

September 11th: The Policies that Changed America

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Senior Division

Group Exhibit

Student Composed Words: 491

Process Paper: 485

Process Paper

How we chose our topic:

In modern history, September 11th, 2001 is one of the greatest tragedies that the United States has ever faced. It's an event we remember and reflect upon every year. As students, we hear stories and watch impactful documentaries detailing the events of 9/11. It's an event that so many people know about, but not everyone understands the massive effect it's had on American life. Both of us were born after 9/11 and were interested in looking into the changes that have occurred as a result of 9/11. The documentaries and photos we viewed in school inspired us to dig deeper and gain a better understanding of the event.

How we conducted our research:

The first thing we did was use online resources to gain a general understanding of 9/11 and the policies that followed. Once we had a basic understanding of the policies we read specific parts of the legislation that interested us, but relied heavily on resources that explained the legislative jargon. To help us understand the 9/11 Commission Report and the changes that it inspired, we set up a phone interview with former Indiana House Representative and Vice Chairman for the 9/11 Commission Board, Lee Hamilton. Hamilton provided us with a large amount of information about the report itself, but also the effect behind many of the policies that the report influenced. Hamilton's experience in government helped us better understand the policies and acts and the governmental reasoning behind them.

How we selected our presentation category and created our project:

Once we had chosen our topic, we were inspired by all the striking images from September 11th. Our first idea was to create an exhibit with the twin towers as the front side of

our exhibit. One of us had previously done an exhibit so we had a good understanding of the requirements. We used our research to create descriptions, find quotes, and choose photos to put on our exhibit. We wanted the top of the exhibit to be the skyline of New York before the towers fell, with a gray board to represent buildings. Each window on the front side of the poster represents 50 lives lost. The most impactful thing we found when researching were videos about September 11th. We used snippets from multiple videos to tie together the tragedy and triumph as a final take away for the viewer

How our project relates to the NHD theme:

The event of September 11th represents tragedy, while the policies and change represent triumph over terrorism. The loss of life and attack on American government tragically changed the American way of life. In response to these acts of terrorism, the government passed triumphant policies that helped protect the people. Although some of the acts are controversial, they spark a good dialogue about the government's involvement in American people's lives.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary

9/11 Sky. New York City, 11 Sept. 2001. We used this photograph to show how big of an explosion was created as well as the cloud of smoke produced by the first plane crash.

Bush, George W. "9/11 Commission Bill." 27 Nov. 2002, Washington D.C., The Roosevelt Room. This source provided us with President George Bush's account of the 9/11 Commission Bill being created and signed. It allowed us to gain a better understanding of the bill and creation of the 9/11 Commission Board.

Bush, George W. "President George W. Bush's Remarks to the Nation ." White House Archive . 11 Sept. 2002, Ellis Island . This source was President George Bush's address to the nation regarding the events of 9/11. It helped us understand the reaction of the president and country a year after September 11th 2001.

Bush, George W. "President George W. Bush's Update in the War on Terror ." PBS Newshour . 7 Sept. 2003, Washington, DC . This source allowed us to understand President George Bush's plan and result in the war on terrorism. It provided us with information about the progress the United States was making against terrorism.

Clark, Robert. *2nd World Trade Center Attack*. New York City , 11 Sept. 2001. We used this photograph because it portrayed the events of 9/11 accurately and has appeared in many magazines summarizing the events that took place in 2001.

Diaz, Alan. *Travelers Go through TSA*. Fort Lauderdale, 27 May 2016. We used this photo to depict the changes that have occurred in our airports since September 11th, 2001. The photograph shows the security in place now due to the attacks that took place.

Draper, Eric. *U.S. President George W. Bush Addresses the Press during a Meeting with the Iraq Study Group in the Cabinet Room* . Washington, D.C., 6 Dec. 2006. We used this photograph to document the meeting with the Iraq Study Group.

“FREIE UND HANSESTADT HAMBURG.” *United States v. Zacarias Moussaoui* , www.vaed.uscourts.gov/notablecases/moussaoui/exhibits/prosecution.html. This source was a document recovered from the Boston Airport that was used as evidence in the United States v. Zacarias Moussaoui case. It showed the importance of court case.

