
Big Issues

— Windsor High School Debate Team —

Today's Topics

- North Korea Nuclear Proliferation

- DACA

North Korea (DPRK)





Background

1950-1953

Under Kim Il-Sung, North Korea invades South Korea, starting the Korean War

1980s

North Korea begins developing nuclear weapons

1994

North Korea and the U.S. sign the Agreed Framework (replacing light water reactors)

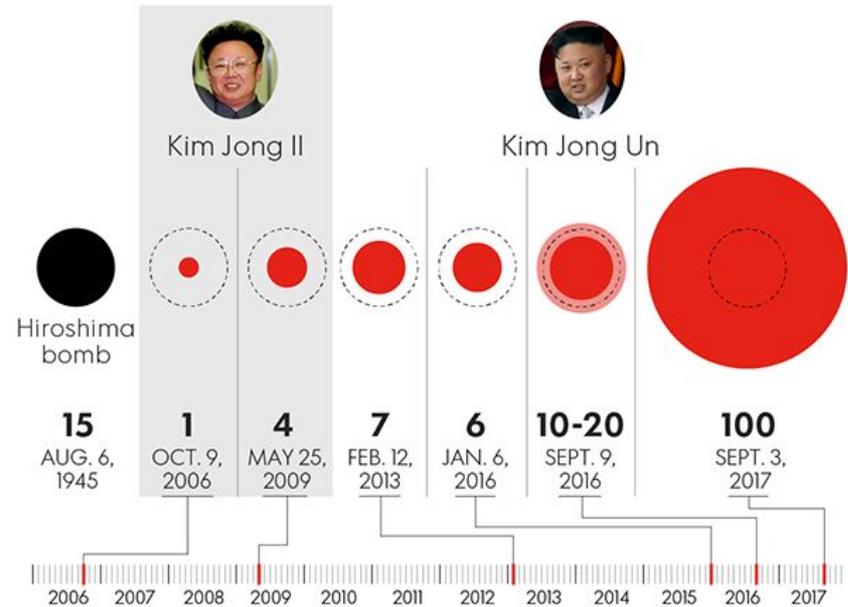
The Kims' Nuclear Race

- Nuclear weapon=devastation
- Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM)=mobility
 - Together, equal mobile devastation
- On July 4, North Korea launched the Hwasong-14
 - Capable of reaching the continental U.S., including New York City

NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR TESTS

North Korea's test of a hydrogen bomb, conducted at the Punggye-ri underground test site, shows a progression of destructive power.

Comparison of estimated kiloton yields and nuclear tests under North Korean leaders:



SOURCE USA TODAY research
George Petras, USA TODAY



One side: Military Response to DPRK

1. The Risk of Non-Intervention is Higher
 - a. IMPACT: millions of American lives are directly at risk
2. Diplomacy has failed
 - a. From U.S. efforts in 1994 to continued backroom talks, the U.S. has not worked
 - b. IMPACT: Continuing diplomacy only incentives DPRK to continue to perfect weapons
3. The U.S. can obtain international mandate
 - a. Most productive UN sanctions to date
 - b. IMPACT: world leader



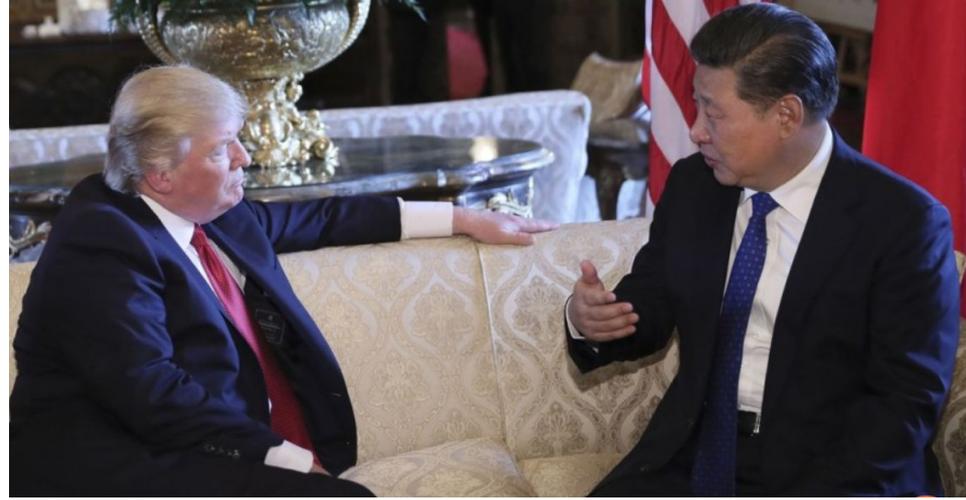
The other side: No winners in war

1. Even conventional warfare is costly
 - a. DPRK can firebomb Seoul
 - b. IMPACT: 9 million people, 150k Americans in Seoul
2. MAD provides stability
 - a. Assured Destruction disincentivizes DPRK attack
 - b. IMPACT: US action premature and unneeded
3. No harm to diplomacy
 - a. Talking is always possible
 - b. IMPACT: possibly prevent all loss of life



Another option?

