos of other European cities (Bytwerk, 2001). As one goes deeper into the article it becomes clear that this article has the purpose of motivating the men and women of Germany by giving heroic examples of people rebuilding in the face of over whelming odds. In the last section of the article the

author eluded to new weapons being the savoir and revenge of the German people he was unclear as to what these new weapons were and did not have any defiant information in that regard.

In the article *The Uncertain Casualty List: Questions and Concerns after Stalingrad* by Hans Schwarz van Berk, the defeat at Stalingrad to the Russians was covered. In other articles the defeat was reported along with German heroism and acts of bravery (Bytwerk, 2001). The focus of this article was to give a more realistic account of what may have happened to the loved ones of these people however there is still a propaganda overtone in the article. In the article it is explained that the Soviet state due to the nature of the regime does not care for the lives of its people in the face of the state. Article Four of the first convention obliges the signatory powers to exchange the names of the wounded, ill and fallen as quickly as possible. The official Soviet offices have never done this (Bytwerk, 2001). The author stated this in the article by saying

“ . . . because the Soviets are not concerned about the fate of their people; the individual counts for nothing in a collective state. For 25 years, the Soviet Union has been the land of the missing. No independent agency has been given access to what happens in the hospitals and POW camps behind Soviet lines” (Bytwerk, 2001, p. 1).

Later in the article the author tries to build up a patriotic feeling for the German people, making it seem like the Germans who are left behind are fight the good fight.

Research Methodology

The purpose of this analysis was to explore the similarities between the propaganda during the Nazi regime of Germany from the beginning of their reign to the start of World War II on September 1, 1939 ("United States Holocaust," 2006). The other propaganda regime examined in this paper is the presidency of G. W. Bush, within this period the time frame of

research was September 11th 2001 until the invasion of Iraq on 19th of March 2003 ("The invasion of," 2004).

Specifically this study examined how similar the propaganda within both of these periods was to each other. To that end, four common characteristics of propaganda were brought together to facilitate this goal. They are ad hominem, appeal to authority, appeal to fear, and an appeal to prejudice.

The hypothesis that will be tested is that the Bush administration is using propaganda tactics similar to the one used by Nazi Germany. The question explored by this section of the introduction is a testable version of the hypothesis above in the literature review different sources will be brought to gather and fact will be pulled from them for the purpose of answering this central question. In the methodology the hypothesis will be tested and categorized, the data analysis section is self-explanatory, and finally in the conclusion the answer to the following question will be displayed.

Research Question: Whether media propaganda is similar or different between post-9/11 Bush-era America and Nazi-era Germany.

This section describes the research design; the role of the researcher; the data collection, analysis and interpretation procedures; and the limitations that arose from the methodology selected for this investigation.

Research Design

This analysis explored how each of the articles within chapter two, related after being analyzed by the four characteristics of ad hominem, appeal to authority, appeal to fear, and an appeal to prejudice. To aid this process a rubric was formed that could filter articles for these

characteristics. The rubric was formed with each of these concepts coming together to give each level a score corresponding to the amount of the characteristic that was used.

This researcher is qualified for conducting research into the area due to his knowledge of both of these eras. The Bush-era was during the lifetime of the researcher and a point of great curiosity. The Nazi-era was chosen; due to this being the last time that the Congress of the U.S. voted on a war, it was the last time that super powers had a major conflict with each other. Therefore, discovering the reason behind this conflict is a great undertaking.

Data Collection & Limitations

Most of the data collected within this assignment was found on the Internet, this was a great amount of the articles found in this thesis. However, Galileo was a valid source of information for this assignment, and the Savannah State University library was the starting point of my research. The only limitation to this thesis is the lack of clear information from both periods. In the Nazi area of the thesis, there is a great amount of information that has been analyzed however the way that it is displayed online is not conducive to quick online searches. With regards to the Bush-era, the information is structured well for online searches however there is not a great deal of information. This is due to the time period of both of these areas. During the Nazi-era there was not an Internet so a great deal of the information is in print form.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

This analysis will explore the similarities that occur when between propaganda sources, the sources in question are the Nazi ran regime of early 20th century Germany from the beginning of their reign to the start of World War Two on September 1, 1939 ("United States holocaust," 2006). The second regime examined is the Presidency of George W. Bush, which was the timeframe for this period is September 11, 2001 until the invasion of Iraq on March 19,

2003 ("The invasion of," 2004). The hypothesis tested was whether or not that the propaganda of Bush administration had any similarities to the propaganda used by Nazi Germany. The literature review brought together different sources. This section will take the information from the background and run it through the rubric explained in the methodology to form the data analysis section. With that being said the research question is whether media propaganda is similar or different between post-9/11 Bush-era America and Nazi-era Germany.

Explanation of Research Design

In the methodology section the characteristics of propaganda ad hominem, appeal to authority, appeal to fear, and an appeal to prejudice were used to form a rubric that would determine what type of propaganda was used in an article and to what degree was the concept used. The rubric below has an area for each of the characteristics and the degree to which that characteristic is displayed. The characteristics are shown in the far left column and starting at the next column the level of each characteristics appearance is displayed along with a score at the top. The purpose of the score is to have a number quantity for the level of each characteristic.

Propaganda Evaluation – Scoring Rubric

	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Accomplished 3	Exemplary 4
Ad Hominem	Article hardly made use of the concept	Article made use of the concept however it was not a major influence	Key points of the article were based on the concept	A great deal of information from the article was supported by the concept
Appeal to Authority	Article hardly made use of the concept	Article made use of the concept however it was not a major influence	Key points of the article were based on the concept	A great deal of information from the article was supported by the concept
Appeal to Fear	Article hardly made use of the concept	Article made use of the concept however it was not a major influence	Key points of the article were based on the concept	A great deal of information from the article was supported by the concept
Appeal to Prejudice	Article hardly made use of the concept	Article made use of the concept however it was not a major influence	Key points of the article were based on the concept	A great deal of information from the article was supported by the concept

Analysis of Bush-Era Propaganda

In the article titled “A New World Disorder” a timed account of president Bush’s day after receiving word about the attack (Walsh, 2001). Ad hominem was not a key factor of this article, as the point of the article was to give the reader an idea of what President Bush was going

through. So in that category this article warrants a score of zero. The appeal to authority in this article was not over the top. The only way that one could assume that the article was appealing to authority was in the area of referring to president Bush in such a favorable manner, such as when he was compared to presidents Truman and Eisenhower (Walsh, 2001). A picture was being painted that President Bush was in the process of becoming the leader that America needed at that moment. With that being said this warrants a three in the appeal to authority section. Fear was in no way shape or form the main point of this Article and because of this the article gets a zero for appeal to fear. Due to the fact that President Bush was the focus of this article prejudice was not a focus of this article. In reference to appeal to prejudice the score is zero. The scores for this article were 1, 3, 0, and 0.

The next article was also a part of the same Newsweek publication, *The Day Evil Came Home*. The article was not full of ad hominem statements therefore it warrants a zero in this section. In the case of in this situation the higher authority was Senator McCain, however he was not being used to prove any fact but he was used to give the people a mindset that we all have to unite for the American cause and that we must rally behind the President and whatever cause he may take up, in the case of Appeal to Authority the score is two. In the part of the article that appealed to fear was the author's description of how she felt about coming home and the 'enemies' following her home; therefore, the case of appeal to fear the score would be 2. The article lacked both the appeal to fear and the appeal to prejudice so it warrants a zero in both of these sections. The scores for this section are as follows 0, 2, 2, and 0.

In a Newsweek magazine published on September 24th titled *After the Terror: God Bless America*, the article titled *A War We Must Win* went into detail about America's duty to wage war on the individuals who caused the attacks on New York and the Pentagon. With respect to ad

hominem, the author does not outright defame Saddam Hussein, however he does out of his way to connect his regime to the 9/11 attacks without proper evidence. In this area the article gets a score of 2. The authority that was being appealed to in this article was Mylorie by way of her book. With only two lines from her book the author wrote a whole column about the need for America to invade Iraq just based on the fact that it could be responsible for the attacks. For those reasons the article scores a four in reference to appeal to authority. Fear played an apparent but minor role in this article, as fear was used as an overtone to the patriotic focus of the first half of the article. This article scores a 1 in this area. Lastly, the focus of this article did not have much to do with prejudice, as ethnic groups were not singled out based on stereotypes or unfounded biases. This article receives a 0 in this category. In this section the scores are 2, 4, 1, and 0.

Analysis of Nazi-Era Articles

In the article *Unexpected Consequences, The Bombing War: Overcoming and Revenge*, the author Hans Schwarz van Berk covered the bombing that took place near the end of the World War as a serious issue however, he had the understanding that Germany put up a grand defense that was overcoming the onslaught by sheer determination (Bytwerk, 2001). Weapons were and did not have any defiant information in that regard. In the realm of ad hominem the author make attempts in the beginning of the article to defame other city's that gave way to chaos in the face of English bombing raids while over exaggerating the role of the German people in the face of these raids. In this case the level would score a 2. In the article the author made no appeals to any higher authority when facts were given, rather they were merely stated without any regard for citation. This case the article will receive a 0.

The patriotic overtones of the article did not outright attempt to make the reader afraid of the future of the German people and the war effort however were there was German success in there was an example of a non-German city being overrun with bombs and giving way to chaos. Bytwerk described Paris as barren and without life compared to cities like Berlin where even the foreigners were helping to rebuild. In the case of appeal to fear the article will receive a score of 2. Lastly, the article is obviously prejudiced against foreign nations in favor of Germany. These cities and people were described as having no backbone and were unable to rebuild their own homes. In the case of appeal to authority the score is 4. The article did not have a considerable amount of points where it made appeals to authority, so the score in this area is would have to be 0. The scores for this section were 2, 0, 2, and 0.

In the article *The Uncertain Casualty List: Questions and Concerns after Stalingrad* by Hans Schwarz van Berk, the defeat at Stalingrad to the Russians was covered. (Bytwerk, 2001).

Later in the article the Bytwerk tries to build up a patriotic feeling for the German people, making it seem like the Germans who are left behind are fight the good fight. With respect to Ad Hominem the article made many attempts to defame the soviet state without having any real information behind it just assumptions, the score would have to be three and the article has a lot of prejudice assumptions for the soviet state and uses this to propagate hate within the German people, so with respect to this the score is 4. Fear was not a very big factor in this article the overall tone of the article was trying to build moral for the German cause. Finally the article has a lot of prejudice assumptions for the soviet state and uses this to propagate hate within the German people, so with respect to this the score is 3. The scores of this section is 3, 4, 0, and 3

Summation of Scores

From the scores listed above one can see that both institutions made use of each form of propaganda in different ways for different purposes. There is not one way that propaganda can be used, as the author can use fear to develop the minds of the people in the favor of goals of the state. In addition to this the scores of the Bush-era were lower than the Nazi-era. The reason for this is because the Nazis had a whole minister for propaganda in place and were more active in the use of propaganda. However, Bush-era propaganda was more consistent and used more the propaganda characteristics in there articles. The general summation is that the propaganda of the Nazi-era was more intense in one or two direct areas; however, the Bush-era propaganda covered more characteristics but was not as intense.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendation

The purpose of this study was to search for and analyze the similarities between propaganda in post 9/11 media verses the propaganda in World War II Nazi Germany. The key element of this thesis was to discover how both of these propaganda machines motivated support for their cause by. From the scores one can see that both institutions made use of each form of propaganda in different ways for different purposes. There is not just one way that propaganda can be used. The scores of the Bush-era were lower than the Nazi-era. The reason for this is because the Nazis had a whole ministry for propaganda in place and were more active in the use of propaganda. However, Bush-era propaganda was more consistent and used more the propaganda characteristics in there articles. The general summation is that the propaganda of the Nazi-era was more intense in one or two direct areas; however, the Bush-era propaganda covered more characteristics but was not as intense.

The recommendation is for the rubric to be mass-produced and distributed to political scientists for the purpose of reviewing articles for propaganda. However, to answer the research question, both of the eras in question use propaganda. The Bush-era covered a broader area of propaganda characteristics while the Nazi-era covered a few characteristics, but was intense in the area of each characteristic. With this understanding the direct application of this thesis has profound implications in the field of political science. The primary reward of this thesis is the rubric that was formed.

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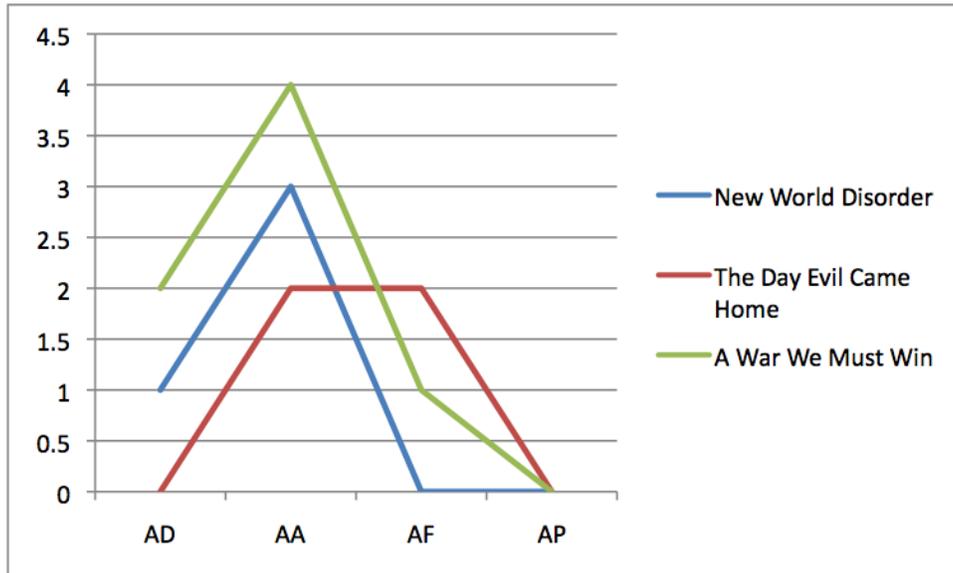
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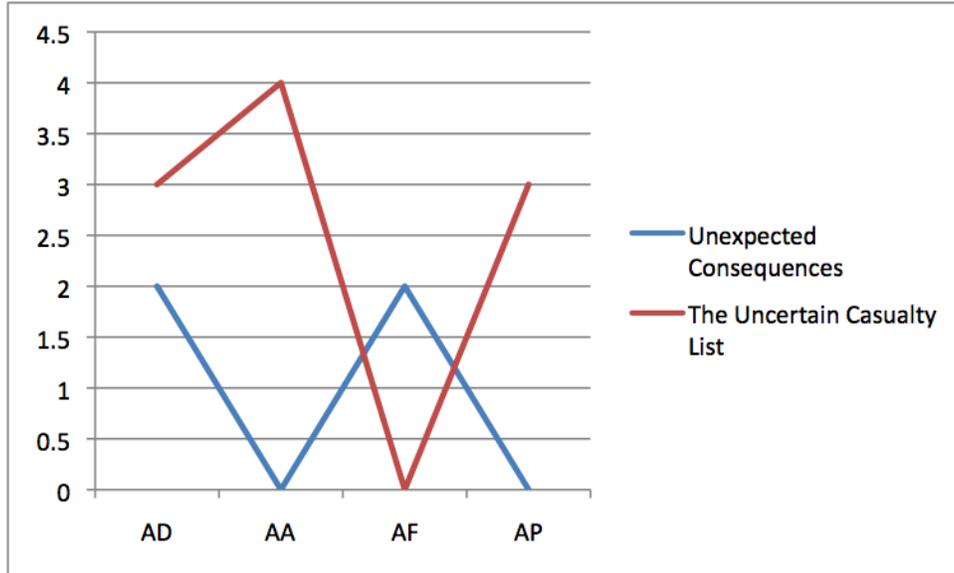
Appendix A: List of Acronyms

9/11	September 11 th 2001
GWOT	Global War on Terror
Nazi	Fascist German National Socialist Party
POW	Prisoner of War

Appendix B: Bush-Era Articles



Appendix C: Nazi-Era Articles



Iran's Nuclear Ambitions: Examining the Global Responsibility Between the United States and United Nations

Jeremy L. Roberts, Senior

Abstract

Iran has been classified a terrorist country, as it is develops the source behind weapons of mass destruction. Nuclear energy can be helpful as a natural resource but dangerous as a weapon.

Iran's gaining of nuclear-based arsenals has been debated for several years. An understanding of statistical data has been gathered for support with the major results obtained. The overall conclusion from the experiment as a whole is that embargos should not be uplifted, but stricken.

The sooner Iran can get trades that contribute to the nuclear development, the faster their progress. Forcefully, Iran should be hindered to develop nuclear weapons, but clearly the job to stop the ambition is in the hands of the U.S. just as it once was in the hands of the UN.

Introduction

The Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the more formidable powers in the Middle East region with its continual ambitions for developing nuclear weapons. The United States (US) along with Russia, China, France and the United Kingdom (UK) are nuclear powers noticed under the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT). These states are also the five members of the United Nations Security Council (U.N.S.C.). Israel, India, nor Pakistan is extended members of the NPT; therefore, they cannot violate it. Iran signatures the NPT while being a non-nuclear state in the year 1968 and had it ratified in 1970. This treaty permitted Iran the freedom to move below the radar with the capability to access nuclear materials, such as the Bushier Nuclear Power Plant completed by the Russians and The Nuclear Technology Center of Isfahan built by the Chinese (Jahn, 2013, para. 4).

The issue will be revised with thorough research and various countries have pursued understanding of the situation, as nuclear ambitions. Nuclear weapons in the wrong hands could lead to large-scale death rates, terrorist attacks', continuous invasions, and forced negotiations. The strength of the forces can grow to be something of a threat if a sample of the technology is introduced. The goal of the UN and U.S. is to prevent the development from reaching the stable potential of nuclear weapon possession.