Lee H. Hamilton. Bloomington. We used this photograph to show the man we interviewed, who took part in the making of the 9/11 Commission Report.

Legge, Frank. *The Twin Towers*. Washington, D.C., 11 Sept. 2001. We used this photograph to show the second collapse of the North Tower.

National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States. *The 9/11 Commission Report*. 2004. This source provided us with a detailed report of the events leading up to 9/11 and how and when the tragedy could've been prevented. It also contained recommendations about steps to government should take to continue to improve safety in the U.S.

Pentagon 9/11. Washington, D.C., 11 Sept. 2001. We used this photograph because it was one of the few photos taken of the Pentagon scene on 9/11. It is an accurate depiction of the events that took place and draws attention to the damage of the crash.

Platt, Spencer. *TSA Security Screening Process at Airports*. 22 Nov. 2018. This photograph was used to show the heightened security at our airports today due to the TSA Acts put in place after the 9/11 attacks.

Platt, Spencer. *9/11 Memorial*. New York City, 11 Sept. 2015. We used this photograph to show the triumph achieved by the citizens of the United States to create a memorial for those who died in the twin tower 9/11 attacks.

“Remarks by the President After Two Planes Crash Into World Trade Center.” *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration, georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2001/09/20010911.html.

Rosenberg, Eli. *Homeland Security Symbol*. We used this picture to show the symbol of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

Societal Views Towards the Patriot Act. We used this photo to show the controversy over the USA Patriot Act.

The Twin Towers Collapse. Washington, D.C., 11 Sept. 2001. We chose to use this photograph in our exhibit because it shows the collapse of the first tower as it happened.

United States, Congress, Aviation and Transportation Security Act. 2001. This source was a copy of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act that established TSA. It explained the details and ins and outs of the act.

United States, Congress, *Public Law 107-296*. 2002. This source was a copy of the Homeland Security Act. The act established the Department of Homeland Security. It provided us a with a better understanding of how the legislation worked.

United States, Congress, *USA Patriot Act*. 2001. This source detailed the Patriot Act and allowed us the view the original text that established the Patriot Act.

United States, Congress, *USA Patriot Improvement and Reauthorization Act*. 2005. This source explained the improvements made to the original Patriot Act. It provided us with information on how the act had changed.

United States, House of Representatives, *Debate In The House Of Representatives on House Joint Resolution 64 Authorizing the Use of United States Armed Forces*. Yale Law School Avalon Project , 2001.

Secondary

“9/11: Looking Back on the Day the World Changed.” *NBCNews.com*, NBCUniversal News Group, 11 Sept. 2016, www.nbcnews.com/slideshow/9-11-n645971. We used this website for pictures, as well as a timeline of events with descriptions. This source was accurate in depicting what took place on September 11th, 2001.

9/11 Questions, Real. *YouTube*, YouTube, 12 June 2015, www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3shmfKOZ9g. This source contains some of the only footage of the plane hitting the first tower. We used this source in our video.

Amadeo, Kimberly. “How the 9/11 Attacks Still Damage the Economy Today.” *The Balance Small Business*, The Balance, www.thebalance.com/how-the-9-11-attacks-still-affect-the-economy-today-3305536. This source provided a brief overview and factual description of how the tragedy of 9/11 still affects the economy. It provided us with an idea of what areas to research further.

Brennan, John. “The Many Benefits of 9/11 - LewRockwell *LewRockwell.com*.” *LewRockwell.com*, www.lewrockwell.com/1970/01/john-brennan/the-many-benefits-of-911/. This source

was biased in its establishment of benefits from 9/11, but listed potential benefits that we then researched further.

Bush, George W. *A NATION CHALLENGED: 'No Isolation From Evil,' Bush Declares*. New York Times, 11 Nov. 2001,

www.nytimes.com/2001/11/11/world/a-nation-challenged-no-isolation-from-evil-bush-declares.html. This source detailed the nation's reaction to the events of September 11th, through President George Bush's words. It helped depict and reveal the strong emotions that the country was feeling at the time.

