



Forum 1

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Exceptionalism

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, April 11, 2015, 12:04 PM

This forum thread is for Exceptionalism Topic posts and replies.

After studying the required materials, address the various questions. For purposes of encouraging discussion, you should group your responses into SEPARATE posts. To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Exceptionalism

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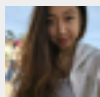
Re: Exceptionalism one in the same

by [Andrew Duyck](#) - Saturday, April 11, 2015, 5:46 PM

I believe that Herman Cain and President Obama both make valid points that don't necessarily contradict each other. Hermans stance on american exceptionalism is one of a great foundation. There is no denying our nations great beginning and success as a result. Herman points out what sets us apart from so many other governments is our acknowledgement of the god given rights each human is born with. President Obama suggests that exceptionalism is something experienced by multiple world powers and not unique to the United States. Recognizing others powers similar ideals is no discredit to our own, nor suggesting ours is not unique. Obama is not saying that American Exceptionalism is equal to the Brits and Greeks own versions but simply in the same category. Both people recognize Americas uniqueness exceptionalism and support its expansion.

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Exceptionalism is forever ingrained in USA

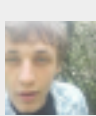
by [Yanshu Li](#) - Monday, April 13, 2015, 9:38 PM

No one tries to deny the fact that the United States of American owns the best education system, supreme power and political control over the entire world. President Obama also believes in exceptionalism because he says USA plays an unique role around the wold. As he mentioned in his speech, it is USA's responsibility to ensure the global security, fight for human freedom and solve many world changeless. By 19th century, protestant missionaries, business man and imperialist, interested in extending their country's influence power around the world. Nowadays, the president Obama and other colleagues who believe in exceptionalism also want to expand USA's country influence. However, around 100 years ago, the united states proved their unique role by occupied other state's dominion. It is the main difference between 19th century and 21st century.

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Re: Exceptionalism is forever ingrained in USA



by [Robert Bigger](#) - Friday, April 17, 2015, 9:54 PM

What makes you think that America has the best educational system? Where did you get an idea like that?

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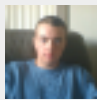


Re: education system in American
by [Yanshu Li](#) - Saturday, April 18, 2015, 3:58 PM

The word " best" is not appropriate here. What I want to say is American's education system is comprehensive; because of comprehensive, it is outstanding. People always say France is the best place to study Fashion Design, because the fashion history in France is long, and the fashion culture in France is the excellent. Meanwhile, if you want to study Hotel Management, you should go to Germany. However, you can take Fashion course in Parsons, it is the Top 5 Fashion school around the world; you can also take Hotel Management class in Las Vegas. Since 1901, The number of Nobel Prize owner in USA is 320 which is Top one, and the second one is England, which is 116. Nobel Prize can't prove everything, but it is a scientific way to implies the education system in USA is comprehensive.

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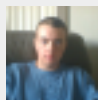


Re: Agreement
by [Brent Hill](#) - Monday, April 13, 2015, 10:56 PM

I agree with how you talked about Obama’s view on Exceptionalism. I like how you said that Obama believes that American Exceptionalism is not unique to just America but is rather something that is experienced worldwide unique to different nations. I also like how you stated that he thinks that not every nation’s version of Exceptionalism is unique and everyone can have their own unique ideals. I think how you explained it in your post really made sense and I thought it was really well done.

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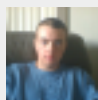


Re: Exceptionalism is unique to everyone
by [Brent Hill](#) - Monday, April 13, 2015, 10:26 PM

I think that American Exceptionalism is a belief that is shared by both liberals and conservatives. It is very interesting to me that American Exceptionalism can be interpreted many different ways. I think the conservative belief is that American Exceptionalism is completely unique to America. Some people base it more on a religious stand point saying that it is a God given right and that we are to be an example and a model to the world. I think that the liberal viewpoint is that American Exceptionalism is a shared trait among many nations and that everyone has their own version of Exceptionalism. I don’t think that either viewpoint is wrong. I think that everyone may view American Exceptionalism a little differently and won’t necessarily view this idea within the perimeters of their political party.