Iran gaining nuclear power threats are dire to the U.S. and its allies. The U.S. cannot be a singular factor if Iran continues nuclear proliferation; however, it will force allied powers to dictate the usage of nuclear weapons for member states, which is the UN. The UN would have to search the country thoroughly to see whether the country have any trace of nuclear development factors. Even then, with the religious practices and rightful sovereignty, Iran can refrain from acknowledging any claims to have the weapons available or at least developed. Iran's undercover development is a problem and the technology, plutonium, and blueprints should still be available there for the near future.

Purpose & Significance of Study

The purpose of this study is to inform the audience of the problems of letting the development of nuclear weapons in Iran continues behind the scenes. The trusting eyes of the UN have allowed them to contain blueprints but state that they have disassembled the factories, which contributed to its development. Though it is impossible to know how to stop the knowledge of the weaponry from spreading, it is possible to cease its process by placing various stations in Iran and using strategic security sanctions to patrol and oversee for a couple of years.

The significance of this study is something that many political analysts have struggled to determine, as the development of nuclear weapons should not be in the reach of Iran, but the

acknowledgment of their current progress should not go untouched. Iran is a proclaimed terrorist country that supports other terrorist countries. If they gain knowledge and develop it then that is to say they will not spread the blueprints of their gains to the countries that are possibly allies for the same purpose. A nation that was believed to be small in development has nearly conquered a step towards gaining power. Iran gaining nuclear power could lead the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which is an issue to be addressed sooner rather than later.

Research Question

Iran is considered a terrorist nation that is on the verge of gaining nuclear weapons. This development could be dangerous as Israel views this development as a threat. War is a possibility with the assumption that only brute force will prevent them from developing these weapons. Between the U.S. and International Organizations (IO), the responsibility should lie with the one who plans to act to give a solution. This development could clearly start up a war, but there are many ways that a solution could be determined that would be less detrimental to citizens within Iran.

Research Question: Whether the prohibition of Iran's nuclear ambition is the global responsibility of the United States or the United Nations.

Definition of Terms

Algiers Agreement (1975): It was a treaty negotiated between leaders of Iran and Iraq. It was moderated by the UN. The treaty defined boundaries between each country and to settle disputes just so long as those boundaries declared are not compromised. This treaty had to be ratified in 1980 after another war between the two countries broke out again. It was a war of territory that both countries wanted possession of (Jahn, 2013, para. 2).

Chemical Weaponry: Instruments that are made up entirely of matter which could contain various toxic substances which utilizes gas or a liquid. It is very dangerous and harmful to people (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 3).

Frenemies: Enemies that are under a watchful eye or those who one needs to be weary of. These are allies who have been deemed untrustworthy. Those are ones who are comrades but have reasons to contain hidden ambitions that would be devastating towards another (Jahn, 2011, para. 4).

Gross National Income (GNI): Amount of money a country's residential cities can accumulate over a certain period of time. It is gained through products that the country produces. These products sell to other countries for compensation. This can derived from that country's domestic business, taxes, or fines and penalties financial standings (Drake, 2009, para. 2).

International Organizations (IO): Organizations formed for the improvement of international issues. They are built to contribute to solving geographical problems and making society peaceful in every which way it can Examples: UN, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), or International Labor Organization (ILO) (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2014, p. 25).

Invasion of Iraq 2003-11: Invasion by the U.S. as a war response to the death of thousands that worked with in the World Trade Center. The war hunted alleged perpetrators who were discovered to have had a hand in the attack on U.S. soil (Kinsella, 2009, para. 2).

Iran: The country of Iran is an Islamic country and proclaims terrorist country. Iran finances various terrorist countries. They are descendants of Persia and have been featured in countless wars with Iraq (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 5).

Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT): A treaty signed by the wielders of nuclear weapons to ensure that they are not used unless it is a necessity or last resort. Those who break this agree are undergrounds to be challenged by various countries as a declaration of war (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 42).

Nuclear Weapons: Weapons developed to utilize various nuclear reactions to create explosive damage that can ravage landscapes (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 55).

Plutonium: The periodic tangible is a rare atomic material used in nuclear research and used in creating nuclear weapons. The study of this element brought forth the discovery of nuclear weapons that many countries have today (Jahn, 2013, para. 1).

Reconstruction: Rebuilding of a nation or a country from recent destruction it has endured. The structure of something broken is revamped to function as properly as it did before it was deconstructed or broken (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 3).

Rwanda Civil War 1993-96: Genocide between two tribes that resulted in a chaotic outcome killing millions. It took the intervention of the UN to protect and bring the killing to a halt to rebuild that country (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 62).

Terrorist: Group or an individual who pursues the ambition of destruction of a society. This could be an act of murdering a leader of a beneficial group or attacking the basis of what that one society holds dear (Kinsella, 2009, para. 5).

United Nations (UN): International organization on the verge of creating peaceful solutions that could prevent war. They practice seldom negotiations and try to create treaties of pacts that would have countries to look the other way instead of having war. It contains five heads, which is U.S., China, Russia, France, and the United Kingdom (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 26).

UN General Assembly: One of the primary cores to the UN's decision-making process. It is organized as a standard forum for policymaking using representatives from different countries. It is comprised of all 193 UN members. It holds discussions of international issues that have to be addressed by the Charter (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 32).

United States (U.S.): Capitalist country built by on the basis of democracy, liberty and justice for all citizens with in it. It is proclaimed the strongest country in the world and the most advanced in the sense of a powerful military and government (Beard & Beard, 2011, p. 5).

Literature Review

History may prove how ambitious Iran's harness is, but the negativity would prove how little they should be trusted with the nuclear power. This statement narrates the ideals that the U.S. should stop Iran's development, but at the same time admire its embrace. Arguments have surfaced about the purity and the negativity of the nuclear ambition of Iran. It only can be described through knowledgeable research of where it is derived with both negative and positive aspects. Research is intended to inform the audience on whether or not the U.S. should pursue a strategy of terminating the ambition of Iran, or understand the reasoning of the ambition and lean towards the UN's economic sanction which would provide negotiations for peacekeeping. The structure of this literary review is to inform the audience of the countries that are to beware to include history from power to war to ambition. It will further identify the problems with both the pros and cons of Iran achieving nuclear power.

History of the Ambition

The Persian Empire was one of the world's most flourishing global powers. One that excelled in business, had a strong military, and conquered various countries. The level of accomplishment is proven through the discovery of the oldest written "treaty" between Akkadian

Naram-Sin and an Elamite king about 43 centuries ago (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 302). This treaty included trades with Persia and Mesopotamia, which is the oldest civilization known to man and also known to us today as Iraq. They both were countries dominated by Muslim religion. Persia fell from power through the wearing domestic wars and rebellions they faced. The empire soon deteriorated through various changes in leadership. The title of the country Iran derives from the Persian tongue of which they say Persia in their language “Aryan.” In 1937 the Iranian government decided to have other countries it had diplomatic relations with to also call it Iran as well. Various political analysts who are for Iran’s nuclear ambition see this as the peak Iran is looking for today (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 308).

It has been decades since Persia has been known as a powerful component to the world in this day and time. Iran has built conflicts with various countries and at the same time developed a knack for gaining the power back through the most unpleasant of ways. They go to war with neighboring countries and they kill off their own citizens. They also provide terrorist threats to powerful countries, but all for the privilege to negotiate. Political analysts who believe that they deserve nuclear weapons see this as the nation acting out.

For centuries Iran and Iraq have had disputes over and over again about many obstacles that include aiming for importance. In politics they have had a history of interfering separatists’ movements. Separatist movements are movements, which involve the separation of cultures. In the situation involving Iran and Iraq it made cases in politics difficult when they were to choose leaders. The religious views of each country were not the religion of chose but the branch of which both derived. Though they both were Muslim they were different branches. Iraq is a branch of the Sunni, and Iran is from the branch of the Shiite.

They often over this difference and thousands died over this disagreement. The difference is that one branch of the religion felt as though they were closer descendants of Muhammad; and they were closer to God than the other. It was not until the year 1975 when the Algiers Agreement was ratified between the two, which established that the Iraqi troops had to withdraw from Iran. This stopped the disputes for a while and cooled thing off for a minimum of five years. In 1980 Iraq invaded Iran against the treaty for the contested sovereignty waterway. This war was proclaimed the Iran and Iraq war and it lasted for a total of eight years.

In the midst Germany and the U.S. supplied Iraq with chemical weapons, which left Iran distraught. This was something to them as a betrayal of trust. It also was an act of many which destroyed the friendship they once held dear. The friendship that Iran and the U.S. had was somewhat of an alliance. It was within 1977 during the ongoing disputes with Iraq that former U.S. President Jimmy Carter announced their friendship to the world by toasting with Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi, calling Iran “an island of stability in one of the more troubled areas of the world” (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p.13).

Behind the scenes the U.S. and Iran had their trials to overcome, as the conflict over the trade of oil grew. The U.S. disagreed with the alliance Iran had with the Soviet Union, which gave speculation of communism. They saw them as radical Islam, and nuclear proliferation disagreement they have with the U.S. made it no better. The U.S. and Iran was something of a watchful ally, which in modern terms is called “frenemies” often framing their mutual disagreements as a battle between civilization and barbarism.

To have a nation to call themselves friends and supply a country that they have spent centuries in confrontation with gave reason to see the U.S. as enemies. The U.S. and Britain sold Saddam Hussein the technology and materials Iraq needed to develop nuclear, chemical, and

biological weapons. Around this time, Iraq was the domain of King Faisal, who gave Hussein general authority, and Iraq was a reliable U.S. ally. The difference between *ally* and *friendship* was made clear to Iran. In the midst the enemies and hatred spud out of these two conflicts had drawn vengeance to be born toward the U.S and Iraq.

“It started to get out of control to the point where other countries were starting to get involved because of the deadly weaponry” (Kinsella, 2009, para. 4). The UN had its security council to step in with a resolution. It was in July 1988 when they band together to draw up an agreement, which would cause them to settle their disputes. A cease-fire agreement was implemented August 20th 1988. After the war Iran’s military was left weak and distraught. Many of their troops were killed. After witnessing how easily it was for the U.S to betray them and also end the war as members of the UN, they sought out to get that power back.

For years this ambition grew, as the idea of gaining power through their own nuclear break through is one that could come from the fact that the UN is composed of five powers that are under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). To many politicians Iran’s nuclear ambitions are thought of as a plague that would disrupt the balance of power in the Middle East. As of now there are eight countries that have dominant nuclear weapons. These countries are the U.S., UK, Russia, China, France, India, North Korea, and Pakistan. The eight to the outside world of politicians of if Iran gets nuclear power there is no telling what damage they can do or be. If attacked they can be a threat to neighboring countries and if left alone could become a nuisance to the world. They believe that they could be gaining restoration to their glory days of the Persian Empire.

Iran's Nuclear Disputes

Understanding the history helps understand the issues with letting a terrorist country create nuclear weaponry. Joseph Lieberman, a former Democrat U.S. Senator from Connecticut, explained in his article "*A Dangerous New Phase in Iran's Nuclear Weapons Program*" key points on Iran gaining weapons and what they may want. He points out that with negotiations they would want to lift embargos or negotiate trade that would give them access to weaponry that would lift them to the status of a powerhouse nation.

Two political authors would argue Lieberman's views, James M. Lindsay, Senior Vice President and a leading authority on U.S. foreign policy, and Dr. Ray Takeyh, a former U.S. Department of State official. Dr. Takeyh, an Iranian-American scholar, summarized in an article for Foreign Affairs titled "*After Iran Gets the Bomb*" the concept that questions the decision on who should receive nuclear weaponry in the world. They feel as though a lot will be accomplished in the development of Iran if they gain nuclear energy. If Iran gains nuclear energy it could power their country as a natural resource (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 2).

Israel would also be in trouble if Iran gets nuclear weapons. The diplomatic disputes between the two are centuries old with stirring emotions about them getting power. War would be on the brink to prevent a well-known terrorist nation from gaining a nuclear breakthrough. However, as early as two years ago, weapons of mass destruction could not be found in Iran by the UN investigators.

Religiously the claim from Islam, which detoured questions on nuclear ambitions in Iran, was the U.S. is against an Iranian nuclear program because the U.S. applied a double standard. It is claimed that the U.S. lets Israel, Pakistan, India, Taiwan and South Korea to have nuclear weapons because they are close friends with the U.S., while Iran is the enemy. "Nuclear weapons

are for self defense but it is better if all countries including America on this earth have no nuclear weapons, because Allah hates destruction on this earth” (Jahn, 2013, para. 3).

“They continuously hid their ambitions for some time to by time for their nuclear developments” (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 3). Nations tried many times to expose their agendas, but it did not take long for their nuclear advancements became noticed. The ambitions for them have become clear now that situations have awakened in Syria. At first the UN wanted to come together to decide if war is the answer with Iran. Iran responded back stating that they will attack Israel if they are targeted. Now that they are showing threats Israel is not acting too kindly towards Iran’s remarks.

The UN can try to create economic sanctions that could be used to develop negotiations for peace. They can place officers to make sure trouble can be preserved and peace can be established. Many politicians who are thinking about the cost of war and the pile of casualties believe that a peaceful negotiation is the answer. Other politicians who see mostly negatives believe that since Iran is a big sponsor for terrorism the quality that can be developed from this conclusion is only death. They are already clarified as a terrorist state and a threat to mankind if ever to obtain nuclear weaponry in their grasp.

Iran sharing their nuclear knowledge with surrounding smaller countries would create more danger. The trouble that countries have with one country would turn to dozens who wants to negotiate (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 4). The UN has the ability to start negotiations of peace which they developed an ability for it over time. The U.S. has the ability to attack Iran and use ally forces such as Israel. This approach could create a situation that would turn to a negative or positive effect depending on the solution either the UN or the U.S. makes.

Iran at first disowned nuclear arms and claimed its atomic work was for electricity generation and other peaceful uses. This situation turned out to be a lie. The fact that they lied to hide their ambitions proves their intentions are dire. The argument of should the U.S. hinder their development is simple. Iran tampers with the threat of having these weapons and yet believes it would put them in the rankings as a power country.

The UN Security Council (UNSC) understood this potential crisis early on as told by political analyst and author Greg Bruno. Bruno opposes the ambition in an Foreign Affairs article called “A War on Words with Iran” unveiling in December 2006 the UNSC unanimously adopted Resolution of 1737 which initiated an embargo on the export to and import from Iran (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2014, p. 32). Suspicions of technology being delivered related to that of nuclear weapons. The resolution was a failure due to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

After over three years of investigating the matter the IAEA did not find any nuclear materials or activities in Iran. The embargo is a ban on trades between two or more countries, which would have been effective if not for lack of concrete evidence. However, in an import that was uncovered, they were able to uncover missiles. Bruno pointed out this too could be used towards a nuclear development.

Due to the failure of the IAEA to locate any traces of nuclear energy in Iran, today the fruits of Iran are about to bare a new beginning. On October 4th 2013 President Barack Obama sat in the White House library in Washington, DC speaking to the Associated Press (AP) about his collective knowledge on Iran’s Nuclear Ambition (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 3). He stated that Iran is approximately a little over one year away from building nuclear weapons.

As the U.S. president he seemed to think only of peace when speaking on the topic. He straddled the fence on the negatives and positives of the situation. He believes if Iran would determine their use for nuclear energy, then countries in the Middle East and others including the U.S. would be at ease. If it is the development of nuclear energy for the health of their country, it will be fine. The issue comes to play if it for the nurturing of nuclear weapons that ignites tension. With knowledge of Iran's past letting them develop nuclear energy at all would be risky.

Research Methodology

The research conducted determines where will the negative or positive actions of breaking the nuclear ambition of Iran lie. The U.S. reasoning with weaponry proved to bring force into the picture of preventing or encouraging the aspects. The UN has the authority to bring to the scenery more peaceful solutions. This authority entails negotiations of desires, gains, reasons, and hope, which could lead to the better effect. When threats arise the UN would be on the side of peaceful infringement by compressing the force. Iran may be a growing country, but feeble to the U.S. in terms of military and structure.

This study will combine death rates on the peaceful arrangements of the UN compared to the death rates of the U.S. own forceful method. People will die but on behalf of history the achievements today from their methods gave us the present. Many political analysts who are pro ambition, or believe Iran should have nuclear weapons, argue the UN should take action to slow things down and negotiate the situation of them creating nuclear bombs underground. Many analysts on the other side would argue that the U.S. should go in and dismantle all evidence altogether. Thus they can alleviate any other countries becoming involved in the situation and keep future death rates at bay.

The reasoning can only be determined on past transgressions on past problems such as terrorism support, threats against the U.S. and lying about building nuclear weapons. Peace could be used, but peace is the most difficult if the Iran resents it. The aftermath of peace is the question that can only be determined through thorough research analysis and data collection. Leading towards a complete acknowledgement, the U.S could stop the nuclear ambition or leave it to the UN to develop a plan for a more peaceful approach. The most successful action one would be the one who can achieve peace. The only way to see a more accurate outcome of the two is to look at the gathered data. It is only then to understand which decision would be the healthier approach.

Research & Design

The research conducted will be mixed methods. It will provide historical and present data developing the audiences' knowledge in the subject of the matter. Using the qualitative method the audience will understand the situation before actually developing their own thesis towards the issue. The quantitative method will become relevant through charts and summaries. To understand the safer route one must look at the death rates. Death rates will not necessarily be the issue, but unfortunate death rates will direct the audience to the most obvious conclusion.

Summaries on the other hand will define the numbers that will be displayed and lay the foundation of the conclusion. Between the U.S. and the UN the methods of achieving a solution narrows down to "gain by peace, or gain by force." In historical data there would acknowledge who gained how much by peaceful dilemmas verses the forceful methods with the result of the most peaceful outcomes. The data of each outcome of peace and the duration will be compared to one another side by side to make a more accurate conclusion (Appendix C). This conclusion will not be one sided for the data shows today to have worked for both of the party's methods.

