

Obama being  
president-elect



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The paper " Why Obama Won?" is a delightful example of an essay on politics. For decades African American faced discrimination in one form or another. They complained of facing problems at work, in school, and on the streets. And while all this is going on, we suddenly learn of an African American running for the presidency. The next thing you know, he is the President of one of the most powerful nations in the world. Barack Hussein Obama came from virtually nowhere to win Democratic nomination and then pushed his opponent down the stage as he claimed his place as the President-elect of USA. But why was Obama elected as president? It is fair to say that he is young, intelligent, and ambitious with a proven track record of good community sense but does this really explain why he was elected? Obama is an African American; so how did the whole nation suddenly shrug off its prejudices and elect this person for the most coveted post in the world.

The answer is twofold. Obama was elected because of a) changing times and attitudes and b) his position on Iraq war. We have to admit that our younger generation is not as biased as our older generations were when it comes to race. The youth, especially in urban areas and big metropolitan cities, have come in contact with people from so many countries that they do not even know if there could ever be just one skin color. They know very well that nationals of different countries have been contributing to the growth of the country and hence consider them as much an American citizen as any. This has had a major impact on Obama's campaign that was all about " change". Obama said from the very beginning that all he wanted was " change". And he as an African American was the very symbol of " Change". A white man in his place talking of change could never have been as effective as him. This is

simply because to talk about change, it was important to also represent change and be a symbol of change. That is what people found in Barack Obama's racial background.

Another very important thing was Obama's stand on the war. Let us be very clear about war and the US' stand on military operations. The United States has always been very active in sending troops to any country that needed help. But that has done our country more harm than good. Over the decades, America has lost its good image in the world and most of the nations don't like American policy of interference. We need to understand that most countries can fight their own wars and if they cannot, then the USA must learn to choose its battles carefully. This is because, over the last many years, we have lost hundreds of thousands of our men to senseless wars- to wars that were not even ours.

Being a military person, I know how much our country means to us. But when a young person joins the army, he is doing that to protect the country and defend its interests. However, over the past 20 years, we have fought wars that had little or nothing to do with the United States directly. As a result of this, resentment has grown in people's minds and hearts. They may respect the military but they do not want to see their young boys die in battles that were not even their own.

In other words, if a boy dies while fighting to defend his country, it is seen as an honor. But when the same person dies on foreign land, fighting a battle between two countries that he doesn't even belong to, people naturally resent it. This doesn't make them any less patriotic. They only want to see battles chosen carefully so their boys can fight for their own country and not lose their lives in a futile war. This is exactly what has happened during the

Iraq war.

We have lost tens of hundreds of precious lives both in Afghanistan and Iraq. And these wars have been going for a long time now. People are tired of senseless killing and want to see their children come back home. Obama touched people's hearts and souls when he said he would end the war in Iraq and bring those young boys back. Imagine the relief so many mothers and families must have felt upon hearing this. Do you think that with such a claim, anyone else had even a remote chance of winning the election except Obama? Obama not only won the election, but he also received a resounding victory and was declared president-elect even before California began counting.