

80/100

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(652 words) - less than min length

Assignment #2

Part 1

When thinking of a turning point that someone experienced during the Vietnam War, Clark Dougan comes to mind. The turning point in this story is not any specific event that occurred in the war, but some news he received that hit him personally. Before receiving the news, he never really thought too much on how the war was going. In fact, he was quite oblivious. In the story he even mentions, "So I go off to my first year in college and I'm really kind of oblivious of the war." (Appy page 305) It wasn't until he received news that an old friend from high school past away that he began to realize that there was a war going on, and people were dying. What makes this a turning point is the fact that he personally realized that people are dying in that war, and was it worth it? The fact that he knew someone that he went to school with that died made him realize that it could have been him that died. Many more people were dying, and for what? What makes this even more shocking is the fact that he noticed that a newspaper that supported the war, and would never write such an angry article, began to write about different people dying, starting with his friend. The war was becoming more realistic to Clark. Not only is this a turning point for Clark himself, but it is a turning point for America. (Even the newspapers were beginning to write about the deaths occurring at large numbers, and the newspapers that Clark read were extremely conservative. People were beginning to question whether risking our soldier's lives for Vietnam was worth it. Clark even said, "I think a lot of World War 2 vets who had been sitting around their kitchen tables saying, 'You've got to fight for your country,' were starting to say, 'Fuck this. It's not worth Greg Fischer's life or his buddy's life.'" (Appy page 306) Basically, people were beginning to realized that many of the soldiers were dying left and right, and for what? Is it really worth the risk? This was the turning point for Clark Dougan.

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Part 2

The story about Truong Tran ^{revealed?} told a story of a personal struggle for the ending of the war. He experienced a lot during the war and saw firsthand how it made

AWK

people act towards one another. He mentioned that, "In our province, if you followed the Communists you became a very committed Communist, and if you followed the nationalists you became an ultranationalist. It was either you die or I die." (Appy page 504-505) Once the war was over, he wanted to get his family out of the country. He probably knew that if someone found out what side they were on and who they supported, which was with the Americans and South Vietnamese, they could possibly get killed. All he wanted was to make sure that his family was safe. "I had promised my father I would take care of them regardless of what happened," said Truong. (Appy page 506) Sometimes it is harder to move on with life unless you know that you are safe. Personally for Truong, once he could get his family out of the country and be safe, then they could move on from the war and be done with it. Then they could end the war. So, once the family was out, the war ended for Truong and his family. If he could not succeed with getting his family out, it was not something that he could live with. There are probably some families out there who are still fighting the war. — ? hwh

ns — Fighting to have equal rights, be safe, and be accepted. Truong and his family were fortunate to have the ability to get out and start new.

Weak conclusion to Part 2

An improvement from
your first paper.