Data Collection & Analysis

Three of the UN's most notable achievements randomly from past to present are Rwanda Civil War 1993-96, Congo 1960-64, and Sudan 2005-11, which each shows the methods of the UN ambitions growing more and more as time passes. Three randomly wars for the U.S are the *Invasion of Iraq* 2003-11, *Vietnam War* 1950-61, and *the War in Afghanistan* 2001-present (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2014, p. 28). The UN used the negotiating method and up until now started to take a little longer with solution to various obstacles. The U.S. uses a more broad approach and comes out victorious with its future effects.

Data Interpretation & Limitations

The U.S. has repetitiveness for having long-lasting wars and more casualties than the UN. This comparison comes into play when comparing the U.S. international wars with the UN peacekeeping missions. The UN on the other hand has more of its troops die than the citizens while being involving in international conflicts. The U.S. is no different having estimating over 800,000 soldiers lost each war (Drake, 2009, para. 5). The peaceful negotiations have the ability to slow down the dangers in the countries. It is only when the UN has no choice but to act, because of a countries commitment to progress with transgressions, that they will send in allies to disrupt the civil wars within the countries. The U.S. uses force from the beginning which when it is all over after a period of years the country that has been worn by war will have to rebuild. At the time of their reconstruction the U.S. will have bases set up to control the area for some time.

The role of the researcher is to provide an understanding of gathered information and data. The data will shape the structure of the thesis and define the problem. From the discovery of the problem and a clear understanding or possible solutions the audience will determine which

would be the most obvious conclusion. The role of the researcher is also to provide accurate information and display it in an understandable structure so that the audience will understand will not difficulties. The ability to talk to high-ranking officials and authority figures in the U.S. is limited, as it is difficult to get to those places as a common collegiate. Getting to those areas where it would be possible to communicate with people such as the president and high-ranking foreign affairs officers is difficult. A survey cannot be conducted accurately without these officials. High-ranking officials would be easier to associate with if they came out to Universities more often. Data will be narrowed down to data, written quotes in journals, books, and articles and well-defined charts. Limitations are not harmful to the research. The limitation only represents the narrowing of my thesis.

Data Presentation and Analysis

It has been a battle between the UN and the U.S. on the disassembling of Iran's nuclear determination. The collection of data iterates that the UN has tried to handle the situation as peaceful as possible. Now that the nuclear development has come to light, the only thing that is keeping the U.S. at bay is the UN decision-making process. The decision is two-fold in that war would bring conflict and death; whereas, a treaty would bind the U.S. with the UN and Iran systematically to decrease Iran's nuclear ambitions.

The issue to address is the death rates attained before time of peace both parties must endure. Previously the U.S. has been involved wars that were about the development of other countries or about retaliation. Meanwhile, the UN strives for peace between countries and within a nation's boundaries. Both entities would prefer to stray from war, but straying may not be an option. A conclusion on peaceful solution means taking away what Iran has spent years trying to build.

In the past two years the UN has lost 87,788 officers for the UN's peaceful cause including the Syrian crises (Drake, 2009, para. 3). Over 500,000 civilians died in the time period to bring peace, and over 600,000 were displaced in each event (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 4). This data infers that the UN's fight for peace internationally kills more for peace than it actually saves. The U.S. on the other hand is far worse with its aggressive nature because the wars go on for a longer period of time than the UN peacekeeping missions. Civilians involved in these wars may die, but the post-war effect would provide a level of peace for a longer period of time. With the War in Afghanistan (2001-2003) and the War in Iraq (2003-2011) the amount of troops that died out weighted the amount of displaced civilians the UN had (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 62).

U.S. has forced methods that actually help keep peace within countries for a long period of time rather than the treaty methods which majority of treaties are broken and have to be re-established to input new key rules. The only country that the U.S. dealt with in a span of two years is Somalia only because they were able to complete the mission of getting in and getting out in a timely manner.

These "get in, get out" methods of the U.S. are in reference to the 2013 raid where the U.S. Navy for sea, air, and land (Navy SEALs) conducted a raid in Somalia to seize a senior Al-Shabaab official. The suspected leader of Al-Qaeda was indicted in 2000 for having a role in the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Other than the war in Somalia, which was called Battle of Ras Kamboni, which happened in 2007, the recent raid was not a war (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 70). The U.S. is documented to have better results for long periods of time for the deaths endured.

There is an issue of financial stability for both the U.S. and the UN. The damages down to both organizations would be devastating to their budgets. Wars are very expensive; however, it takes a backlash on numerous countries to go to war because of how much it financially weakens the opposing countries. The key point is to look at how the countries gather money for their military. It is also wise to look at how IO like the UN gets financially supported to invade a country (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2014, p. 71).

The UN is funded *capita payments*, or in other words, dues for peacekeeping. The UN gains most of its financial support from dues and donations from countries that are primary members such as Japan, U.S., Germany, Russia, and UK. It has a regular two-year budget system determined by the UN and its specialized agencies (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 6). The General Assembly of the UN approves the determined budget and figures out all of the assessments for each of their members. This budget is broadly based on their Gross National Income (GNI), with adjustments for external debt and low per capita income. The U.S. is stated to pay less because it is the other primary board members who have the final say so on issues. From collected data the U.S. struggles financially after wars, but as of lately the UN has had its trials as well. The UN spends about \$30 billion each year, which is pretty minor compared to other budgets derived from the different governments.

When calculated in the world's military system, it is less than 3% (Drake, 2009, para. 1). For nearly two decades, the UN has faced financial difficulties. The UN financially has been forced to cut budgets dealing with important programs in all areas. Many member states do not pay the full dues. The U.S. owes the UN 80% of unpaid past dues (Drake, 2009, para. 2). Other countries have cut their donations to the UN's voluntary funds (Financing peacekeeping, 2013, para. 2).

Between the U.S. and the UN the decision between who will be in a struggle to confront Iran at this point. The first goal is to stop their nuclear development. The second goal is to detour their nuclear ambition. The third goal is to keep the peace between Iran and countries on edge of taking action such as Israel. The fourth goal is to political negotiate and band on the nuclear project, and the final goal is to conclude this peacefully as possible without any casualties and financial back waves.

Risk Issues

When comparing the U.S. war casualties to UN casualties, if war does not turn out as a success, then the deaths are worthless. It is difficult to understand the testimony of those who were lost, but the goal was never accomplished. The war on peace could be taken peacefully or forcefully. The wounded along with the soldiers who have gone *missing in action* (MIA) are a part of that fight.

Table 1

U.S. Troop Casualties

<i>Major U.S. War Casualties</i>	<i>U.S. Deaths</i>	<i>Wounded</i>	<i>Date</i>
Afghanistan	1,803	9,971	2001 - Present
Iraq War	4,800	31,965	2003 - 2011
Gulf War	258	849	1990 - 1991
Vietnam War	58,209	153,303	1955 - 1975
Korean War	36,516	92,134	1950 - 1953
World War II	405,399	670,846	1941 - 1945
World War I	116,516	204,002	1917 - 1918
Civil War	625,000	281,881	1861 - 1965
Revolutionary War	25,000	25,000	1775 - 1783
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>1,273,501</i>	<i>1,469,951</i>	

Reference: Drake, T. (2009, May 2). Monitoring GNI for Own Resource Purposes.

Table 1 shows the amount of U.S. casualties lost in previous wars. An estimated number of 1,273,501 deaths were involved in the U.S. nine major wars. The struggle is visually harsh on the tolls it took including the wounded and the soldiers who went MIA. Their efforts were not in vain. This gave a basis to the purpose of one who is fighting for their country.

In fact after each of these wars the countries that were once enemies spent decades rebuilding and did not have any terror attempts for a long period of time. This brought a timetable of peace (Szczepanski, 2012, para. 5). Though a few plots from terrorist leaders existed, once they were captured, the country itself did not pose any threats. It was the radicals and not the countries involved in these acts. The war method of the U.S. was a success compared to the over measuring attempts of the UN.

Table 2

UN Civilian Casualties

<i>Major UN Peace War Casualties</i>	<i>Civilian</i>	<i>Wounded</i>	<i>Date</i>
Operation Somalia	300,000	3,000	1993 - 1995
Bosnia Massacre	8,000	1,162	1993 - 1995
Rwandan Genocide	1,000,000	8,000	1994 - 1998
Famine Somalia	260,000	N/A	2010 - 2012
Congo Humanitarian Crises	5,400,000	800,000	1998 - Present
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>6,968,000</i>	<i>812,162</i>	

Reference: Micheal, T. (2012, March 2). Operation Enduring Freedom. Retrieved from <http://icasualties.org/oef/>.

Table 2 displays five of the past peacekeeping attempts of the UN with civilian casualties. Only three of the peacekeeping missions were a success. The other missions were not for the purpose of the peacekeeping method that the UN uses. The Bosnia Massacre (Srebrenica Genocide) shows the efforts of the UN's peacekeeping solutions. In April of 1993, the UN

declared Srebrenica, which is located in Drina Valley, of Bosnia a "safe zone" protected under the UN. Two years afterwards the UN sent United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), troops up to 400-strong of Dutch peacekeepers, to protect the people of that state. They did not prevent the town's capture by the Army of Republika Srpska (VRS) and the massacre that occurred. This failed attempt was witness to how the UN has too many failed solutions to try to control something as big as the nuclear ambition of Iran.

If the scenario does not prove the case the famine of Somalia dealt with the drought and starvation of the people of Somalia. The UN predicted the drought in early 2010, but the solution process was prolonging for a large amount of time that when a decision was made it was too late for massive amount of civilians. This mission was another failed attempt of the UN in recent years resulting in an additional death toll to be added to the casualty chart.

Another incident that would have been better handled with war is the humanitarian crises of Congo, which from 1998 to present has a death toll of approximately 5.4 million people. The deaths are derived from an ongoing failure of the UN to officially bring peace between the radicals and states in Congo. Millions of families lost in the different wars. Yet, the UN continues to strive to create treaties and peace between the different countries. Also, the ambition to create peace has not died, but if this continues methods of taking out the threats within the country may become more than just a notion but a reality.

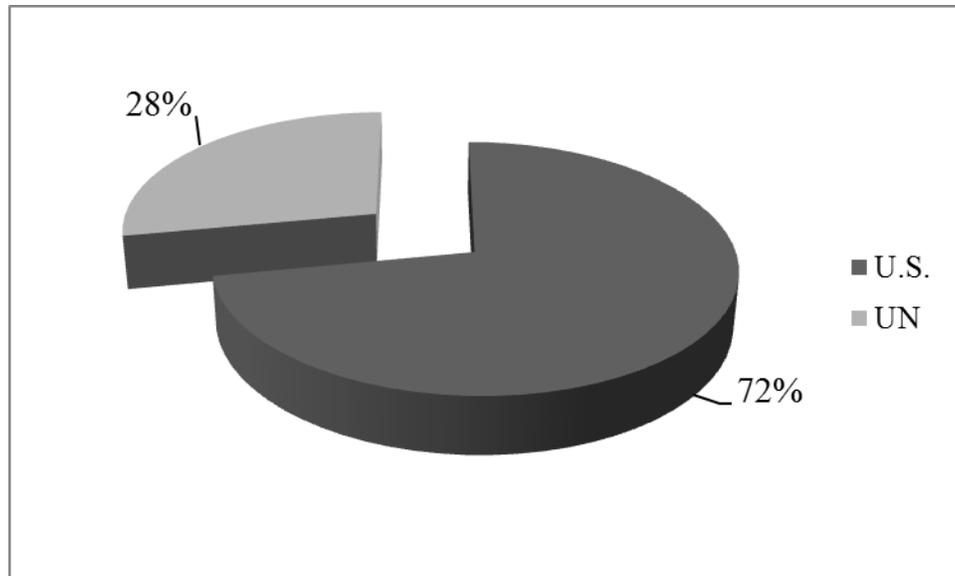


Figure 1. Troop Casualty Count (1975 - 2011).

Figure 1 displays the casualties between the UN civilians and U.S. troops. The UN gained the title of UN civilians on the chart for them striving for peace through a constant decision-making processes to come up with solutions. The chart displays the fact that many civilians died with the responsibility of the UN to protect them. This data describes the possible effects of the UN having a right in the situation. This data narrows down the significance between the U.S. and UN methods. Though the UN has a peaceful method that ended the genocide of Rwanda, it was not a complete failure. Even if the death toll was collectively over a matter of four years so many were saved thanks to the UN taking action. People were saved in the famine of Somalia for their contribution to the survivors. The Iranian negotiations of removing weapons and setting aside nuclear ambitions is a planning process that has been prolonged since before the weapons were uncovered by their own government. Time may not be on the UN's side for Israel may not be willing to wait while its neighboring country carries weapons of mass destruction.

Financial Issues

Another issue is funding for the support of dealing with Iran. The U.S. gains its money from export and imports and it gains its money from trades, domestic corporations and businesses, and exploitation (Drake, 2009, para. 3). The UN gains its money from donations and dues from presiding members, which produce beneficial results. The goals that they seek out continuously are ones that deal with a peaceful world with fewer wars and less pointless killings.

The U.S. looks out for their best interest and the UN looks out for the best interest for the world. If the UN wants anything it would be around the areas of the eradication of polio in various areas around the world where it is dominantly present. The UN would want a decrease in the deaths children from pointless wars and other diseases like the measles. The toughest goal yet would be placing sanctions against Iran for their ambitions on developing their nuclear program. The U.S. and UN have a common goal of financial stability, as war is something that leaves a country or organization it toils monetarily. To handle the nuclear crises that Iran may pose there must be some type of financial support.

Table 3 is a visual of how the UN is funded. The countries that are members give a certain percentage depending on their GNI. As shown the biggest single contributor out of the top ten donors is the U.S. If the U.S. were to attack Iran, it would not be a detriment to the U.S.; however, if they were band for a period of time for the donations, this would delve into part of the UN's budget.

Though the financial struggles the UN has been a minor setback with negotiation plans, many countries give as a donor and do not pay for their position with the UN. Many of the primary countries such as the U.S. do owe money. It makes it difficult when countries do not

step up by paying their share of the UN budget, it full payment would expand the foreign policy grants and the availability of the different options the UN can pursue (Drake, 2009, para. 7).

Table 3

UN Financial Budget

UN Financial Budget (2013)	
Country	Contribution (% of UN budget)
 United States	22.00%
 Japan	12.53%
 Germany	9.018%
 United Kingdom	6.604%
 France	6.123%
 Italy	7.999%
 Canada	3.207%
 China	7.189%
 Spain	3.177%
 Mexico	3.356%
 Russia	4.797%

Reference: Financing peacekeeping. (2013, Nov 7). Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/financing.shtml>.

Table 4 describes the way the U.S. through its government earns finances to support the country and its future ventures. As shown, the U.S. gains the majority of its money through revenue and borrowing. The U.S. by itself makes approximately over 600 billion a year through governmental derivatives (Drake, 2009). This estimate is without the borrowing and international revenues.

Table 4

U.S. Government Financial Derivatives

U.S. Government Finance Derivatives	Definition	Percentage	Gross/Yr
Tax Revenue	Government earns money from lawful taxes.	15.3%	\$377 Billion
Fines and Penalties	Government gains money from social offenders by fines and penalties.	6%	\$800 Million
Borrowing	The U.S. government borrows money from other allied countries.	35%	\$1.4 Trillion
Raiding Funds	When the government collects money from economic funds to support itself. Basically, it is the government borrowing from itself.	11%	\$1.15 Billion
Revenue	The money the U.S. government banks from its economic activities.	21%	600 Billion
Printing	The ability of the government to create its own money.	12%	7.8 Billion
	<i>Total</i>	<i>101.3%</i>	<i>2.8 Trillion</i>

Reference: (2012). The numbers: What are the federal government's sources of revenue?.

The amount of money it takes for a country to supply countless weapons, food, shelter and various assets for a site on a battlefield costs monetary support, which can weaken a nation's economy. The U.S. has already suffered recession-type circumstances because of recent wars as shown in the Table 1. However, the money was never spent in vain for the missions that the U.S. aimed to achieve and mostly accomplished. The only problem is if the U.S. is forced to engage in

combat against the people of Iran, it would make the dept that the U.S. already have worse. This situation is a dangerous case though beneficial; moreover, if action is not taken soon, President Barack Obama stated fear of Israel taking action against Iran would be imminent.

The U.S. has a better chance of solving the situation, as the UN does not have a higher success rate at negotiating peace than the U.S. has at using force to obtain it. The death rates prove that in worse case scenarios people die when the UN is involved. When the U.S. went to war it achieved its mission. Yet, the UN falls into the territory a few years later of renegotiating broken treaties. An example of a scenario where a treaty was broken is the *1975 Algiers Agreement* between Iran and Iraq which five years later was broken due to Iraq's invasion of Iran (Weiss, Forsythe, Coate, & Pease, 2013, p. 64).

The UN has a better financial advantage even though both struggle with it in their own way. The authority that the UN has over war ventures with its members also gives it an advantage. The U.S. is the biggest contributor to the UN, which will make them unable to get harsh penalties for acting them. It lends itself that the UN is weaker than the U.S. when it comes to utilizing force with a military force. The U.S. has more to lose if they enter another war, which would most likely force them to borrow more money that they cannot afford to pay back. The decision of who would solve this issue would come down to the U.S. responsibility.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations

Iran's nuclear ambitions can be negotiated without military conflict. The reasons behind the development are unsure, but it is in need of supporting details on establishing its worth. The threat facing the nation with having a terrorist classified country handle nuclear weapons will not only face the U.S. but also other surrounding countries in that area. It is for that reason the nuclear ambition of Iran needs to be handled in a diplomatic manner. Embargos can be instilled

and stressed, but not lifted, as they may want. Negotiations should help the Iranians in developing another source of natural energy for their country, which nuclear energy would be a part of. The main purpose of this study is to inform the reader of the circumstances of this development and the crisis it may bring to the region. The development of nuclear weapons should not be placed in the hands of countries that do not qualify as a Good Samaritan. The problems with letting Iran handle this type of power are the fact that Iran's past displays shady characteristics. Even now Iran is willing to negotiate for certain rights that they lost for mischievous deeds.

