

Kevin Trinidad Murillo

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Debate Team

Mao's Yan'An Red Base

1. What interests you about China?

Well, I'm interested in the history of the country known as China from its ancient dynasties to its current state that it has evolved into. My interest in China had likely stemmed from the fact that I'd often see products as child that were produced in China and sent over to the United States. Of course, in the typically mind of a child I assumed that China was one of the only nations on this planet that was until I saw a map and realized there were more nations than the ones I've simply heard about, but I digress. There were the typically lessons about China in school such as the practices of foot binding and some background info on the country itself, but nothing major. My introduction to the internet allowed for me to expand my horizons even greater on the nations of the world and China was one of the first that I searched about. I learned of the revolution, Tiananmen Square, its evolution as an economic superpower and the ruling Communist party of China. These were simply among my interests of China and only increased my desire to learn more about the nation.

2. What interests you about Communism?

Communism is all well and good in concept, but I can never find myself agreeing that nothing on this planet could ever achieve true Communism. Its conception and its evolution are two particular parts of it that interest me the most, especially the latter as communism has undergone so many change or interpretations over the years. The years of the old Soviet bloc or Iron Curtain as it was referred to by Winston Churchill and their interpretation of communism as a form of brutal dictatorships that oppressed and rejected the Marxist ways of communism. Even the execution of Communism and the struggle to have established it is interesting on the conflicts that stemmed from it. I think just the history of it is interesting since one of the most powerful nations on the globe and one former superpower had this government established through a long and bloody history.

3. Explain your experience doing role-play, in Model UN or any other activity

I wouldn't call my experience as plentiful as it could've been, but nonetheless I have done competitions before and I'm currently on my second year on the debate team. I've competed with my fellow debate team members and have done the Model UN previously at St. Peter's University. There were playbooks that we read in school where I had to play a variety of characters in Julius Caesar, Raisin In The Sun, etc.. I did see enjoyment in playing roles of historical figures or even that of more modern novels which offered a different perspective than something of Shakespearean background. So I'd like to think that my experience is strong, despite being limited.

4. Do you have a particular interest in a certain time period, type of government, etc.? If so, why?

Being an American, I think I have a fairly well love and interest in the form of government known as democracy in this country. I love the ideals behind democracy, the struggles of common men to obtain the beautiful prospect that it grants man and the countries that have thrived under its system. I personally believe that it's one of the best if not the best form of government that has ever been conceived

by man and the people who fight or have fought for the right to obtain it seem to agree. The right for a man to decide their own path and his beliefs can rightfully be expressed without the fear of a brutal government trying to suppress their freedoms to speak their minds. This is how I see democracy and as to why I love it so much and hold it so highly. I see it as a way for freedom and unity to be established amongst those nations that decide to let it guide them and their nations as they can work together and express opinions to improve the lives of their fellow countrymen.