Sum of ratings:[1](#) [\(1\)](#)

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Re: I agree with President Obama
by [Brent Hill](#) - Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 4:29 PM

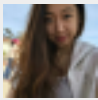
I agree with President Obama’s view on American Exceptionalism more than the other side. I believe that our own version of Exceptionalism is unique to us as well as other countries have their own unique version of Exceptionalism. There is a lot of patriotism here and I think that it is nothing to be ashamed of. I would argue that America does have a profound influence on the world and others look to America as model for how to run their own countries. I would also say that other countries can have that same status of Exceptionalism and I think that is what Obama was pointing out. I would say I agree with Obama’s point of view more because it is a more equal way to view Exceptionalism rather than saying that America is completely superior in its ideals compared to everyone else. I could see how there could be controversy around Obama’s point of view

because it seemed like on the surface he is going back on what he initially said. I realized though in the first interview though he never said that he does not believe in Exceptionalism but that is merely an idea shared among multiple nations. In the second video I think he makes it clear that he believes in Exceptionalism but just without the superiority mindset of the other side.

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Re: I agree with President Obama

by [Yanshu Li](#) - Thursday, April 16, 2015, 10:07 PM

Lots of countries treat America as the model of how to become a rich and successful countries. Even China is under a socialism system, the Chinese government also wants to study the revolution progress with American. Hence, no one could dent the supreme power that American owns around the world. In my personal view, I think the reason that makes USA become successful is the world " unique". Obama says USA has own unique Exceptionalism, its different with other imperialism countries. And China also has unique road. Hence, unique is essential. The word "unique "here means "the most appropriate way for a country to develop ".

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Culture

by [Brent Hill](#) - Saturday, April 18, 2015, 1:12 AM

I wouldn't doubt that the United States is a very successful country however we are trillions of dollars in debt right now so I am not sure we are one of the richest countries. Sure there is a lot of money that is spent here and many citizens here live more sound economic lives than in other places. I think that this may be a contributing factor to one of the reasons why America has lost some of its vigor. I would also add that unique may also have a lot to do with culture and countries culture has a strong influence on its Exceptionalism.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Exceptionalism

by [Nils Hagberg](#) - Thursday, April 16, 2015, 11:48 AM

As some people say each person holds a special quality unique to themselves, so do other governments and countries. Yes, America was an exceptional country in many ways a few decades ago, but now we are starting to loose the status of being the glimmering star child. The thing is though our government's ignorance permits us to only change and adapt at a slow speed. With that we are starting to see other countries pass us in many statistics as being number 1. Ultimately though Obama has a very good point, at the end of the day we as Americans are going to hold true to our values because (we at least think) they are innovative, but as we do this so do other countries. His point can be looked at further to speculate maybe this is the issue in our world. As a human race we have never been smarter before. We need to share and be innovative to help create types of governments that are relevant in this day in age to the people it serves. Unlike ever before, governments need to become companions, because the people at least are becoming more interconnected by sharing the same dissatisfactions.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Exceptionalism

by [Yanshu Li](#) - Thursday, April 16, 2015, 9:59 PM

I couldn't agree more. Just like what I says in my post, the USA owns the best education system- and that's why lots of foreign students come to American. USA also has the most powerful political right over the world, and just as Obama says in his speech: USA plays an unique role in the world. China is weak around half centuries ago, but now China is the 2nd economy system around the wold- just follow the America. Hence, not only the USA, but also China and other nations in the earth, we all need innovation. Because it is the only way which can create a better world.

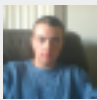
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Re: questions

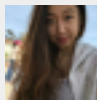
by [Brent Hill](#) - Saturday, April 18, 2015, 1:27 AM



If I may ask why do you think that America owns the best education system? Do you think that this could be argued and possibly another country could have a similar or very different view on education? I was just curious if you could possibly expand a little more for me and tell me where you obtained your statistics from.