Iran at this time is not socially stable enough to obtain nuclear weapons. The countries that fear their new development for example, Israel, are prepared to start a war to prevent this circumstance. Iran has supported terrorism in smaller countries financially. It only makes sense to understand what makes it difficult to support these countries with this type of technology. It is dangerous to give this type of high caliber weaponry to a country that is deemed a terrorist country. The truth of the matter is that Iran displays characteristics of a country who would gain such weapons and use them to negotiate more power and that would place them in a predicament where the Middle East itself would be in trouble. The U.S. has the military power to bring the development down.

A solution or recommendation that clearly stands out is one that would bring peace or peace by force. The U.S. should try to have a settle negotiation about helping to find other ways to help Iran develop a stable energy resource. If it comes to the conclusion that they are determined to use nuclear power, then the U.S. must find ways to insist. The struggle of the UN to do so would take too much time. The U.S. has the military to make it all work, as no country should be in danger if Iran tries to become a threat.

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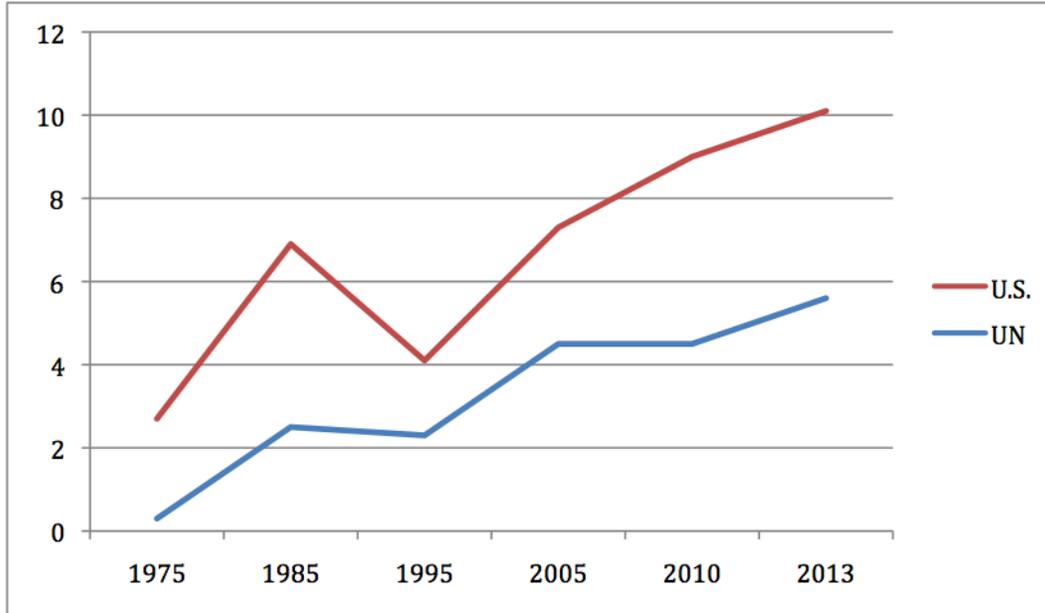
Appendix A: List of Acronyms

AP	Associated Press
GNI	Gross National Income
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ILO	International Labor Organization
IO	International Organization
MIA	Missing In Action
NPT	Non-Proliferation Treaty
SEAL	Sea, Air, and Land
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNPROFOR	United Nations Protection Force
U.S.	United States
VRS	Army of Republika Srpska

Appendix B: List of Survey Questions

1. Are you a political science major?
2. If yes, what do you know about Iran having nuclear weapons?
3. If no, what do you know about the country of Iran in the Middle East?
4. Do you believe Iran is a terrorist country?
5. What does UN stand for, and what purpose do they stand for?
6. Do you think war is necessary to make Iran give up nuclear weapons?
7. Do you believe we could trust a widely known terrorist country?
8. Iran has been developing nuclear weapons for approximately ten years now. If the UN peacefully told Iran to stop its development of nuclear weapons do you believe they would?
9. If the U.S. went in and forcefully disassembled the development stages that they find, do you believe it would come to a halt?
10. What do you believe is needed to stop Iran's nuclear ambition?

Appendix C: UN vs. U.S. Success Rate after War



Out of Bounds: Federal Government's Undue Influence Over State and Criminal Cases

Zadous L. Pollard, Senior

Abstract

The state government has always had to deal with the higher power of the federal government on criminal cases. Due to the federal government having more laws and amendments that are created just for them it is a very tough task the state government has to overcome to keep charge of cases. This thesis will illustrate cases that have been taken to court and through these cases it will display the repetition of the federal government overpowering the state government. By displaying the cases in the thesis it will demonstrate avenues that the state can implement by following the guidelines to remain in charge of the criminal cases. Through the surveys and graphs that have been created it presents how people involved with the government on all levels feel about the state and federal government battle.

Introduction

The federal government has been known to overstep boundaries when handling state criminal cases. The issue is that state criminal cases should be handled by the state, but the federal government has the power to initiate their activeness in certain criminal cases of their desire. The Tenth Amendment, which is “the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people” basically states that any powers that are not within the Constitution are automatically reserved for the state government (Sullivan, 2003, p.1). The federal government is the ultimate decision maker of the situation. There have been many cases in the past that address issues related to the federal government over stepping boundaries and over ruling the state government. Cases with state issues are sometimes governed by the federal government; therefore, cases that

will be introduced are *Missouri v. Holland*, *Mayfield v. United States*, and *United States v. Alfonso*. These cases show the trend of the federal government over powering the state government.

Before continuing, there must be a determination of the difference between a state case and a federal case in the criminal justice system. It is important to distinguish the difference of a state and federal case because it gives the opportunity to have a legitimate argument when stating facts. The jurisdiction that is active in the situation of the case defines the difference between federal and state court. The state court hears most criminal cases, as well as cases involving wills and estates, personal injuries, marriages, and divorces. State courts are in place to interpret federal law and state law to enforce violations and deliver punishments within the jurisdiction of the court. According to Classen, "if defendants are not satisfied with the state decision then they can appeal to the highest state court" (Classen, 2007, p. 14). The ability to appeal is imperative because, as many states often have to understand that their place on a case is not always secure.

In the federal court system a party is able to ask the U.S. Supreme Court for a review of the decision from appeals that have been rendered. In essence the federal court system is the framework of the state court system. The federal court system was created by the constitution and is in place to ensure state courts followed state laws as well as federal laws. As a result the federal government inserts its authority in state court demeaning its authority in state court.

For example, in the case of *Missouri v. Holland*, 252 U.S. 416 (1920), federal government trumped the state government because of the Tenth Amendment. The federal government has the ability to triumph over any states laws because the federal government can make treaties under the Tenth Amendment (Hollis, 2013, p. 5). The issue is that Congress can

interfere by enacting the executive treaty power. The power to enact a statute in order to give effect to a treaty authorized under the Executive's treaty power (Classen, 2007, p. 14).

In another example, "*Mayfield v. United States*, 504 F. Supp. 2d 1023 (2007) is a case that identified that one or more portions of the Patriot Act violated the Fourth Amendment protection against illegal searches and seizures" (Classen, 2007, p. 7). The issue was that an Army veteran did not know he was in violation of the federal government. The state government should have been more involved with this case, but the federal government was able to use the U.S. Constitution to its defense to handle the case.

In the case of *United States v. Alfonso*, 514 U.S. 549 (1995), Lopez Jr. which was the first Supreme Court case since the New Deal it set limits to Congress's power (Althouse, 1996, p.19). The *Alfonso* case is another example of how federal courts overpowered state courts. Further, *Gonzales v. Raich*, 545 U.S. 1 (2005) ruled that under the Commerce Clause, Congress may criminalize the production and use of home-grown marijuana even where states approve its use for medicinal purposes. But due to the government being so controlling, they want to enforce laws where there are certain restrictions to ensure jurisdiction to enforce federal statutes.

Statement of the Problem

The issue is that the federal government handles criminal cases that should be handled by the state. The federal government has the power to initiate in certain criminal cases should they choose. Federal government involvement is an ongoing issue; many cases demonstrate controlled from the federal justice system. Imagine the state government having complete freedom from the federal government, where the state has full responsibility of cases and issues that are meant only for the state to handle the situation. It is certain that the state government would to amend laws to prevent federal government involvement. The plan is to identify the weakness and legal ways

where the state government can remain powerful within state issues without the federal government overseeing complete control.

Purpose & Significance of the Study

The purpose of this study is to create a thesis that is very informative in designing research to understand the capabilities of findings in the federal government to help the state government remain in control of their cases that have been brought to court and will begin in trial. The state government has many ways of keeping their standards on criminal cases but that is only if the federal government does not complete the entire task and leaves room for the state to discover what did not get completed. Grabianowski explains ways to fight for possibilities of maintaining power of a state case.

The significance of this research is to point out ways where the state government can appeal cases where they are aggressive enough to defend itself against the federal government, which is the ultimate authority. Their level of control is highly favored over other governments. Over the years, there have been a number of issues with the federal government overpowering the state government on decision making on criminal cases. For example, robbery in most cases is a state crime unless it includes robbing a bank. Robbing a bank makes it federal because of the Federal Reserve investment. Even though there are only a few federal laws about robbing a bank the federal government can take the initiative to make it a federal case because, they can consider it a federal crime. The problem according to the trend of the government in state and federal cases is that, is that they pick and choose which case asserts their authority.

Research Question

The federal government has the power to control over any situation or case they feel is necessary to take over according to the constitution laws and regulations. Grabianowski stated

ways the federal government has been over turned, and the State has remained in power (Grabianowski, 2010, p. 8). The federal government's role is to be the overseer of the legislature, executive, and the judicial branches. Considering each one of these branches deal with different aspects of law, the Federal government gets to be a part of all aspects. The state governments' main interest is catering to local needs, and it can range from promoting international trade or express opinions on foreign affairs. To have a better understanding of the roles for the federal and state government, here are a few definitions of terms.

Research Question: Whether the federal government provides undue influences over the state government on state criminal court cases.

Definitions of Terms

Citizen: "Citizenship is an articulation of an inclusive political association and common culture that unites all inhabitants of diverse ethnicity, religion or race. All members are therefore members of a political community--the state. A person who legally belongs to a country and has the rights and protection of that country. A person who lives in a particular place makes them a citizen of that particular area. One entitled to the rights and privileges of a freeman, a member of a state, a native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection from it a civilian as distinguished from a specialized servant of the state" (Ryzin, 2004, p. 23).

Congress: "Formal meetings, in which representatives or experts discuss important matters, make decisions. Congress chooses not to act under certain clause; the default position is that each person in the United States has a property right not to be excluded from publicly accessible knowledge and technology. Congress has only a very limited power to create private quasi-property, rights to exclude the rest of the commoners. Congress may only create temporary

individual rights for "authors" or "inventors" to exclude others from use of "their respective writings and discoveries. They group of people who are responsible for making the laws of a country in some kinds of government. The supreme legislative body of a nation and especially of a republic, an association usually made up of delegates from constituent organizations (Pollack, 2001, p. 33).

Common Law: "The body of principles and rules based on judicial precedent rather than on legislative enactments" (Poller, 2012, p. 3).

Defendant: "The party against whom a lawsuit is filed" (Poller, 2012, p. 4).

Due Process: "In general, an individual's right to have notice of legal proceedings and a fair opportunity to be heard" (Poller, 2012, p. 4).

Evidence: "Anything tending to prove or disprove a disputed fact. Examples of evidence include, but are not limited to: testimony (oral statements made in court), tangible evidence (things or objects that have physical existence), documentary evidence (letters, memoranda, reports or other writings), and demonstrative evidence (procedure or re-creation where the cause and effect of an event are shown or acted out). See also "Circumstantial Evidence," "Rules of Evidence", and "Parole Evidence Rule" (Poller, 2012, p. 5).

Judge: "An elected or appointed official of a trial or appellate court whose responsibilities include conducting hearings, trials, and other legal proceedings to determine disputed issues of fact and law" (Poller, 2012, p. 10).

Jurisdiction: "The authority of a court to hear a particular case and to render a judgment" (Poller, 2012, p. 10).

Robbery: "The taking of property from another by force or with the threat of force" (Poller, 2012, p. 19).

Literature Review

The state government and the federal government are constantly having an ongoing issue when it comes to handling federal and state cases. The federal government has the opportunity to choose which case or criminal crime should be taken to the federal level. The federal government has more authority to have an input on state cases, more so than the state. The federal government's authority is an issue because the federal and state government representing different laws it has an effect on the outcome of the jurisdiction. There will be cases such as, *Missouri v. Holland*, 252 U.S. 416 (1920), *Mayfield v. United States*, 504 F. Supp.2d 1023 (2007), *United States v. Alfonso*, 514 U.S. 549 (1995), and *Gonzales v. Raich*, 545 U.S. 1 (2005), that will be discussed, as it shows how the federal government oversees the state government on certain criminal cases.

Rethinking the Federal Role

The *Holland* case was very imperative when it comes to discussing the issues with the state and federal government because the state's rights were in jeopardy under the Tenth Amendment due to the federal government. Under the executive's power Congress wanted to enact a statute with in order to give an effect. With the statute standing alone it would have interfered with the states' rights. "Congress has the power to give effect to a treaty authorized under the Executive's treaty power (Article II, Section 2) through legislation, even if that legislation standing alone would be an unconstitutional interference with States' rights under the Tenth Amendment" (Hollis, 2013, p.5). Congress has extreme power and rights, as it shows they have undeniable opportunities to make a legit decision on the state government.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA) was one of the treaties that had related to the *Holland* case, as this Act was more coherent towards the federal government. This treaty

does not support or interfere with property rights and sovereign powers that are related to the state government. According to Hollis, “The treaty-making power is not limited to what may be done by an unaided act of Congress with respect to rights reserved to the States. A treaty becomes the supreme law of the land and preempts those areas typically reserved to the States by the Constitution” (Hollis, 2013, p. 8). This treaty does not support the state government in the Holland case, unless it is authorized to do so, according to the federal government. “Congress can constitutionally enact a statute to enforce a treaty even if the statute by itself is unconstitutional” (Hollis, 2013, p. 8). With this being said it shows have much power the federal government has and that it does not always have to let the state be involved. The President of the United States has the power to make treaties, when treaties are created they are already in favor for the federal government or supreme government. The Congress acts according to the highest government, which the decisions are coherent with federal and supreme government.

Unfair situations in the criminal justice system happen all the time. Many times the state governments are at times the government that does not get an opportunity to fix the situation. The *Mayfield* case was an example of the federal government enforcing their laws and rules without the consent of the state government. The Uniting (and) Strengthening America (by) Providing Appropriate Tools Required (to) Intercept (and) Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT Act) was a key deal to this case.

In this case *Mayfield* discover that the, “Patriot Act violated the Fourth Amendment protection against illegal searches and seizures” (Classen, 2007, p. 13). The issue was that there was an Army Veteran, who was a United States citizen and a member of the Oregon State Bar. Unfortunately the Mayfield family discovered themselves in the presence of the federal government. According to the case facts, the family had no idea on what the real situation was.

The federal government invited themselves into their home and followed through with procedures of illegal searches. The FBI followed the Mayfield family every move and even recorded phone conversations. There were many occasions on when the federal government entered into the Mayfield family home with no permission from the state of the family. As the case progressed, the federal government admitted to, “over 300 photographs were taken inside the Mayfield home and additional photographs inside Mr. Mayfield’s law office,” showing how comfortable and steady the federal government had invaded their privacy (Classen, 2007, p.13).

The federal government was so adapted to coming into the family home, that one day they entered and did not know there was a member of the Mayfield present. A child of the family was home alone and witnessed the federal government invading the property in silence as she watched in outrage from the closet in a position they could not see her. Still up to this point the Mr. Mayfield has yet to commit a crime or the state court has approved the federal government to incorporate searches on to the family. To search their home the federal government was supposed to have warrants for entering in the home. The federal government was very unconstitutional in this matter because, they did not follow proper protocol. According to these cases rethinking the federal government role is very ideal in these situations. If the federal government continues to break the rules, more laws should be inputted to control the federal government. The federal government manipulated the laws and rules according the amendments and by this situation occurring it could have led to deeper problems such as death or murdering innocent people.

Limiting the Federal Government

The federal government in the U.S. has no limits to what they can do when criminal issues occur. They are the higher power and other governments have to follow their procedures.

The *Alfonso* and *Gonzales* case demonstrates traits of the federal government on how their powers are unlimited and how in some cases the federal government had an issue so they were able to be limited in certain scenarios.

The *Alfonso* case was a situation where, “the first Supreme Court case since the New Deal to set limits to Congress’s power under the Commerce Clause Act of the United States Constitution of 1887” (Althouse, 1996, p. 19). This case was so in depth on following the rules that restrictions were inputted to maintain the accurate reasoning in the case. According to Althouse, “The Supreme Court held that the, Gun Free School Zones Act of 1990 (GFSZA), exceeded Congress’ Commerce Clause authority,” because, they felt as if there should be no reason of a possession of a gun in a local school zone. (Althouse, 1996, p. 21). The Act is a federal law where it prohibits possession of a fire weapon in an area that is known to be a school zone. With this cause the federal government automatically handles cases that falls into this category due to law of the federal government. The Congress’ Commerce Clause authority refers to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution. This clause is “to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states” (Althouse, 1996, p. 20). It holds a prestigious role and certain powers within the federal government. The clause is so powerful and more favorable to the federal government, that the federal government uses the clause to justify power over the states and its citizens. Due to the clause, this continuously shows a repetition in the balance of the powers between the federal and state government. The clause has a reputation of being inputted to put strict laws on the state and the federal government uses it to its advantage consistently. “The clause is against states passing legislation that discriminates against or excessively burdens interstate commerce,” which justifies the federal laws (Althouse, 1996, p. 20).