1. The role of China?
 - a. Would China be willing to help?
 - b. How has China already helped?
2. China's Biggest Fears
 - a. Refugee Crisis of Epic Proportion
 - b. Encroaching U.S.



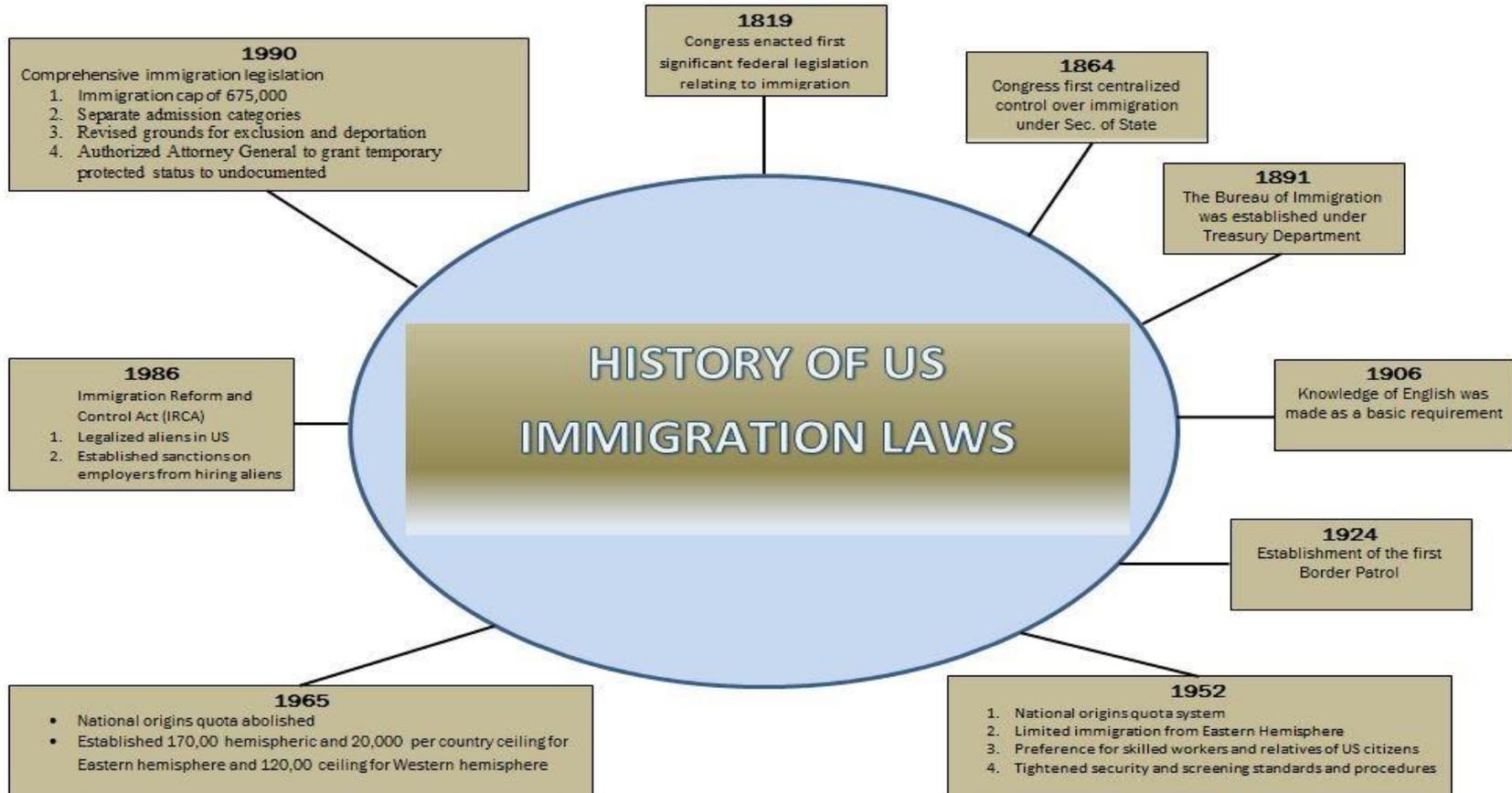
China's Internal Problems



DACA

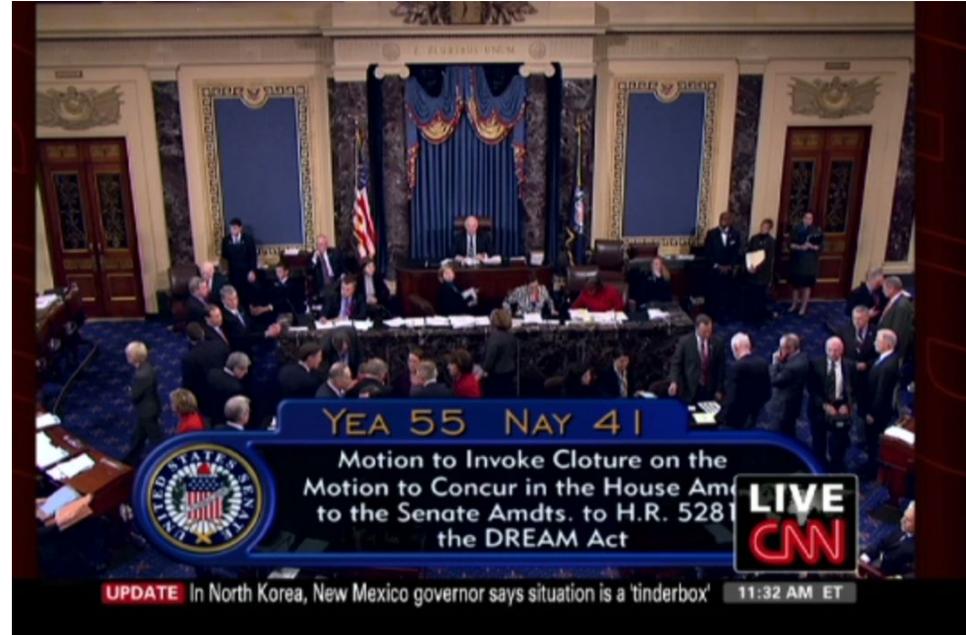
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

History of US Immigration Laws to 1990 (Seattle University, Educ 520)



Background on DREAM Act

- Legislation to create path to permanent residency for undocumented youth
- For residency: DREAMers would need to attend college or serve in the military
- D.R.E.A.M.=Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act
 - 2007=FAILED
 - 2011=FAILED, without cloture
 - 2013=FAILED, without House vote



Obama's Solution: DACA

- Not legislation=executive order
 - This is KEY to understand because legislation bears the stamp of legitimacy
- Eligibility
 - Arrival in U.S. before 16th birthday
 - No felonies or serious misdemeanors
- As of 2017, over 800,000 people in the DACA program
- One important aspect of this issue is that “dreamers” gave out important information to the federal government in order to apply for DACA. That information can now be used against “dreamers” for potential deportation



Trump's Abolishment

- As the chief executive, Trump could remove Obama's executive order with his signature
- September 5, 2017=DACA rescinded
- Status of DACA Recipients
 - Anyone interested in admission to program or renewal of status has 6 months to apply
- Trump: "It is now time for Congress to act!"



