

History

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Study of American History What is your general view of the study of American history? With all its undertakings in general, American history seems to exhibit both the strengths and the weaknesses of the United States as a nation in response to socio-political influences from within itself and the neighboring countries or civilization of the ancient or recent past. On this aspect, at least, the study of American history may be claimed to be one that is colorful and rich in adventures since while America managed to acquire power through conquests, the native inhabitants of the land did have a share of being subject to colonies by foreign invasion within a specific historical time span. Having complex roots to analyze, I think that studying America would prove both difficult and interesting in the sense that the bulk of studies are composed of various areas which may come hard to keep track of especially considering the quantity of details in volumes of text yet it would fascinate to find out as well that there are innumerable topics worth a student's delight in the process. Since it entails becoming disposed to understand different cultures, economic development, and diplomatic relations, American history makes an overwhelming piece of literary journey with its own thematic features of action, romance, and mystery.

(2) Why does it seem like many people have a negative view of studying history, and how do you think that negative interpretation could be changed?

Several people might have maintained a negative perspective of looking into the American history due to countless enormous controversies which have inevitably become attached to the system of U. S. government, set of ideologies, and knowledge of American societies, their corresponding beliefs, and functions in former ages and as they are at present. One such concrete

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instance is tolerating a negative view that Americans are racists by nature for it is by far established in human consciousness that the term ‘ American’ is more often immediately attributed to an individual belonging to the ‘ white race’. Hence, upon recollection of unpleasant events as black slavery during the period of Civil Rights Movement, it occurs amply reasonable to place education with American history under negative mode of interpretation. To persuade people to turn from such unfavorable perception, it would help to consider addressing the curriculum on American history course with some necessary modifications. The approach to teaching American history must be reformed in such a way as to shape student’s thoughts to obtain better understanding of the factors that constitute failure of the American government and the long- or short-term impacts brought by the industrial revolution and mixed socio-ethnic issues which could have greatly contributed to the weak traits and crises the American nation has been widely identified with.

(3) Briefly discuss a modern day debate in America (role of government, American military intervention, immigration, or another of your choosing). When President Obama chose the subject of health care for his speech, he specified that illegal immigrants would not be entitled to benefit from his proposed set of reforms. This event raised concerns and queries which to this point are still on hot debate spots where debaters treat their critique of the matter under multiple angles. For example, the proponent to the side of illegal immigrants may argue that they ought to defend their right to be granted proper health care and medical attention provided they can afford it. On the contrary, however, the opposing side may insist on requiring legalization with due process in fair treatment of all legal citizens who must

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rightfully avail of the health service or coverage.

(4) Explain why you think looking at the historical record of this modern debate is either useful (or not) in understanding the debate.

In modern debates as such, examining historical records would be useful for a chance to figure whether there emerged a policy or incident in the past which particularly dealt with the same situation. This way, whatever took place at the time as Americans sought resolution for the conflict may project being a source or reference of huge advantage for authorities and civilians to weigh options more wisely prior to arriving at a decision about which perspective deserves full merit.

Reference

Bradshaw, Claudia. "U. S. Health Care Debate: What are the Issues?"

Retrieved from <http://worldhaveyoursay.wordpress.com/tag/healthcare/> on November 20, 2011.