In cohesiveness with the *Alfonso* case, the possession of a gun in a school zone is definitely not an economic related activity and has an effect on interstate commerce. This case was very questionable because, it had nothing to do with the commerce clause, but yet the federal government used it against the state to initiate its activeness in the *Alfonso* case. It is not critical or relevant to the economic activity that the federal government is using in accordance to the clause and the case. "It cannot, therefore, be sustained under the court's cases upholding regulations of activities that arise out of or are connected with a commercial transaction," so the federal government should not be able to use these ideas against the state government when handling the case (Althouse, 1996, p. 20). Due to the laws and clauses that were inputted into this case, it automatically had the extraction of the state. The state government had charge Alfonso with possession of gun in a school zone, but the federal government throughout that and charged him with violating the act. Depending on which government that would have been the overseer of the case would have depended upon what he would have been charged with and most importantly depended on his sentence.

The *Gonzales* case marks the dynamite power of judicial federalism. Many believed that this case would have made the federal government step back a minute to really observe what their main reasoning in the government, and to see if they feel as if they are following the rules and regulations. This case was going to be the determination of the future of the federal government. Just like the *Alfonso* case, the *Gonzales* case followed upon the Commerce Clause Act of 1887 as well. Medical marijuana was legalized for medical purpose only. The Control Substance Act was passed 91st Congress in 1970. Marijuana is only allowed if medicinal purposes, which it may only be prescribed by a medical doctor. In this case due to act being passed, it interfered with the Commerce Clause because it exceeded its power and the federal

government was able to use as an argument to handle the case and not let the state government have opportunities to be a part of the case. The federal government went to court to rule out the state, to prove that this was no longer a state issue because this case follows under the federal government Commerce Clause Act of 1887.

According to Alfonso, California passed the Compassionate Use Act of 1996, which allowed for the use of medical marijuana (Alfonso, 1996, p. 37). “The Defendants were compliant with state laws when arrested, but guilty under federal DEA laws at the time” (Alfonso, 1996, p. 37). The state had laws where marijuana was legal to be used, but the federal government felt as if it was not used properly. With this being said, Alfonso was arrested by the federal government so they arrested him under their laws and not the states. The federal government was unconstitutional because, they exceeded the commerce clause authority.

The issue was that the state approved medical purposes and even though the Commerce Clause Act of 1887 is a part of the federal government they still have restrictions that must be adhered to. “The dormant Commerce Clause refers to the prohibition, implied in the Commerce Clause Act of 1887, against states passing legislation that discriminates against or excessively burdens interstate commerce,” this was not followed because the federal government over ruled over the state laws and regulations and inputted their own laws without the states consent (Althouse, 1996, p. 24).

The federal government has been known to be repetitive by constantly overstepping its boundaries and overruling state laws. Many times the only instance that protects the state government from the federal government is when they break the amendments and the state has to step in. As cases in the near future come along and more inputs are being enacted on criminal

cases, hopefully the state government is able to find the numerous flaws of the federal government so they can continually be in charge of their state issues.

Research Methodology

The purpose of the analysis is to explore the continuously conflict of the federal government that is constantly over powering the state government on criminal cases. The mixed methods research design will be inputted into this thesis. This mixed methods research design goes cohesively with the federal government and state government because the government constantly has to change laws and rules of regulations to fit each cases personal requirement. The research question is whether the federal government provides undue influences over the state government on state criminal court cases.

Mixed methods research can be a little complex at times. This research has assumptions that are a little philosophical and has a little inquiry as well. The philosophical assumptions are a guide to the right direction of the collection and analysis. The research process has a mixture of qualitative and quantitative approaches in numerous phases. The method that is chosen to answer the thesis in the federal and state cases dilemma will be focusing on collecting, analyzing, and mixing together both qualitative and quantitative.

Its central premise is that the use of quantitative and qualitative approaches, in combination, provides a better understanding of research problems than either approach alone, this is imperative because the federal government and the state government are constantly having different issues that they have to incorporate in their daily laws (Creswell & Clark, 2007, p. 8).

This chapter will describe the research design, role of the researcher, data collection, data analysis and interpretation and the limitations. In the next section the research design will be describe diligently.

Research Design

In this chapter the design that will be conducted is a mixed method research design. It will be conducted by showing surveys on how the federal government and the state government have a different output on how the case should be handled. The survey will have questions that involve people who are familiar with the criminal justice system. Adults will be asked questions to decide on whether they are for the federal government and are they being constitutional on handling states cases. Respondents will also be questioned on whether the state government has the ability to handle their cases, or do they feel the federal government input is needed for guidance. Data will be collected and analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative research. The researcher's responsibility is to collect data using quantitative experimental procedures which will be followed up with interviews with individuals who participated in the experiment. By asking various age ranges, it will make the research accurate while still relating to the mixed methods format.

Role of the Researcher

The role for the researcher is to collect data on quantitative instruments and on qualitative data reports according to the criminal justice system, and to exploit how the federal government can be unconstitutional and overstep boundaries against the state government. The research will conduct and show how the government shows repeated actions on criminal cases that they cover that should be enacted by the state. The research will be conducted by addressing the issue with interviews, surveys, analyzing information and using what was conducted to show the issue of

the federal government overriding the state government. A researcher seeks to bring change in understanding the issues that are being presented and figuring out options in facing the situation to better it.

Data Collection & Analysis

It is very important to use as much information as possible when conducting data collection. Diversity is key when conducting research when dealing with the state and federal government. Mixed methods give the opportunity to use all the data that fits with the criminal justice system. Mixed methods gather the information needed when trying to collect data when conducting a research. “When conducting data collection it is imperative to use all the information and resources needed to complete the research question” (Classen, 2007, p. 15). The data that will be collected will to use cases as examples to see how effective the criminal justice system is as affective when there is a deciding factor on which government is best fit for the case.

Data Interpretation & Limitations

When analyzing the data of the criminal court cases and deciding on the factor of which government should interpret the laws is very important to have the best data to solve the issue. There will be a process of assigning the meaning and difference on the state and federal government cases. When deciding the difference and effect it has on each government conclusions, significance, and implications of the findings will be conducted. These steps involved will be a function used in accordance with the data analysis. Since the data analysis is basically the function off the information that is collected, it will broaden the actual purpose of the research. In the next section limitations will be explained and due to the researcher knowing this information it helps them conduct an even better research.

The criminal justice system is a very problematic system, as the laws are always changing and governments are always conflicting. The limitation is that the mixed methods are not able to solve all the problems that the criminal justice system has in store, as the cases are always changing and new laws are always being inputted. Limitations such as finding the right survey questions can be challengeable as well because not ever case and scenario will be the same. Other limitations would be being able to find people who are knowledgeable in this area. It is important to know people that are knowledgeable in the criminal justice system because it makes the research more accurate. In order for the limitations in this research to be outweighed it will take many skills, plenty of time, and most importantly educating the environment on what the main issue is. Just because cases have limitations, it does not mean the research cannot be conducted. Limitations are part of research it's just important to know what they are.

Data Presentation and Analysis

This study uses the mixed method approach, as it will point out the issues of the federal government infringing on the state government by overruling state criminal cases. The state government has limited rights because of the constitutional implications that allowed the federal government to intervene as necessary. The state government has always been hindered due to the federal government involvement. Some cases should have remained at the state level however, the federal government was able to claim jurisdiction to try the case in some situations.

As a result, states tried cases issued lesser punishment than federally tried cases for the same crime. This discrepancy happens because the federal government supersedes the state. The state is able to issue a lesser sentence due to its various laws. For instance, if a criminal or if someone is accused of robbery it is automatically a state issue unless they rob a federally insured bank. There is evidence to support that the federal government is selective in its intervention. All

in all, the state is limited in its ability. The federal government involvement diminishes the full capability of the state government.

Research is imperative when discovering the role of the state government and the federal government. When analyzing the data useful information will be presented by using charts, graphs or surveys to support the research. The data analysis is versatile, as a result of using the mixed method research approach. Diverse techniques will be employed to demonstrate the variance of the federal and state dispute. This research seeks to point out the differences on the outcomes of the state and federal government criminal cases. The results will indicate the ratio of how many times a federal and state government tries a case.

Differences on the Outcomes

When conducting research it is very important to have a variety of respondents. Having different respondents makes the research more reliable because it is able to show interest from all different avenues around the world on criminal court cases. In the research a number of men and women will be asked to participate in the research. The number of results of the people that was asked to participate will be displayed in Figure 1. Respondents as well from different age groups that are ranging from 20- 65 will be displayed in Figure 2. Many times views on the criminal justice system can augment respondents' views depending on which political party they represent. The political parties that participated in the research are Democrats, Republicans and Libertarians and it will be displayed in Figure 3.

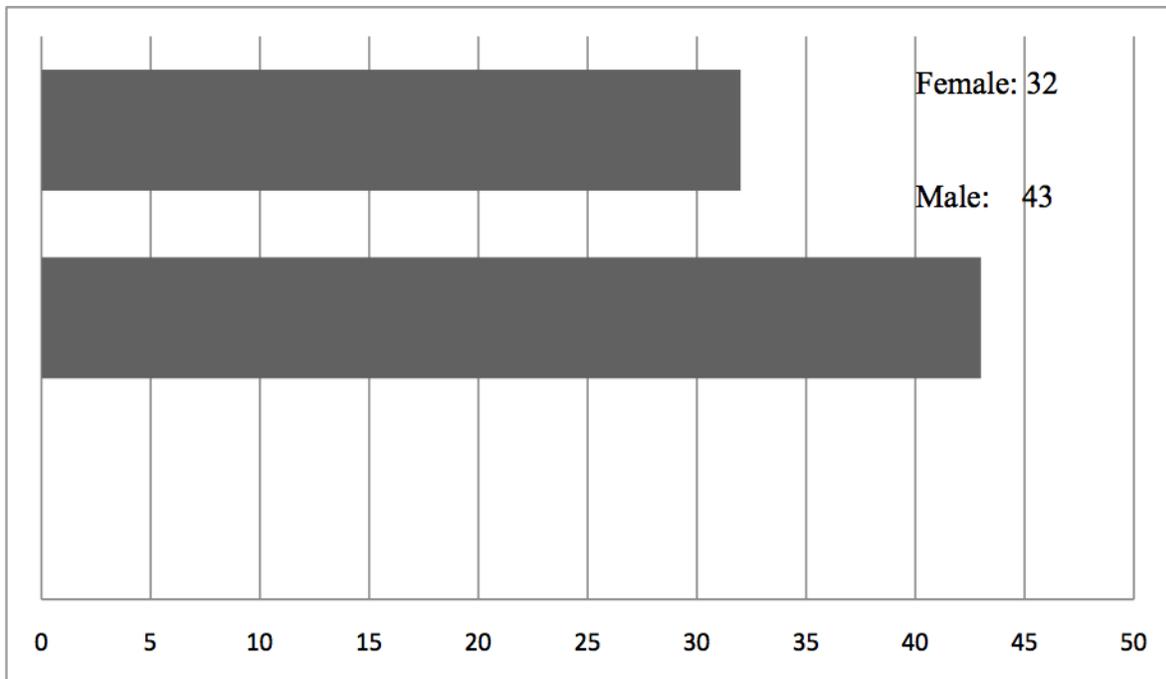


Figure 1. Participants by Gender.

Many times men are usually more active than women when handling criminals. The criminal justice system is usually considered to be male based system. Figure 1 displays the number of women that participated. The results indicated that more men are going to be more active in the research than women. Of the respondents, 43 were males and 32 were female. Although men outnumbered women, all had varying ages.

Figure 2 demonstrates the age of participants in the research. Certain age groups are imperative to the criminal justice system. If participants are young, it is harder to get accurate results because they might not understand the questions being asked. Ages ranged from 17-69 that completed the survey. This age group was chosen to represent multiple maturity levels. The older participants provided more accurate information than younger participants, which also goes hand and with the limitations that were discussed.

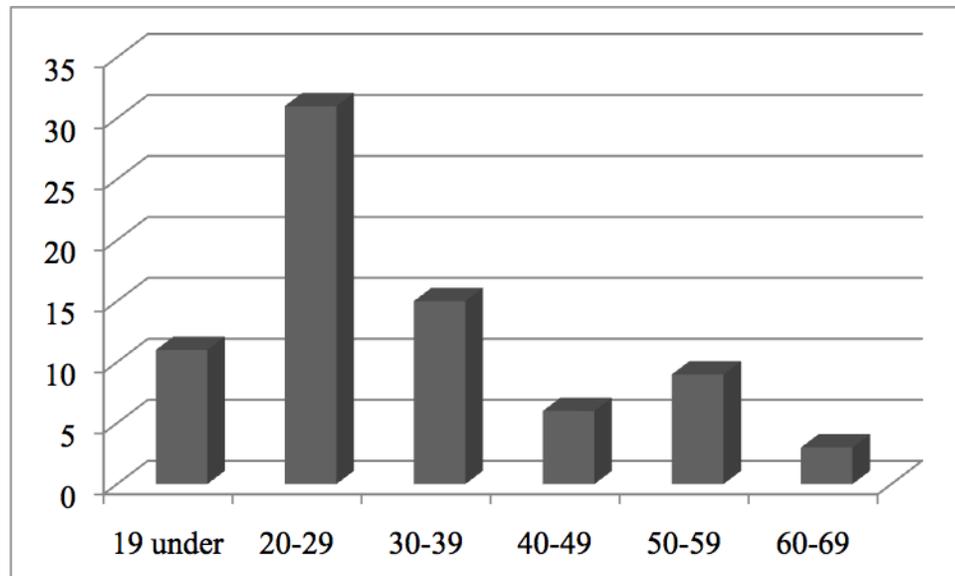


Figure 2. Age of the Participants.

Due to the wide variety of the age group of the participants, the numbers will display almost a scattered look. Most of the participants are in their 20's and as the age increased the number of participants decreased. Therefore, due to the early 20's participants one can assume that most of them are active and very informed about the criminal justice system. The younger respondents are informed but not as mature as the older ones which will likely lead to opposing political views. Political views, depending on the researcher, can control an everyday decision. The criminal justice system is very diverse, as either the researcher is all for the federal government system or they are for the state government system. Political views are important to the research because it will give the researcher the opportunity to analyze the reasoning behind the participant's decision about the state and federal government system.

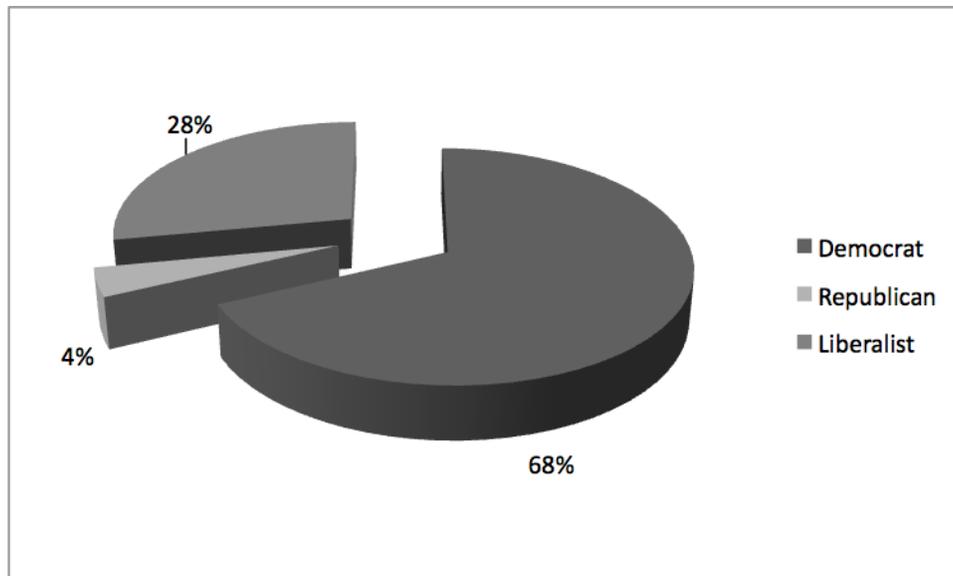


Figure 3. Political Views on the Criminal Justice System.

Democrats are definitely the dominant participants in the research. Democrats over the years have been very unfavorable of the federal government. The number of supporters has declined vigorously over the years. Since Barack Obama became President of the United States, studies have shown that Democrats have decreased their favorable views of the federal government by 10 percent. The federal government rarely had any votes from Republicans and studies show that Republicans have decreased by 7 percent.

The libertarian opinion did not have much of an effect on the research due to the number of participants. Figure 4 demonstrates the difference in the number of incarcerations between the state and federal governments. This discrepancy is imperative displaying the gap between the federal government and the state government convictions and sentences that require prison terms.

State v. Federal Government

The number of incarcerations in the criminal justice system is constantly rising. The federal government and state government have definitely had their hands full when dealing with

criminal cases. Although, the federal government has exceeded the number of lock ups compared to the state government the state government also has been involved vigorously. For example, Table 1 demonstrates the difference of how many people the federal government has incarcerated inmates more so than the state government.

Table 1

Adult Incarceration

	2000	2009	2010
Federal Prisoners	1,937,482	2,291,912	2,266,832
• Prisons	133,921	196,318	198,339
• Federal Facilities	124,540	171,000	173,138
• Privately Operated Facilities	9,381	25,201	25,318
• Community Corrections Center	6,143	8,629	8,769
	2000	2009	2010
State Prisoners	1,176,269	1,319,391	1,311,136
• State Facilities	1,104,424	1,216,145	1,224,771
• Privately Operate Facilities	71,845	94,246	95,365
• Local Jails	621,149	748,434	767,728

According to a recent survey, respondents were asked if they feel like the federal government over powers the state government. According to Figure 4, 80 percent of the respondents feel as if the federal government over powers the state government. The other 20 percent thinks otherwise. The survey provided pertinent information and it demonstrates the activeness of the community and how they feel on this issue.

Figure 4 displays questions that were asked to determine how they feel the federal government overpowers the state government. The respondents were a variety of men and women in different age groups with different political views.