One side: DACA is good

- Economically beneficial
 - Most business leaders and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce oppose Trump's decision
 - IMPACT: more economic activity in the U.S.-->higher GDP-->A Better America
- American values
 - We made a commitment to the Dreamers--denying our agreement sacrifices our values
 - IMPACT: Without values, who are we as a nation?



American value as a nation of immigrants (ETHOS):

“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

- This quote comes from Emma Lazarus' sonnet, *New Colossus*, which she wrote for a fundraiser auction to raise money for the pedestal upon which the Statue of Liberty now sits.



The Case Against DACA

*But, first, a word to the
wise...*

The Case Against DACA

- DREAM Act=good, DACA=bad
 - Trump respecting Constitution and Rule of Law
 - If Americans want DREAM Act, Congress must act
 - IMPACT: violates Constitution
- Trump's action gives opportunity to repack immigration policies
 - Both Dems and Reps now feel urgency to get policies in place--both parties are to blame
 - IMPACT: ultimately better immigration system
- Rule of Law
 - DACA recipient may be well intentioned, but why give special treatments?
 - IMPACT: American value of fairness



Gun Control vs. Rights

— What does the 2nd amendment —
really guarantee?

So, how does this translate into the 21st century?

- Did the founders envision semi-automatic weapons?
- What is a well regulated militia?
- Why did the Founders make this the 2nd Amendment -- why is it important?
- What has the Supreme Court ruled?

