

Tom Moore

Junior Individual Website

Word Count

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Process Paper: 457

For this year's National History Day, the topic I chose was a protest in the space race. The main reason I chose this is because while many people know about the space race, many don't know about the protests that happened because of it. The other large factor for me deciding to choose this topic was my fascination about the cold war, and everything that came out of it. This topic relates to the annual theme of Debate and Diplomacy because of the large ongoing debate on if the government spending was justified or not, and the false sense of diplomacy through both sides not staying true to their promises.

I began my research by getting a better understanding of the events in the Space Race. I started with searches on the topic in places like Gale Research in Context, other websites linked

in Utah's Online Library, and Google. After finding some sources that would benefit my project, I was then able to better understand my topic, and it became easier to research. Before this project I barely knew about the debates that came from the space race, and now after researching it, I discovered that the Space Race was actually a very controversial topic, and I was able to form my own opinion on it.

I decided to choose the website because I had already had experience in web development. I created some rough drafts of what it should look like, and chose which one I liked best. Instead of using the website editor, I made my own website from scratch using HTML and CSS, I then linked it over to the website builder.

The historical argument in my website is whether the spending for the space race was justified or not. The government thought it was important to develop this space technology to protect the country against the Soviet Union, and also because of all of the new technology that would positively affect our lives. Lots of people debated this, saying that the money should be put to better things. At the time, America's poverty levels were higher than they had ever been, and the US government wasn't doing anything about it. The government's only concern was with the cold war, and not their own people.

My topic fits this year's theme of Debate and Diplomacy because the Civil Rights activists were able to represent their opinion without being undiplomatic. This protest contributed to not only the eventual change in government spending, but also was a part of the long chain of protests that brought change to the way America handled many social issues. While Nasa did continue with the moon landing, this protest helped to end the space race almost three moon landings later.