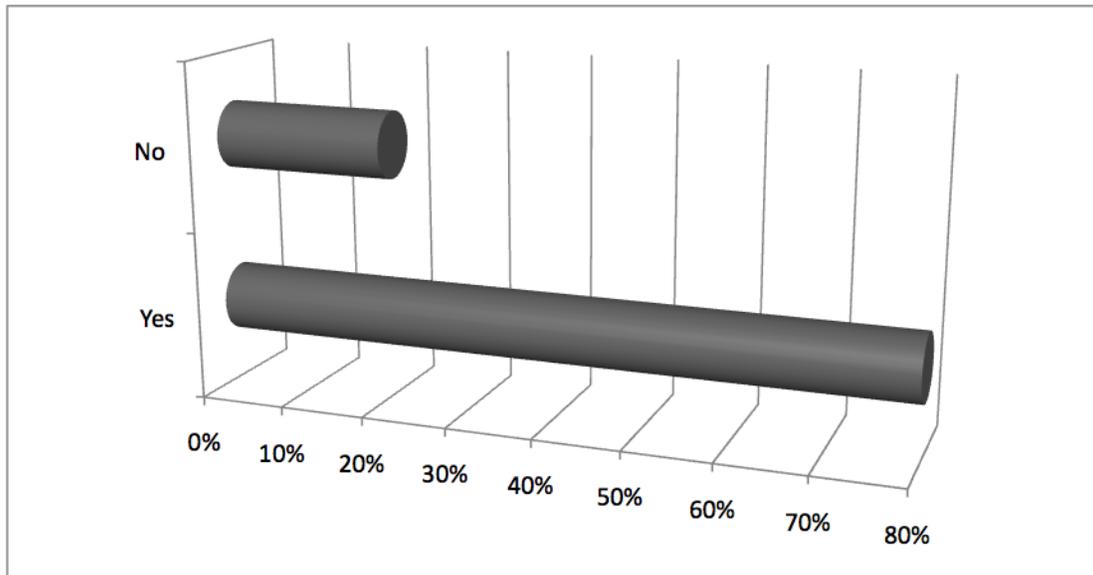


Figure 4. Federal Overpowering the State.

The results indicate that 20 percent of the participants feel as if the federal government does not overpower the state government compared to the 80 percent that feels the federal government does. The overpowering of the state by federal government is something many can relate to because of the stiff sentences rendered by the federal government.

Figure 5 displays information on whether the participants feel as if the federal government is fair when being a deciding factor on the criminal cases. Even though individuals may feel as the federal government may over power the state government on criminal cases, they also have to be knowledgeable enough to know if the federal government overall makes the right decision or if they think they are fair or not. This research displays they feel the federal government is not fair. There are 47 that respond that they are not and 28 agreeing the federal government are fair on the verdict of cases.



Figure 5. Federal Government Fairness on Criminal Cases.

Although people may not agree that the federal government is not rational on their criminal cases, they must also be asked they feel like the state government is fair of their cases as well. The state government is also put in the same category of being competitive when going to trial. Figure 6 demonstrates the respondents believe the state government is fair when deciding on criminal court cases.

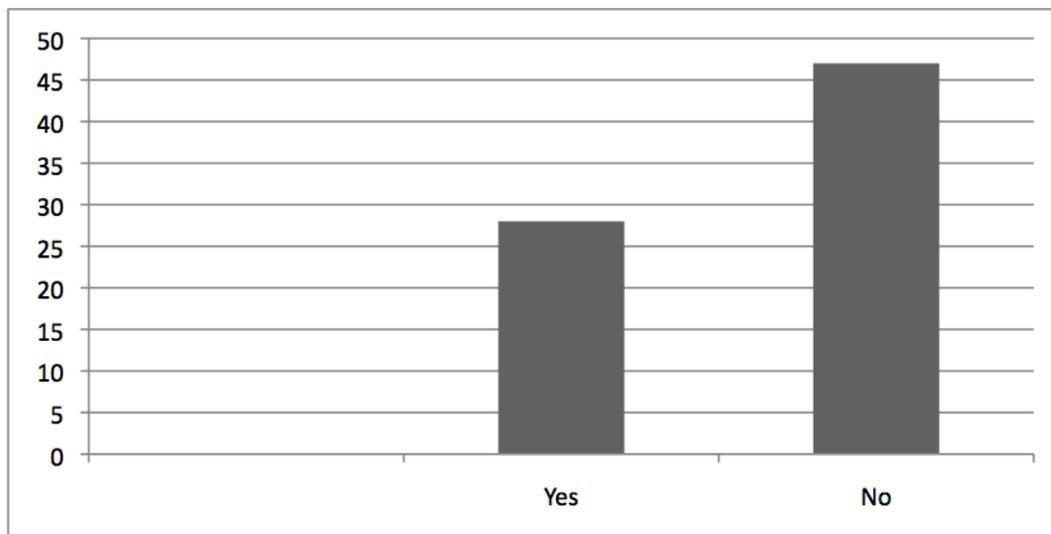


Figure 6. State Government Fairness.

The results display the participants feel as if the state government is fairer when deciding on criminal court cases. The studies are all in favor of the state criminal justice system while the federal government is less favorable. The state government laws almost impair them, as they have no choice but to be as accurate as possible when deciding on the justification on the cases.

The surveys and participants display the battle the state government has with the federal government. The 75 various participants in study are diverse and they all have different political views. The participants agreed that the federal government constantly oversteps their boundaries in the state government. As stated before, the only thing that protects the state government is when the federal government breaks the Amendment and the state has to step in. In the near future, laws and rules will change to stop the federal government from over powering the state government in criminal court cases.

Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations

The problem that is the federal government is handling criminal cases that should be considered a state issue. As stated previously, the federal government has the power to initiate in certain criminal cases should they choose. The federal government does not have to have permission from the state to do so. This is an ongoing issue, as many cases demonstrate control from the federal justice system. Imagine the state government having complete freedom from the federal government, where the state has full responsibility of cases and issues that are meant only for the state to handle. It is certain that the state government would have a lot of changes and rules in the way the federal government overpowers the state. In this study there has been identification on the weakness and legal ways where the state government can remain powerful over state issues without the federal government exercising complete control.

The purpose of the study was to create a thesis that was very informative in designing research. With this being said it was designed to help understand the capabilities of findings in the federal government to help the state government remain in control of their cases, namely, the cases that have been brought to court and will begin in trial. The state government has many ways of keeping their standards on criminal cases but that is only if the federal government does not complete the entire task and leaves room for the state to discover what did not get completed. Throughout the thesis Grabianowski demonstrated ways the state government could fight for possibilities of maintaining power of a state case. With this being said the whole entire purpose was to show how much power the federal government has to the point where they are almost unstoppable.

Conclusion

This research pointed out ways where the state government was able to appeal cases where they are aggressive enough to defend itself against the federal government, which is the ultimate authority. The federal government's level of control is highly favored over other governments. They are highly preferred over the state government because they have more to offer than the state. The federal government is financed by tariffs, they have more laws that are flexible, and they have more companies under them compared to the state government. In the thesis a number of issues with the federal government overpowering the state government on decision making on criminal cases were covered, such as robbery, which in most cases is a state crime unless it includes robbing a bank. It also discussed how it compared to the state government. Even though there are only a few federal laws about robbing a bank the federal government can take the initiative to make it a federal case because they can consider it a federal crime. The problem, according to the trend of the government in state and federal cases is that,

they pick and choose which case asserts their authority. With all of the issues that were pointed out, the federal government overpowering the state government is still an ongoing issue.

Recommendations

The federal government it has demonstrated how the government basically has no boundaries. State governments have always been less important when being ratified in court, as they do not have as many opportunities as the federal government to create amendments and laws, in order for them to handle criminal cases. The first recommendation is that in the next five years laws and amendments should be put in place to put a hold on the federal government. This action will allow the state governments to fight more by having more input on implementing the appeals process. More studies and surveys should be continuously involved to keep the people more abreast about the criminal justice system. The second recommendation is that there should be more people controlling the overall functions of the governments to control and keep regulations intact allowing policies and procedures to be regulated.

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Appendix A: List of Acronyms

CCA	Commerce Clause Act
CSA	Control Substance Act
CUA	Compassionate Use Act
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration
FBI	Federal Bureau Investigation
GFSZA	Gun Free School Zone Act
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
PATRIOT	Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism
US	United States

Appendix B: List of Authorities

Cases

Gonzales v. Raich, 545 U.S. 1 (2005)

Mayfield v. United States, 504 F. Supp. 2d 1023 (2007)

Missouri v. Holland, 252 U.S. 416 (1920)

United States v. Alfonso, 514 U.S. 549 (1995)

Statutes

Commerce Clause Act, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

Compassionate Use Act of 1996, (11362.5 H & S)

Control Substance Act of 1887, 21 USC § 812

Gun Free School Zone Act of 1990, 18 USCA § 921

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, 16 U.S.C.A§ 703-712

Appendix C: List of Survey Questions

1. Have you ever heard of the federal and state government system prior to the survey?
2. Do you know the meaning of the federal government?
3. Do you know the meaning of the state government?
4. Would you participate in the survey?
5. Do you think knowing the information about these survey questions are important?
6. Have you ever had to deal with the state and federal government personally?
7. Do you work for the state or federal government?
8. Do you feel like the federal government overpowers the state government on criminal cases?
9. Do you think the federal government is fair on criminal cases?
10. Do you think the state government is fair on state criminal cases?
11. Do you think the federal and state government is fair on their sentencing?

Appendix D: Criminals Incarcerated by the Federal Government System

Murder Victims by Weapon, 2007-2011

Weapons	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	14,916	14,224	13,752	13,164	12,664
Total Firearms:	10,129	9,528	9,199	8,874	8,583
Handguns	7,398	6,800	6,501	6,115	6,220
Rifles	453	380	351	367	323
Shotguns	457	442	423	366	356
Other guns	116	81	96	93	97
Firearms, (Type Not Stated)	1,705	1,825	1,828	1,933	1,587
Knives or Cutting Instruments	1,817	1,888	1,836	1,732	1,694
Blunt Objects (Clubs, Hammers, Etc.)	647	603	623	549	496
Personal Weapons (Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc.)	869	875	817	769	728
Poison	10	9	7	11	5
Explosives	1	11	2	4	12
Fire	131	85	98	78	75
Narcotics	52	34	52	45	29
Drowning	12	16	8	10	15
Strangulation	134	89	122	122	85
Asphyxiation	109	87	84	98	89
Other weapons (Weapons Not Stated)	1,005	999	904	872	853

Media Bias in the Courtroom: Twists and Turns of the Media and Social Networking

Markevis B. Greene, Senior

Abstract

Social media and television media today not only acts a means of communication and entertainment, but also determines our everyday lives. Through the social media network, people receive news updates faster than people who watch the news on a daily basis. Unfortunately, the news information that people receive from both social and television media appears to be somewhat faulty and misleading based on how quickly the news is broadcasting, especially with national court cases whether in the state or federal court systems. The following thesis will discuss social and television media as well as how both social and television media sources can report on certain stories while still being informative and truthful on the topic.

Introduction

Social media overtakes and depicts how people communicate to others through cyberspace. Social media websites such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram are updated with videos, pictures, or tweets from individuals every second. Social media not only oversees how individuals communicate on a day-to-day basis, but also is the same process used in today's media, mostly in news reports, such as United States Supreme Court (U.S.S.C.) court cases or state court cases. Social network websites can lead to controversial stories especially when it comes to major U.S.S.C. court cases such as the Trayvon Martin trial in which social media websites leaked photos of Martin's body after being gunned down by George Zimmerman which stirred conflict between Martin and Zimmerman as well as conflict across the country.

Aside from social media, media networks can also be demeaning in dealing with U.S.S.C. and state court cases. Media networks such as BBC, C-SPAN, CNN, NBC, and HLN all report

their findings on certain specific stories and relate them back to for the audience to watch and depict their views and beliefs. Unfortunately, due to the number of media news networks appearing on television, many stories end up being interpreted incorrectly; therefore providing false and misleading information which leads to controversial disputes between the viewers and the non-viewers on the news. Although social media and media networks work simultaneously with each other, both networks tend to receive stories at a different rate. While social media networks receive information instantly through the Internet, media networks receive information based on what is provided to them at the moment; however, the networks tend to receive new information on the hour rather than in seconds which can also lead to false and misleading information and facts thus causing many viewers to receive mixed information from media and social media networks. The following thesis proposal will discover why social media and media networks are lacking in professionalism in news reports and what can be done to make sure that information is properly received and report. In addition, the thesis will discover how social media and media networks handle report on U.S.S.C. court cases as well as state court cases such as Florida State Court.

Statement of the Problem

Throughout the years people have judged and ridiculed other people whose cases were known nationally thanks to the media. Instead creating an act of justice and servitude to the community, certain cases stirred havoc and mayhem across neighboring cities and nationwide. For instance, during the O.J. Simpson trial in October of 1995 after the verdict was found guilty, riots broke out in major cities such as Los Angeles and Chicago because of the jury and the judges overall decision. People today who were followers of the O.J. Simpson trial still argue that Simpson was not due to a fair trial and Simpson should have been found not guilty for the

murder of Nicole Brown Simpson, while others argue that Simpson deserves to serve time in prison for committing a crime of high standards. Now that both media and social media networks have taken over the masses, the U.S.S.C. and state courts are having trouble trying to keep the media from interfering with major cases that could ultimately ruin the overall structure of the court system.

Purpose & Significance of the Study

The purpose of this research is to determine if the media and social media networks can distribute quality and detailed information on cases to media without providing misleading information that might cause conflict with the U.S.S.C., state courts and the general public. Furthermore, this research acts and serves as a guide for future journalist or reporters who plan to pursue careers in journalism and want to avoid reporting fraudulent information to the general public. By providing detailed and structured related to the story, viewers now have a clear understanding as to what is happening in the world rather than report on based what is opinion-based stories.

The significance of the study is due to the fact that in the Richard Leopold and Nathan Loeb murder trials and the Scopes “Monkey Trial” received extensive coverage in 1924-1925. However, in 1935, the media went too far with massive and intrusive coverage of the trial of Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping of Charles Lindbergh’s child. A backlash quickly developed. In 1937, the Canon 35 of the American Bar Association (ABA), firmly declaring that media cameras and microphones should be banned from courtrooms, as they “degrade the court and create misconceptions with respect thereto” (Mauro, 2011, p. 262). With respect to the policies and procedures of the U.S. Supreme Court (U.S.S.C.) in the late 1930s, the media was banned to ever set foot inside the courtrooms in order to protect the lives of the innocent.

Today in 2013 the media still has little to no respect for the courtrooms as they still infiltrate court cases to deliver to the news. However, news easily spread out to everyone media outlet as people can access the news everywhere via Internet, mobile phone, iPad or tablet. Either way the news has certain of disturbing a story to the public; however, the facts of the story of or completely accurate nor precise and, therefore, could lead to problems in the report. In simpler terms, by reporting a story without detailed information can lead the viewers and victim of the story in a confused state of mind.

Research Question

The following thesis will determine whether the research question is true and how should the media find alternatives to reporting on certain court cases. In addition, this thesis will also determine whether social media and media networks should have a role depicting the outcome for a court case or should the judge become the overall decision maker and both social media and media networks should have no authority over the verdict of the victim whatsoever regardless if the victim's verdict is guilty or not guilty.

Research Question: Whether television media and social media should report on court cases with breaking news information or wait on reporting until the full details of the story becomes available.

Definition of Terms

American Bar Association (ABA): Founded in 1878 in Chicago, Illinois, the ABA is committed to supporting the legal profession with practical resources for legal professionals while improving the administration of justice, accrediting law schools, establishing model ethical codes, and more (ABA, 2013).

Facebook: a popular free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages and keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues (Facebook, 2013).

Media: refers to various means of communication. For example, television, radio, and the newspaper are different types of media. The term can also be used as a collective noun for the press or news reporting agencies (Media, 2013).

Social media: refers to the digital tools that enable people to create, share, exchange and comment on online content. The most obvious social networks are the ones we all know and use like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others (Bolton, 2012).

Twitter: a free social messaging service for sending and receiving short messages in real time. The messages are limited to 140 characters and they are called tweets (Walker, 2013).

Verdict: An award of damages calculated by a jury dividing the sum of each juror's proposed award by the number of jurors. A quotient verdict is generally improper—in particular, if a jury agrees in advance to calculate its award using a quotient verdict—due to a lack of full deliberation of issues (Cornell University Law, 2010).

Literature Review

The media sees itself as a way to access and obtain any sort of information and broadcast it anyway possible whether it is through television, radio or even the Internet. The following literature review will view several different authors' arguments on whether or not the media should be allowed in the courtrooms and if it is against their 1st Amendment right to do so, as technological advancements use the social media websites Twitter, Facebook and YouTube, to instantly have access to break news within minutes. In addition, the social media websites is also used in courtrooms during criminal trials. Judges in certain courtrooms have restrictions against

the media bringing cameras, microphones, tape recorders, and phones in the courtroom. There are other judges that allow media equipment leading to controversy and speculation of purpose and subject matter.

The Richard Leopold and Nathan Loeb murder trials and the Scopes “Monkey Trial” received extensive coverage in 1924-1925. However, in 1935, the media went too far with massive and intrusive coverage of the trial of Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping of Charles Lindbergh’s child. A backlash quickly developed. In 1937, the Canon 35 of the American Bar Association (ABA), firmly declaring that media cameras and microphones should be banned from courtrooms, as they “degrade the court and create misconceptions with respect thereto” (Mauro, 2011, p. 262). With respect to the policies and procedures of the U.S.S.C. in the late 1930s, the media was banned to ever set foot inside the courtrooms in order to protect the lives of the innocent.