Well Regulated Militia

The U. S. Constitution, Article 1,
Section 8, states:

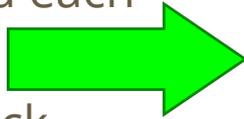
“The Congress shall have Power ... To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years; To provide and maintain a Navy; To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces; To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;”

Boston Massacre(1770)



Founders' Perspectives

- Constitution guaranteed no standing army, yet...
- *Militia Act of 1792* directed each citizen to have a musket
- But...slaves and freed black men were prohibited
- White men who had not declared loyalty to the Revolution
- Other state laws / regulations



"That every citizen, so enrolled and notified, shall, within six months thereafter, provide himself with a good musket or firelock, a sufficient bayonet and belt, two spare flints, and a knapsack, a pouch, with a box therein, to contain not less than twenty four cartridges, suited to the bore of his musket or firelock, each cartridge to contain a proper quantity of powder and ball; or with a good rifle, knapsack, shot-pouch, and powder-horn, twenty balls suited to the bore of his rifle, and a quarter of a pound of powder; and shall appear so armed, accoutred and provided, when called out to exercise or into service, except, that when called out on company days to exercise only, he may appear without a knapsack."

Pro gun control

- **The Second Amendment is not unlimited.**
 - There is always ground for regulation around the amendment.
 - Justice Antonin Scalia: " "Like most rights, the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited."
 - IMPACT: Neglecting regulation will provide grave injury to the Constitution.
- **Guns are often the leading cause of death, according to the CDC.**
 - 66.6% of homicides, 52.2% of suicides
 - David Frum (Daily Beast): American children under 15 are 9x more likely to die from gun accident than children in other wealthy nations
 - IMPACT: The death of our citizens, kids
- **Guns are frequently stolen.**
 - Very portable
 - U.S. Bureau of Justice: Over 200k guns stolen/year
 - IMPACT: Failure of pragmatism
- **Americans want gun control.**
 - Politico (October 2017): 64 percent want Congress to pass stricter gun control legislation
 - NRA has bullied lawmakers into silence
 - IMPACT: Failing to pass gun control = failing to support democracy

Pro: Technology has changed



A Revolutionary War musket.

Pro: Technology has changed

- Today, citizens have many more options
 - Semi-automatic weapons
 - Fully automatic weapon
- Bump stock technology
 - Las Vegas killer had 12 bump stocks in his hotel room
 - Essentially converts semi-automatic weapon into fully automatic weapon



Sidebar: What is an assault weapon?

- *Automatic weapons*
- *Semi-automatic weapons*
 - *With additional features, such as:*
 - *Pistol grip*
 - *Bayonet mount*
 - *Flash suppressor*



Against gun control

- **Statistics.** Nov. 2013 study (Gius, *Applied Economic Letters*)--between 1980 and 2009:
 - states with restrictions on the carrying of concealed weapons had higher gun-related murder
 - Assault weapons bans did not significantly affect murder rates at the state level
 - IMPACT: Failing to recognize facts=failure to recognize reason.
- **Gun control prevents Americans from feeling safe.**
 - According to the NRA, guns are used for self-defense 2.5 million times/year
 - Even Dianne Feinstein carried a gun after her home was attacked in the 70s
 - IMPACT: The cost of paranoia is even greater
- **Background checks won't prevent disaster.**
 - The Las Vegas killer passed a background check
 - Criminals will still steal guns
 - IMPACT: By taking away guns from law-abiding Americans, the impact could be even worse
- **Assault weapons ban is only superficial.**
 - Bans additional features, unrelated to guns' performance
 - IMPACT: Won't actually solve problems

Opposition Strategy

— Useful pointers to beat the affirmation —

Logical fallacies

- Ad hominem attacks: personal insults devoid of substance related to the argument at hand
- Straw man: constructing and then attacking an alternative proposition to defeat
- False dichotomy: arguing that only 2 choices exist when a spectrum of possibilities are available
- *Post hoc ergo propter hoc*: “after this, therefore because of this”
- Fallacy of sunk cost/time: Claiming that a plan ought to be continued because of an initial investment
- Bandwagon fallacy: an argument should be supported because others support it
- The fallacy of inability: Claiming the actor can't adopt plan, so the plan does not have merit
 - ***fiat***

Opposition policy strategy

- You need not defend the status quo
- Create a plan that is **mutually exclusive** from the proposition proposal
- Example: The USFG should institute universal health care.
 - Proposition: create a National Health Service, similar to what's found in the UK
 - Opposition: expand coverage within existing Medicare/Medicaid system

*Now, what if you're on the proposition team?
How do you defeat a counterplan?*

- If your counterplan is NOT mutually exclusive, adopt it as your own
- Example: The USFG should strengthen climate laws.
 - Proposition: adopt Paris Climate Accord standards
 - Opposition: California should adopt Paris Climate Accord standards
 - Proposition: why not do both?!

