

Due date: Saturday, 14 November 2009, 10:10 PM

Last edited: Saturday, 14 November 2009, 12:26 PM (817 words)

A Theme Of Politics

What was the Vietnam War really about? Classicism was a dilemma when talking about the draft. It seemed that most draftees were under educated or less privileged social class, and they kept the upper class away from enlisting for various reasons. And then we wonder why we had so many citizens against the war which inhibited an Anti-War movement. This divided the country causing a war on our own turf along with the Vietnam War. During the time of the war there were so many political and ethical issues. We had a lot of racial issues and was afraid if communism was spreading. The draft only enhanced these problems and made it obvious. America was all about capitalism and dividing the working classes.

I think personally, that the draft itself stirred up a discussion in which we felt we had been invaded. We are fighting a war, in which, we really should have withdrawn from and many innocent civilians were being wounded and killed. The draft was based on classicism and this widely disturbed the draftees. If you fled you were called a coward and were not standing up for your country, but the people making the remarks were the upper-class that would not be enlisted due to their status. What made this equal. I thought we are a nation of equal rights, where we have justice. As stated in Triage "The overall effect of the draft was to channel primarily working-class men to Vietnam while encouraging more privileged men to continue their education." Also during the peak of draft quotas the education requirements were lowered.

America knew that if that had not made draft regulations and gave the decision to individuals they would have never met their requirements. There were many people that felt this war was unjust and did not want to have any association with it, but since there were no civil rights this exposed Anti-War.

General Baker Jr states "I believe in fighting And here is a list of just wars. When you decide to go to battle to free Latin America from the United Fruit Company, or when the call is made to free South Africa, or to free the Middle East from standard oil, or when the call is made to free the Mississippi Delta and 12th street here in Detroit, then call me, because these are just causes, and it would be a duty and honor for me to serve. I'll be the first one in line."

Also in the section From Civil Rights To Anti-War he states "As the war dragged on, more and more Americans would ask similar questions of official statements about Vietnam. For example, if the war in Vietnam was for freedom and democracy, as U.S. policy makers claimed, why were those blessings still denied to Americans at home?"

Many people were wondering why? And these questions were not being answered. They were left enlisted in war and they had no reason why. This war seemed to be more politics and America wanting to chalk up a win and to make a statement about communism, but they were missing the following. They did not have the impact to make this statement.

Throughout Part Three in Patriots you hear many individuals stating about their opposition on the War and how it is unethical. These speakers do stand for America but not for the Vietnam War. There was a sense of inflation of capitalism and if you didn't stand for the war then you must be a coward. Truong My Hoa states " the support of peace-loving people through out the world, and especially from the American people, was a great source of strength and encouragement to us in our

struggle. We knew we were not alone. For example, on November 2, 1965, we learned that Norman Morrison had immolated himself right in front of the pentagon to demonstrate his opposition to the American war in Vietnam. We were deeply touched, so we dedicated a minute of silence in our cells to his sacrifice."

Both sides agreed that this war needed to stop, but politics and presidents continued to fight an unjust war. We were not only were fighting in a war but we had another war in are own country that we needed to resolve. This escalated a lot of theories and divided a nation into two. America was fighting but no one was actually listening to the Veterans opposition on the war (majority).

The living room war in which we had the media involved and it seemed like it was never really taking serious. In addition, it was like a couple of kids that were afraid of coodies (communism) and figured fight over flight. I don't know if we stayed in war so we could claim the win, or this was a justified reason.

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