In 1946, with the U.S.S.C.’s blessing, Rule 53 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure was adopted, banning the taking of photographs in criminal trials (CRS, 2006, p. 3). According to the rule, any state that was caught photographing criminal trials while under the prohibition, received major consequences and fines which stirred up a mass amount of controversy between the state court and the U.S.S.C. Unfortunately, not every state adopted a ban; however, controversy over the issue continued. Disputes over broadcast coverage of state trials allowed the U.S.S.C. to put its jurisprudential stamp on the issue in the 1960s. In cases of *Estes v. Texas*, 318 U.S. 532 (1965) and *Sheppard v. Maxwell*, 384 U.S. 333 (1966), the U.S.S.C. justices voiced their horror at the excesses of media coverage of sensational trials. In the case of Billie Sol Estes, a Texas financier with powerful political connections, the U.S.S.C. observed that, “the television camera is a powerful weapon. Intentionally or inadvertently it can destroy an accused and his

case in the eyes of the public” (Mauro, 2011, p. 262), which meant that the media can either be used for good or for evil when reporting major stories or court cases on nationwide television and it is up to the general public to determine for themselves the fate of victim’s verdict is right or wrong. The divided U.S.S.C. ruled that the media coverage was so pervasive that it denied Estes the due process of law guaranteed by the Constitution.

Media Cameras in the Courtroom

With the advancement of technology over the years, the U.S.S.C. as well as other courts, is well put together when addressing the media. The Roberts Court, now six years old, is in some ways the U.S.S.C. that Byron White predicted it would be back in 1993 (Greenburg, 2007, par. 3). Refreshed with new faces, the U.S.S.C. now has younger members who do not remember a time without television. Though some members stray away from cameras and microphones, there are few who step out from the comfort zone into the spotlight to a certain level.

Perhaps taking a cue from their telegenic new chief justice, who runs the U.S.S.C. with a lighter hand than his predecessor William Rehnquist, the justices have been on television far more than their predecessors. Chief Justice Roberts himself made several televised appearances early in his tenure; Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg turned up on the CBS Sunday Morning show; Justice John Paul Stevens spoke on ABC News about the death of President Gerald Ford (Greenburg, 2007, par. 1); and Justice Stephen Breyer gamely appeared on an NPR quiz show (failing, ultimately, to give any correct answers) (Greenburg, 2007, par. 3). Justice Breyer also made the media rounds when he had a new book to sell, as have both Justices Thomas and Antonin Scalia. Thomas and Scalia, vocal opponents of allowing cameras in the Court, have held their noses and submitted to interviews on CBS News’s 60 Minutes.

The U.S.S.C. justices have also consented to extensive interviews with C-SPAN and legal writing guru Bryan Garner. The justices' motivation was clearly educational in these instances. With C-SPAN, the target was the general public – or at least that part of it that watches C-SPAN. The Garner tapes were aimed at U.S.S.C. advocates, with justices offering tips and admonitions about what they like to see or not see in the briefs and arguments submitted to them.

Target audiences may also benefit the most from the broadcast of oral arguments. Boyce Martin Jr., a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit wrote,

“I find it rather bewildering that some of the same justices who have serious reservations about placing cameras in the courtroom have also thrust themselves into the public spotlight through their lectures, debates, and books,” in an article that also asserted that “televising the U.S.S.C.’s oral arguments will not produce the disastrous results predicted by some frightened justices; rather, it will yield positive results. Most notably, it will increase the public’s knowledge of the appellate process” (Mauro, 2011, p. 263).

Pros & Cons of Cameras in Courtrooms

Kathleen Brickey defends her argument on the media by starting with how the media is faced against the jury. Brickey claims how the role of the juror always seems to be difficult task as they put before the media to address the general public. During the Martha Stewart trial in 2004, juror Chappel Hartridge went to every media network there was to address his opinion on the trial shortly after the verdict. It was known later that due to Hartridge comments on the verdict, many people believe Stewart could have been subjected to a “fair trial based on class bias” (Brickey, 2008 p. 629). However, others believe that his role as a juror was not a fair decision and may have well started a rouse to rant on the issue about stock fraud and corporate greed (Brickey, 2008, p.629). Basically, Martha Stewart could have been found not guilty if her

social status had not been case to whether or not she was “capable of a fair trial put against her” (Brickey, 2008, p. 629).

While Brickey complains about the dangers and consequences of the media, Tony Mauro argues that the U.S.S.C. and state courts should allow the media to follow through on trials. According to *“Let the Cameras Roll: Cameras in the Court and the Myth of Supreme Court Exceptionalism”*, Mauro states that the U.S.S.C. “has never allowed the broadcast news media to bring the tools of their trade – cameras and microphones – into its courtroom for coverage of its proceedings” (Mauro, 2011, p. 259). The U.S.S.C. has prohibited entry from the media in order for them receive coverage on any case throughout the history of the court system. Prior to every other public institution in the United States, the media has been able to maintain such a ban to this day, ignoring the successive winds of change brought by radio, television and the Internet.

Mauro further states that the U.S.S.C. views itself as a “unique institution that can and should resist the demands of the information age” (Mauro, 2011, p. 259). In similar terms, the U.S.S.C. wishes to go about handling court cases the traditional ways since the beginning and not have to refer to using any advanced technology such as cameras in order to reach a verdict. It can handle the U.S.S.C.’s needs and render a decision without the assistance from the media.

In response to the questions from the members of the U.S. Congress about allowing cameras in the courtroom, Justice Anthony Kennedy stated that the courtroom “operates on a different time line, a different chronology. We speak a different grammar,” (Mauro, 2011, p. 259). In any case, whether state or the U.S.S.C., the media will not permit cameras in the courtroom as it is against the decision of the U.S.S.C. or the state court.

On June 25, 2011, when Chief Justice John Roberts Jr. was asked about cameras in the U.S.S.C., he acknowledged that many states have allowed cameras in, but said, “The U.S.S.C. is

different, not only domestically but in terms of its impact worldwide” (Mauro, 2011, p. 259). The U.S.S.C. may have its opinions and doubts about having cameras in the courtrooms; however, it does not think that they will change the rules of the courtroom, unless it is absolutely necessary. Therefore, the rules of the courtroom are still remain intact, but can be altered on certain occasions in which the media are allowed to report on court cases.

Social Media in the Courtroom

Cameras and microphones play a major role in the courtroom; therefore, social media networks using as YouTube, Twitter and Instagram has now become the access hub for news whether it is entertainment or the courtroom. Author Nicole Galli speaks on how social media networks can cause some major controversy within the courtroom leading to serious consequences. According to “Tweeting to trial: Making social media your ‘friend’ in discovery and the courtroom,” Galli states that social media networks can be used “formally or informally, within or outside of the discovery process” (Galli & Simpkins, 2013, p. 1). Individuals that use social media can use it for personal or business use depending on the situation.

Social media can be used as evidence in a trial as social media content “is neither privileged nor protected by any right of privacy,” which means that if an individual’s personal thoughts or words are not protected by copyright, then their opinion does not exist (Galli & Simpkins, 2013, p. 3). In other words, once an individual’s statement or phrase is written online and is not claimed as their own thought or words, the social media networks are permitted to use those words for their own personal use; therefore, there is no violation of copyright infringement.

Once a verdict has been reached, the media is the first to see the report the news; however, since technology is constantly improving, social media tends to be ones to receive the information first. Both the media and social media networks share a lack of sticking to basic

facts when it comes to court cases which brings up the question: whether the media or social media can properly report on court cases using only basic facts and not opinion-based thoughts. The next chapter will explain the details and methods as to how the media and social media can go about reporting the news of the court cases without providing faulty and misleading information.

Research Methodology

The purpose of this analysis is to discover the differences between the media networks and the social media networks and how they interpret courtroom cases. Specifically, this study examined the similarities and differences as far as the qualities and characteristics that both the media and social media networks share with each other. However, this study proved that social media are the first to receive case stories faster than the media based on the time allowed. Unfortunately, when it comes to reporting on a case, each side receives faulty and misleading information, which then causes the general public who watched or followed the story online to receive negative feedback instead of the absolute facts. To further investigate this study, the researcher will undergo a series of cases in which the media and social media played a role in as well as the general public's responses to the cases.

Research Question: Whether television media and social media should report on court cases with breaking news information or wait on reporting until the full details of the story becomes available.

This chapter describes the research design, the role of the researcher, the data collection, analysis and interpretation procedures and the limitations that arose from the methodology selected for this investigation.

Research Design

The research design will consist of various court cases as well as some charts and graph. Basically, the court cases will give an in-depth at how the media and social media played a role or not in deciding a verdict and the public's reaction behind the verdict. This analysis will take more of a qualitative approach; however, if it comes to the point that graphs, surveys and charts may become a key factor, then this analysis could lead to mixed methods approach. In addition, the charts and graphs (if needed) will show how the general public receives the new as well as how long they spend watching or using it via Internet of television.

The researcher is required to conduct and analyze research in the media as he is a political science major at Savannah State University (SSU). The research has also watched various news networks and programs such as ABC, CNN, NBC, BBC CBS, C-SPAN and MSNBC in order to be intertwined with local news as well as national news from around the world. As a political major, the researcher will take what he learned from this thesis to help him prepare for law school and pursue his career as a lawyer.

Data Collection & Analysis

The researcher will be collecting the collecting data through court cases, charts and graphs. Prior to collecting data, this thesis will also look at views of the general public and how they respond to the cases Finally, the case studies itself will serve as a foundation in which the reader will have a brief as to why these specific and charts correspond to the data depicted in the thesis. By observing the case studies, readers will now how the courtrooms react when it comes to cases within the U.S.S.C.

Data Interpretation & Limitations

Majority of the data collected will come from scholarly journal as well as Lexis as most of the information collected will be qualitative research based on it being more on facts than actual data. In addition, some of the data used will be from highly recommended sources and will depicted the outcome of this thesis and determine whether or not the media and social media are reporting the right or wrong information to the general public on U.S.S.C. cases. Lastly, the data collected will show little to no bias as some individuals will leave behind their responses to the media via charts and graphs.

Throughout the rest of the research, there will be limitations. Some of the limitations include the lack of data needed to conduct and analyze a well-drawn conclusion to the problem. Another limitation would the amount of information used in the thesis that could be end being faulty, misleading information or sometimes information seems to be too narrowed down or too broad to depict. Lastly, since most of the information dates back to an earlier time, the limitation here would be the ability to access those certain cases dues to confidentiality as well as outdated sources which could cause my research to be null and void. Once these limitations have been avoided, then the goal of conduct this research can easily be attempted.

Data Analysis and Presentation

The following section will feature tables, charts and graphs from surveys based on two groups: the general population and the target audience dealing with U.S.S.C. and state court cases in social media and television. The analysis along with the responses and results of the survey questions about the media and social media will both reflect the reactions of the general population as well as the target audience to each question based on the survey that was given. Moreover, the analysis of the two surveys will not only provide the data collected and gathered

from the general public and the target audience, but also led to a point where a final conclusion can be given based on the responses received from both surveys. Based upon the results, the conclusion will determine whether the research question that was mentioned in the previous chapter was true or false. If the outcome is false, then the research question will be answered with a negative response. If the outcome is true, then the research question will be answered with a positive response.

Through data analysis, the responses recorded during the survey will determine the outcome of the thesis. Prior to the data collected from the surveys, the analysis will also explain in detail the overall reactions of the general population and the target audience. The graphs will depict and analyze the results according to the importance of each question as well as their intake to how these questions impact their daily lives.

Research Question: Whether television media and social media should report on court cases with breaking news information or wait on reporting until the full details of the story becomes available

Media and the General Population

Social media not only plays a role in how people's daily lives are depicted, but also provides means of communication through the mobile devices such as iPads, iPods, tablets and iPhones. In spite of the social media and the technology wave, news sources from major news networks also provide detailed information for the general population to receive; however, people stated they receive faster news updates from social media networks rather news media. In order to prove that the theory was true, the experiment was to give a survey to a select group of students: one being the general population and the other being the target audience, or focus group of the experiment. Figures 1-4 will focus also the results received from survey given to the

general population group of students as well as analyze and interpret the reactions based on the number of responses to each question.

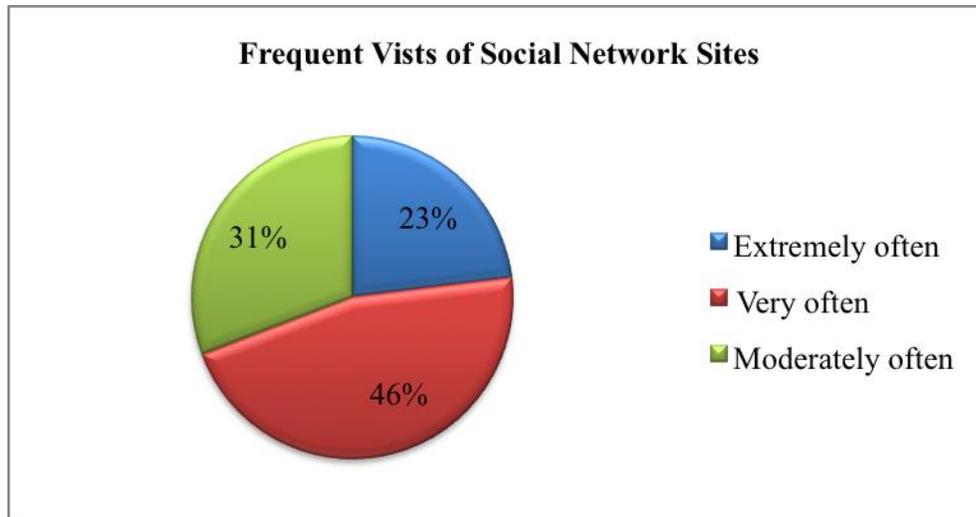


Figure 1. Frequent Visits of Social Network Sites.

Figure 1 represents the number of times in which the general population visits social networking websites. According to the graph, about half of the general population (mainly 46%), visit social network sites very often while 31% of the population uses social network websites often in moderation. Specifically, about two-thirds of the population may have access to social media every once in a while. Lastly, 23% of the general population uses social media on an everyday basis as a way of communication amongst friends and family and other associates. Moreover, the data from Figure 1 has shown that very often does the population uses social network sites in their lives.

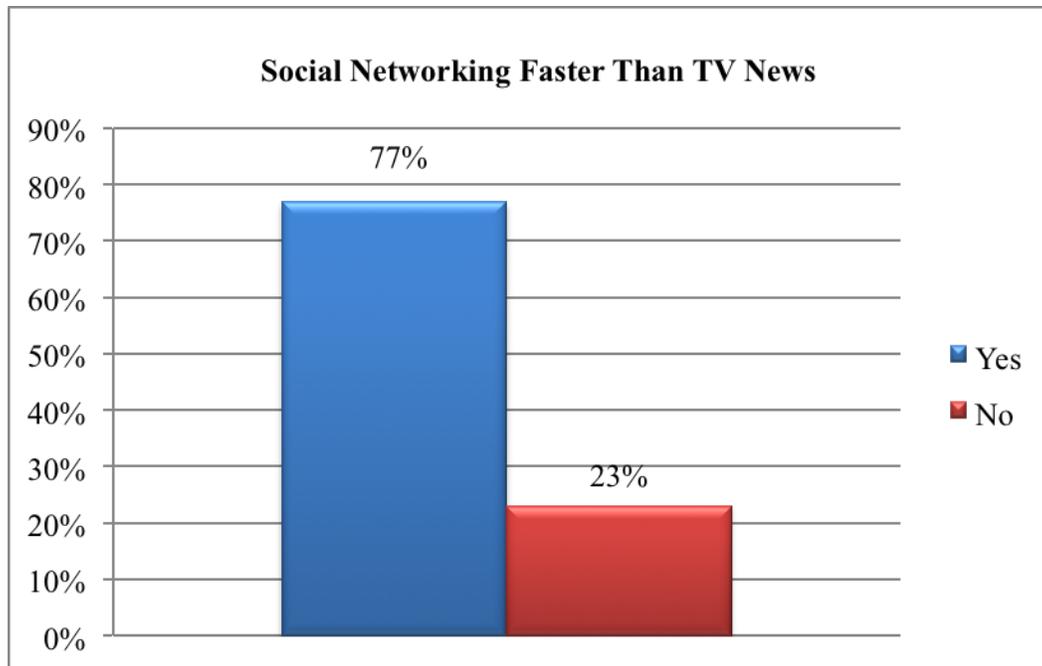


Figure 2. Social Network Faster Than TV News.

While Figure 1 explained how the general population partakes in social media on an everyday basis, Figure 2 displays whether the general population believes that social network sites are faster than television when it comes to updated news information. Based on the results received, nearly 77% believed that news updates are faster when they come through social media, while 23% of the population disagrees that the news media networks tends to receive news updates almost as fast as any social media network. The fact of the matter shows that more of the population receives news faster through social media by the minute while it would take news crews almost thirty minutes to an hour to report new information.

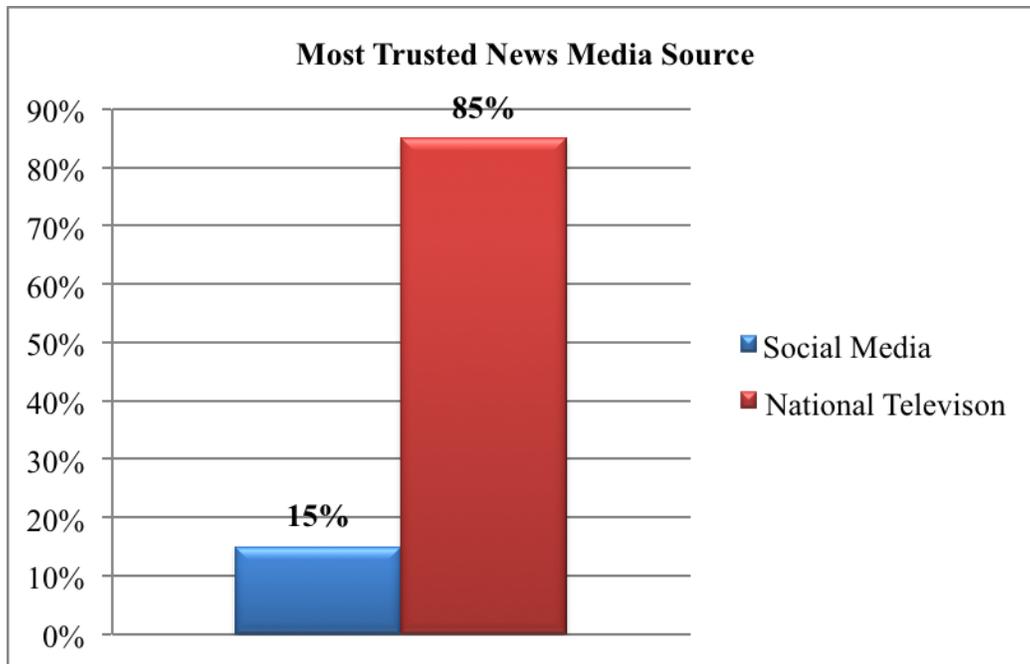


Figure 3. Most Trusted Media Source.

