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The 9/11 speech Rhetorical Analysis

This speech was giving on the evening of 9-11-2001 by George W. Bush, our nation’s president. The name of the speech was, “Bush’s 9/11 address to the nation”. On this day our nation was attack by terrorists. The terrorists hijacked 4 planes and successfully crashed 3 of them into civilian occupied buildings. Our nation was in a panic and needed some guidance, so Bush calmly addressed the nation to ensure that justice will be met.

The speech was given as a sign that our nation wouldn’t fall for these acts in terror, but instead response with a retaliation to whoever was responsible for the attacks. “These acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat. But they have failed. Our country is strong. A great people has been moved to defend a great nation.” (–George W. Bush) It was also given to calm the minds of the frightened Americans throughout the nation that needed someone to tell them it was going to be okay

The intended audience of the speech is obvious throughout the whole thing. It is intended for concerned Americans of the well-being of the nation. He is the nation’s leader and it is his duty to calm his people. Statements like, “Our first priority is to get help to those who have been injured and to take every precaution to protect our citizens at home and around the world from further attacks,” (-George W. Bush) show that he want to calm the minds of Americans.

The tone of the speech was calming. Bush kept his cool to calm down Americans. He didn’t want to cause any panic or worry. Bush used ethos in his speech to show the difference between right and wrong. Stating several times that the people who attacked was wrong and will face the consequences. He also uses the credibility of our allies, saying they care and are willing to help.

Bush uses logic in his speech as a calming device. He stated the obvious a lot. Like this statement, “Today, our nation saw evil. “ He also used logic on what our nation will do because of these attacks. “Immediately following the first attack, I implemented our government's emergency response plans. Our military is powerful, and it's prepared. Our emergency teams are working in New York City and Washington, D.C., to help with local rescue efforts.” He told of his actions in chronological order of what he ordered as the attacks were happening.

George W. Bush used pathos to respect the losses in this attack. He also uses pathos to get the attention of people who were watching. “Thousands of lives were suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror.” By using emotional appeal George W. Bush showed that he cares for all of people in our nation. He respects all of us and is sorry for the families who lost lives during the attacks.

I believe that this speech was very effective. It rallied the nation to act against the evil that killed thousands of lives in one day. The terrorists thought they have beaten us, but with this speech, our nation retaliated. His speech got more men to enlist to fight to gain relief when our enemy was defeated. Bush used all of the appeals very effectively, to pull our nation together during a drastic time.

This speech was given on the day of the attacks. Relief given to those who lost family members just came recently. On May 1st, 2011, our navy performed an operation that ended with the killing of bin laden, the person responsible for the attacks on the nation was dead. A day where our nation finally could sleep soundly at night.