**Is Fair Trade Policy Superior to Free Trade Policy?**

In today's society there is a greater transfer of goods and money on a daily basis than ever before. With the vast wealth of products and services available for people to choose from, there come many economic problems that must be addressed. Imports are a massive part of the US economy as many of the products you use on a daily basis were made in a foreign country. This opens the debate of whether fair trade policy is superior to free trade policy.

Joseph Stiglitz argues that yes, Fair trade is superior to a Free Trade policy. Jonathan presented many excellent arguments in his debate, tying the argument seamlessly into economics and the function of each policy and the benefits of each. It was stated by Chron that neither of the policies are significantly better than the other, but all in all a fair trade policy is of more benefit to the producers in the foreign countries of whom are already struggling to make ends meat. He says that by charging a slightly higher cost to the consumer that the added profit can later be passed down the line to the producer helping gain added profit and assist in more production.

Tiffany Ng, presenter of the opposing side represented the idea that no, fair trade has no benefit over free trade in today's society, it mostly hinders it. At first this argument may seem skewed, but looking into the economic impact of higher prices everything becomes evident. By raising the price of the goods to help the producers you will be causing the demand of that product to decrease due to the increase in price. According to Gary Haufbauer this policy only causes more strife than it does good. With the increase in price and the decrease in demand the producers will not need to supply as much which causes a snowball effect. In addition to this the US is in the current economic standing and became a powerhouse based off of the principles of free trade. The country is like a business and we must work to gain as much profit as possible to make the necessary gains to keep ahead in today's fast paced society.

The debate of whether the free trade or the fair trade policy is superior continues to rage on, and it is likely that there is no optimal answer to this debate. I strongly believe that neither free or fair trade is optimal. We are in need of a system that incorporated the best of both worlds to solve the problems in today's society.