Figure 3 is somewhat similar to the data displayed in Figure 2; however, the column above explains which the following media source does the general population trusts when it comes to relating news stories to the general public. Based on the column, the majority of the population, which is about 85%, believes national television is the most trusted media source for everything news related, whereas the other 15% believe social networks websites are as trustworthy as any news station across the country. Though social media may be faster when it comes to news updates, some still choose to trust the news from television stations to provide detailed information on news stories being reported.

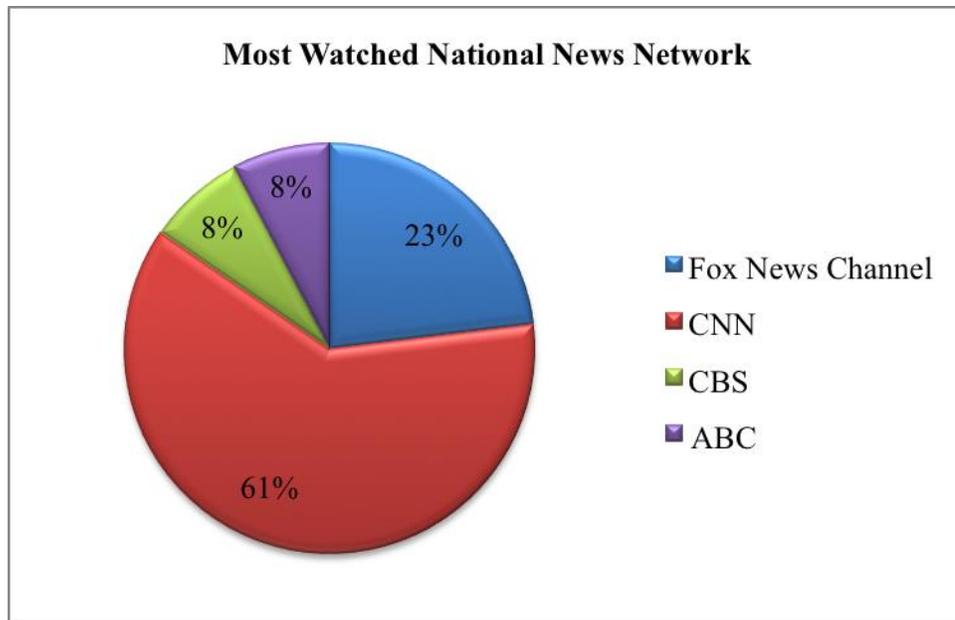


Figure 4. Most Watched National News Network.

In Figure 4, the graph indicates which news networks the general population watches the most. On average, 61% of the general population stated that CNN is the network where they receive most news reports. On the other hand, 23% of the population watches Fox News Channel for daily news updates, whereas ABC and CBS are both watched by only 8% of the population. Relatively speaking, the majority of the population swings toward national news over local news. CNN is the most watched news channel and Fox News Channel is the second most watched news channel.

Media and Social Media on a Political Scale

While the general population tends to believe that social media and the media are just another source of entertainment for our expense, there are few political scientists who see otherwise. Those political scientists are considered be the target audience, or focused group of the situation. Thanks to the target audience, Figures 5-8 will discuss the reactions of the social media and media networks on a political scale based on the responses from the target audience.

Overall, the target audience will be the main focus of the study as the data that was analyzed based on the rigorous survey questions that challenged their issue at hand.

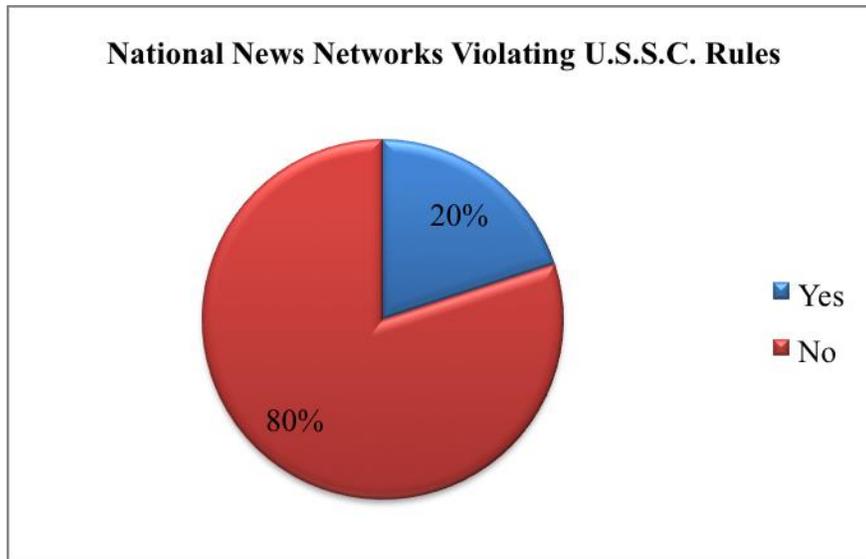


Figure 5. National News Networks Violating U.S.S.C. Rules.

Figure 5 asks the target audience whether or not the news networks violate the rules and policies of the U.S.S.C. The U.S.S.C. carries a renowned and dignified repore in the judicial system in the U.S. allowing certain members of the media to report a case. According to the graph, 80% believe the news networks are not violating the ruling authority of the U.S.S.C. while 20% believe news reporters are corrupting the U.S.S.C. by permitting the news networks to infiltrate of certain U.S.S.C. or state court cases.

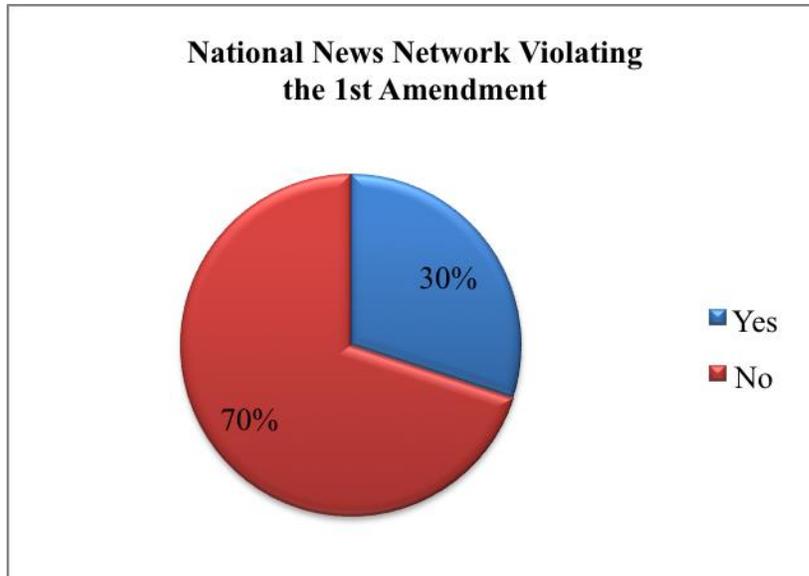


Figure 6. National News Networks Violating the 1st Amendment.

Figure 6 shows the overall result of the target audience who believe or do not believe that the news networks are abusing the 1st Amendment Rights of the U.S. Constitution. In retrospect, 70% believe the networks are not violating the 1st Amendment since it represents the right to freedom of speech, whereas 30% believe that the news networks are abusing the powers of the 1st Amendment and freedom of speech in order to reach a profitable gain.

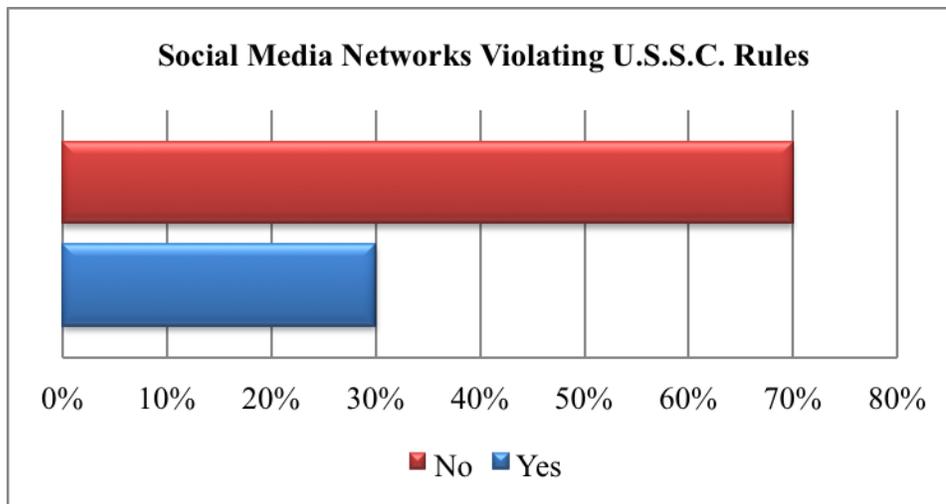


Figure 7. Social Media Networks Violating U.S.S.C. Rules.

Figure 7 is almost similar to Figures 5 and 6; however, the graph focuses on the social media violating the rules of the U.S.S.C. instead of the news networks. Again, the result remained the same as 70% believe the social media does not violate the rules of the U.S.S.C. whatsoever while 30% believes that the social media plays a part of in corrupting the system as much as the news networks. Therefore, the answer still remains the same. Social media is not a factor to the U.S.S.C. standards in any particular way.

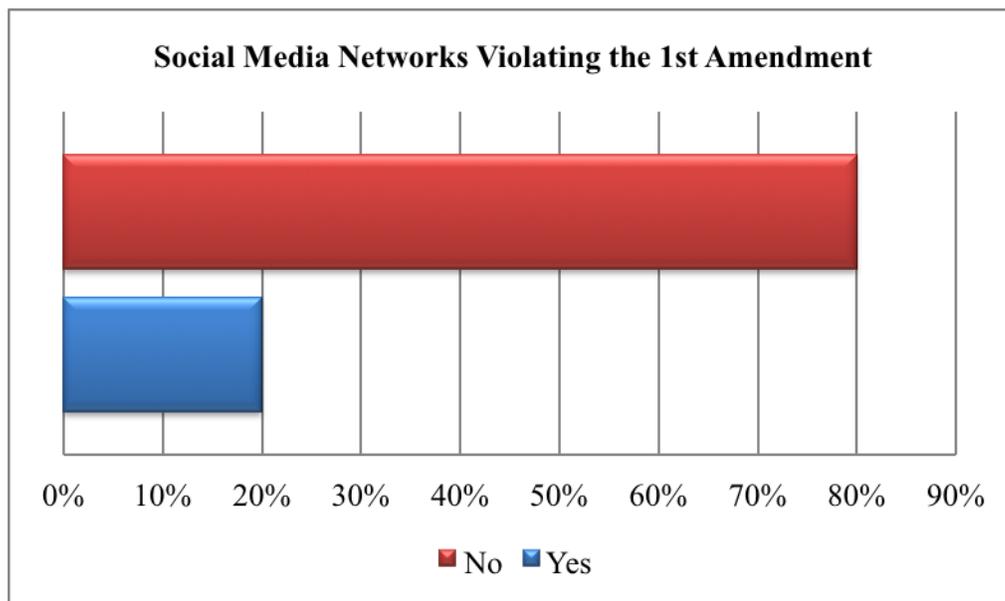


Figure 8. Social Media Networks Violating the 1st Amendment.

Figure 8 shows the overall result of the target audience who believes or does not believe the social media networks are abusing the 1st Amendment Rights to the U.S. Constitution rather the news networks. In relation to Figure 8, 70% believe the networks are not violating the 1st Amendment since it represents the right to freedom of speech, whereas 30% believe the news networks are abusing the powers of the 1st Amendment and freedom of speech in order to reach a profitable gain. In hindsight, social media networks are above the 1st Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and shares the same opportunities of those from the news networks.

Moreover, the data for both issues shows social media and the news networks do not violate the rules and regulations of U.S.S.C. nor does it abuse the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Based on the data received and analyzed, both the target audience and the general population believe the news networks and social media both intertwine with each other to collect information needed to report a story. Therefore, the theory to the experiment has proven to be false and that the overall thesis proves to be wrong.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations

Throughout the years people have judged and ridiculed other people whose cases were known nationally thanks to the media. Instead creating an act of justice and servitude to the community, certain cases stirred havoc and mayhem across neighboring cities and nationwide. For instance, during the O.J. Simpson trial in October of 1995 after the verdict was found guilty, riots broke out in major cities such as Los Angeles and Chicago because of the jury and the judges overall decision. People today who were followers of the O.J. Simpson trial still argue that Simpson was not due to a fair trial and Simpson should have been found not guilty for the murder of Nicole Brown Simpson, while others argue that Simpson deserves to serve time in prison for committing a crime of high standards. Now that both media and social media networks have taken over the masses, the U.S.S.C. and state courts are having trouble trying to keep the media from interfering with major cases that could ultimately ruin the overall structure of the court system.

The purpose of this research was to determine if the media and social media networks can distribute quality and detailed information on cases to media without providing misleading information that might cause conflict with the U.S.S.C., state courts and the general public. Furthermore, this research acts and serves as a guide for future journalist or reporters who plan to

pursue careers in journalism and want to avoid reporting fraudulent information to the general public. By providing detailed and structured related to the story, viewers now have a clear understanding as to what is happening in the world rather than report on based what is opinion-based stories.

Conclusion

After much conducted research and tests, the thesis is proven to be false in terms of the social and television media networks. Overall, social and television media is in no doubt violating the rules of the state court or the U.S.S.C., as well as violating the results of the 1st Amendment. After reviewing the results from the surveys, both the general population and the target audience agreed that the social and television media networks are not in violation of constitutional rights as it is the media's right to freedom of speech. Despite the fact the both the state courts and the U.S.S.C. have strict rules, both the general population and the target audience also agreed that having social and television media networks report on court cases is under no circumstance abusing the rules of both the state and U.S.S.C. court system. Therefore, the theory to the experiment is false in which the thesis is also false and social and television media are providing factual and truthful information whether or not breaking news arrives on time.

Recommendations

Although the theory of the thesis may have been proven to be false, the thesis is far from being completed. As an undergraduate student of SSU who plans to continue their post-secondary education in graduate school, the thesis will carry on as a more focused group will be observed and viewed upon. Upon further study, this thesis will further advance the opportunity of becoming not only a future lawyer, but also a stronger and more sophisticated political scientist. In short, the thesis on social and television media draws to a close; however, the thesis

is far from reaching the end. Instead, the thesis is the beginning of something even better to come in the near future.

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Appendix A: List of Acronyms

ABA	American Bar Association
ABC	American Broadcasting Company
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
CBS	Columbia Broadcasting System
C-SPAN	Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network
CNN	Cable News Network
NBC	National Broadcasting Company
NPR	National Public Radio
U.S.S.C.	United States Supreme Court
U.S.	United States

Appendix B: List of Authorities

Estes v. Texas, 381 U.S. 532 (1965)

Sheppard v. Maxwell, 384 U.S. 333 (1966)

Appendix C: List of Survey Questions to General Population

1. What is your gender?
2. What is your age?
3. What is your classification?
4. What is your ethnicity?
5. Which social networking website do you use most often?
6. Which social networking websites do you receive the most updates/news information from?
7. How often do you visit social networking websites?
8. Do you believe that social networking websites are faster than television when it comes to news updates?
9. When it comes to national political news, which of the following national television networks do you watch the most?
10. When it comes to national political news, which media source do you trust the most?

*Note: General population represents freshman through senior classifications in Savannah State University's POLS 2401 Global Issues course.

Appendix D: List of Survey Questions to Target Audience

1. What is your gender?
2. What is your age?
3. What is your classification?
4. What is your ethnicity?
5. Which social networking websites do you receive the most updates/news information from?
6. When it comes to national political news, which of the following national television networks do you watch the most?
7. Do you believe that national news networks are violating the rules and regulations of the U.S.S.C./state courts?
8. When it comes to news updates do you believe that national news networks are violating the 1st Amendment Rights of U.S. Constitution?
9. Do you believe that social media networks are violating the rules and regulations of the U.S.S.C./state courts?
10. When it comes to news updates do you believe that social media networks are violating the 1st Amendment Rights of U.S. Constitution?

*Note: Target audience represents freshman through senior classifications in Savannah State University's POLS 3201 American Judicial Process course.

Appendix E: Table of Court Cases

<i>Case Number</i>	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Date Argued</i>	<i>Verdict</i>	<i>Public/Media Response</i>
592012CF001083A	<i>State of Florida v. Zimmerman</i>	July 13, 2013	Not Guilty	Supporters of Zimmerman were happy the jury took the side of Zimmerman's claim that he shot Martin in self-defense, while other supporters said that the prosecution had failed to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt.
BA097211	<i>People of the State of California v. Orenthal James Simpson</i>	November 2, 1994	Not Guilty	The media coverage was itself at times controversial; the issue of whether or not to allow any video cameras into the courtroom was among the first issues Judge Ito had to decide, ultimately ruling that live camera coverage was warranted

<i>Case Number</i>	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Date Argued</i>	<i>Verdict</i>	<i>Public/Media Response</i>
48-2008-CF-015606-O	<i>State of Florida v. Casey Marie Anthony</i>	May 24, 2011	Not Guilty	As the verdicts were read, Facebook, Twitter and other such sites were flooded with reactions from viewers expressing their disbelief and outrage. Some Twitter messages openly wished for Ms. Anthony's death.

Notes