

Lincoln - Douglas

Resolved: Civil disobedience in a democracy is morally justified.

AC

V: Social justice (level playing field)
VC: Categorical Imperative (Kant)
Thesis: To defend against a tyrannical majority, citizens are compelled to disobey unjust laws imposed upon them or systems that disadvantage one group to the benefit of another.

Cont 1. US Civil Rights struggle

- ex 1. USA exploited a Black minority
- 2. codified oppression in law
- 3. civil disobedience forced expansion of rights & democracy

Cont 2. Indian independence

- ex 1. civil disobedience highlighted injustice
- ex 2. Democratic UK unable to stomach the unfairness of exploiting India

Cont 3. Pacifism - ^{unintentional} Opt-Out & Draft Dodging

- ex 1. Civil Disob. (burn draft card) highlighted a Vietnam War that was unjust & unfairly burdened the poor
- ex 2. Civil Disob. brought attention to policy mistakes

NC

V: Social harmony
VC: ~~Categorical Imperative~~ Rousseau & 'General Will'

Thesis: The purpose of ~~society~~ ^{govt} in a democ. society is protecting the will of the majority of people. Civil disobedience is inherently undemocratic & undermines democratic institutions, ruining social harmony & the inherent good of the majority.

Cont 1: Slippery slope to violence

- ex 1. Labor unrest → Anarchist bombing in US 1900s
- ex 2. US racial riots in 1960s
- ex 3. KKK extrajudicial killings from Anti-Reconstruction protest movement.

Cont 2: usurps democratic institutions

- ex 1. Why have courts & dem. instit. if individuals can ~~just~~ demand policy & on own
- ex 2. Westboro Baptist Church & extremists like Oregon militia terrorize the majority at will.

Cont 1:

- 1. Civil War & election of Lincoln & abolitionists ended slavery - majoritarian democracy, not civil disobedience
- 2. Dr King's many speeches & marches helped sway majority as did TV images of cruelty towards blacks

Cont 2:

- 1. Indian indep. followed by death on a massive scale
- 2. India not a democracy per se, was a colony ^{out of} scope
- 3. UK empire collapsed post WW2 all over the world
- ↳ hard to prove it was justified if inevitable

Cont 3

- 1. Voting for Nixon ended war not hippies
- 2. Citizens refusing to fight a dangerous ^{western} predator
- 3. Helped cause loss of faith in govt & US society

Lincoln - Douglas

Relig 2015-2016. Resolved: The US Govt should ~~sustain~~ substantially ~~curtail~~ its domestic surveillance.

2016. Resolved: In the US, private ~~handgun~~ ownership of handguns ought to be banned.

AC

V: Security

VC: Social Contract (Locke)

NC

V: Freedom

VC: Nozick's minimalist state (Libertarianism)

Topic:

Thesis: Citizens voluntarily ~~agree~~ give up rights (to force) to maximize other rights.
Govt ↑ security in exs for other rights.

Thesis: Govt must be as kept as small & unobtrusive as possible to maximize other rights. Handguns are a democratic, affordable tool for defense against criminals & tyranny in a larger sense

Criteria 1

Handguns ↓ safety
ex1 ~~USA~~ US has 3rd world levels of murder due to regular 4.4/100,000 ~ similar to Yemen which is in a civil war

Criteria 2

Handguns not used for hunting
ex1 - ~~easy~~ easy to conceal
ex2 - easy to ship
ex3 - cheap

Criteria 3

US Handgun deaths are 7.5x felony related. The rest are suicides & disputes b/w acquaint.
ex1 - Govt would not allow consumer products this dangerous
ex2 - ↓ Handguns ↓ deaths.

Criteria 1

Totalitarian states always seize pot. arms
ex1 ~~USA~~ USSR 1929
ex2 Hitler 1938
ex3 Ottoman Empire 1911
all 3 preceded genocide/mass murder
also PRC 1935 (Mao) 1994 Rwanda, 1970 Uganda

Criteria 2

Handguns are easy to use, simple self defense & affordable - democratic
ex1 \$500 - \$700 w/ bullets, permit, safe
ex2 states w/ high gun restrictions have highest crime rates - deterrent

→ anti C1: Israel, Switz., Finland have high gun own. rates & v. low murder rates = US culture
→ ^{ex2} precisely why they are ideal for citizen defense
→ Anti C3: Jpn/Korea have higher suicide rates w/o guns
→ i.e. again, US culture, not handguns