Sum of ratings: (1) 0

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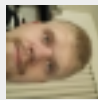
Re: questions

by Yanshu Li - Saturday, April 18, 2015, 5:18 PM

I realize the word i used - best- is not approbate. The education in different countries is different for sure. China is the best prove.It is really difficult to receive a offer from any university in China, no matter the university is good or bad (Chinese people love rating, we rate everything. Good university has higher rating score), I promise you can't image how difficult it is. But it is much more easier for me to receive offers in American. No matter how low my IELTS grade is (IELTS is a test for foreign students who wants to come to American). Of course, if I can study harder and get a higher IELTS grade like 9, I can come to Harvard, but I only got 6.5, so I come to U of O (no disrespect, I love U of Oregon). However, it is hard for every student in a USA university to get A+, because the daily process like quiz and attendance is crucial for final letter grade; meanwhile, it is also difficult for some students to even graduate. The situation in China is toltally different. After you get a offer from any university, graduation is easy and the only thing influences your final letter grade is your final exam. The education system in USA is comprehensive because you can take good Hotel management class in Vegas, good Fashion class in New York, and even good Sports management class in U of Oregon. Moreover, the number of Novel Prize owner in USA is 320, which is top 1 around the world. Besides, according to lots of rating system in China, USA owns the largest good university around the world. Hence, what I want to say is not "best" but comprehensive; and comprehensive arrangement makes the education here become remarkable.

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"Exceptionalism" is a phrase for whomever is in power

by Evan Kossow - Friday, April 17, 2015, 11:53 AM

Today's practiced exceptionalism of spreading our ideas of freedom to the globe is done a little differently than it has been in the past. It really doesn't seem to be driven by anything moral or under the ideas of making the globe a better place, but more in the line of making the United States a better place. If a foreign government without notable protection decides to sell its resources to a higher bidder, the United States can back a rebellious coup to put someone in power dedicated to business with the United States. We are not the world police here, we belong to a nation holding the greatest force of market police. That's not really "exceptional" by definition, but we are exceptional at doing it.

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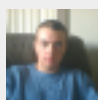
Re: Exceptionalism

by Robert Bigger - Friday, April 17, 2015, 9:59 PM

I do not believe that an American president, regardless of his political stance, would ever think there was a nation better than the one he represents, because that wouldn't make any sense. And personally I think there are many nations in this world that I would probably find more favorable than America.

Sum of ratings: (1) 0

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Re: Personal story

by Brent Hill - Saturday, April 18, 2015, 2:29 AM

I actually have a short personal story regarding Exceptionalism. Last summer I had the privilege of meeting a student from Russia. A common topic of discussion for us was some of the differences and similarities there were between Russia and the United States. I asked him on how Russia viewed itself one time and he had an interesting response. He told me that Russia was a very proud country and he had only good things to say about the government and he talked about how some of their ideals were absolutely fantastic and their thinking was superior. I asked him about the issue of Ukraine and how they

were exhibiting their influence on them. I think Russia had an idea they were superior and they were somehow justified in what they were doing. I don't ever really remember him ever saying one negative thing about Russia. I think that this is evidence for me that Exceptionalism is something that is not unique to the United States but it is something that is shared amongst everyone. For the record I am not trying to discredit him in any way. He was actually a very nice person and I'm glad I got the opportunity to speak with someone from a different country and learn about their perspective on things. I have seen other Americans with this same sort of thinking about how our own country is exceptional and I made a connection with that and my personal experience that I had.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Personal story
by [Andrew Duyck](#) - Saturday, April 18, 2015, 4:14 PM

While every country has a common idea of exceptionalism, to me that doesn't mean that all exceptionalism is the same. I also think there are plenty of people and even whole governments who truly believe that another country is handling an issue better then them, such as education, public transport, or anything. There are people who understand that other countries have a better system then them and they want to adopt the superior system or reform their own. This is how progress occurs and i believe is unique to every nation. Every nation shares a the goal of betterment for their society, is how they plan on accomplishing this “betterment” that becomes unique.

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