Compazine. *YouTube*, YouTube, 14 Dec. 2010, www.youtube.com/watch?v=pS1zsjDtbMQ. This source was a documentary about the effects of September 11th on family members of first responders who lost their life in the tragedy. We used this source in our video.

"Creation of the Department of Homeland Security." *Department of Homeland Security*, 24 Sept. 2015, www.dhs.gov/creation-department-homeland-security. This source provided information about the Department of Homeland Security and its creation. It gave us an understanding of how the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security and September 11th were connected.

CTV911. *YouTube*, YouTube, 19 June 2010, www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzFqXbfv_yg. This source allows us to view the only video feed of the plane crashing into the Pentagon. We used this source when creating our video.

Department, Twin Valley Fire. "Remembering A Day That Changed America." *tvfd69.Com*, www.tvfd69.com/apps/public/news/newsView.cfm?News_ID=1057. This source

provided us with an information timeline as well as picture depicting the events of September 11th. It allowed us to gain a better understanding of what occurred that day.

“Homeland Security Intelligence.” CHDS Self study Courses, 8 June 2018,

www.chds.us/ed/items/397.

We used this website to learn about the Homeland Security Intelligence and how it evolved. We also used this website for pictures.

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www.history.com/topics/21st-century/9-11-attacks.

We used this website for photos as well as learning of the History of 9/11. This source gave detailed numbers and times of the occurring events.

Editors, History.com. “9/11 Timeline.” *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 21 June 2011,

www.history.com/topics/21st-century/9-11-timeline. This source detailed the tragedy of

9/11 through a timeline of events. It provided us with much of the information we then used to establish the timeline on our poster.

Editors, History.com. “Patriot Act.” *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 19 Dec. 2017,

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information regarding the Patriot Act. It allowed us to get a better understanding of the Patriot Act and the effect it had.

“Effects of The Patriot Act.” LawTeacher.net. 11 2013. All Answers Ltd. 02 2019

<https://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/administrative-law/effects-of-the-patriot-act-administrative-law-essay.php?vref=1>. This source helped us better understand the effect

that the Patriot Act had on American life. It explained the benefits and setbacks that the act created in American government.

“Home.” *Department of Homeland Security*, www.dhs.gov/. We used this website for pictures, as well as to learn about Homeland Security now present in the United States.

Hamilton, Lee. “9/11 Commission Report.” 8 Feb. 2019. The interview with former Congressman Lee Hamilton helped us gain a better understanding of the 9/11 Commission Report and it’s working and effect. It provided us with an inside view of the policies that were enacted after September 11th.

Macleans. *YouTube*, YouTube, 22 Mar. 2017, www.youtube.com/watch?v=xD8xRgBu_TM. This source provided us with a visual representation of the changes in airport security. We used this source when creating our video.

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National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States. *The 9/11 Commission Report. Executive Summary*. [Washington, DC] :[National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon

the United States], 2004. Print. This source provided a good overview of the attacks on 9/11 and a detailed report of the actions the government should take based on the findings of the 9/11 Commission.

Nmah. "September 11 and the Transportation Security Administration." *National Museum of American History*, O Say Can You See, 1 Sept. 2011, americanhistory.si.edu/blog/2011/09/september-11-and-the-transportation-security-administration.html. This source was used to gather information over TSA, as well as a brief recap of the events of September 11th, 2001. We also used pictures from this site.

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Tikkanen, Amy. "Timeline of the September 11 Attacks." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., www.britannica.com/list/timeline-of-the-september-11-attacks. We used this source as a timeline of events for the terrorist attacks of 9/11. This source also had a picture showing the flight paths of each plane that was a part of the attack.

"USA Patriot Act." *National Archives and Records Administration*, National Archives and Records Administration,

<https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/infocus/patriotact/>. This source was used to learn about the US Patriot Act. It gave us an idea of the changes it would have on the United States' citizens as well as inform us about the effects the act would have for safety in our country.

“What Does the TSA Do?” *Criminal Justice Degree Hub*, 24 May 2015,

www.criminaljusticedegreehub.com/tsa/. This source provided information on the Transportation Security Agency and what exactly they do. It gave us a more specific explanation of the tasks TSA has.