

Vietnam War

After World War II, United States U.S. citizens praised the surviving soldiers for their patriotic service. In their eyes, the war was worth fighting; as Europe felt relief that the axis powers were gone, and the economy back home flourished. ~~has now been rid of the axis powers and the economy back at home was booming.~~ At this time, ~~Up until then,~~ soldiers were treated well, and ~~most the majority of the population regarded saw them~~ as heroes by a majority of the population. However, following the Vietnam War, there was ~~will soon be~~ a sudden change in prejudice against soldiers, and people ~~gradually would soon~~ viewed them as monsters and killers. Due to its high costs and geographical detachment, many United States citizens saw it as a waste to fight in Vietnam. ~~Many thought it wasn't even worth it to go to Vietnam in the first place, due to its high cost and the fact that it is on the other side of the world.~~ Further ~~On top of that,~~ fighting on foreign land would be very tough, as the area would be ~~so unfamiliar and dangerous for~~ with the troops. ~~The Overall,~~ the United States should have never fought in ~~the shouldn't have gone in~~ the Vietnam War because it never directly affected the U.S., it would potentially put the country into deeper financial debt, it was unwinnable, and it caused the country's morale to hit an all-time low. ~~low. it's not a U.S. concern, its high cost, it was unwinnable, and the bad reputation gained tainted the U.S.' strength.~~

~~The~~To start, the United States shouldn't have been involved ~~itself~~ in the Vietnam War because it posed no threat to ~~Americans' freedoms~~the freedoms that Americans enjoy. According to "Five Reasons Why the U.S. Should Not Have Invaded Vietnam," ~~Vietnam is~~the conflicts in ~~Vietnam~~did not affect the United States. Many Americans ~~knew that~~thought the U.S. had nothing to gain from engaging in the fights ~~that were~~viewed as ~~being~~Vietnam's first civil war (Tucker). After all, the country is on the other side of the world, and Vietnam isn't a world power like Russia or China. According to "Was the Vietnam War Necessary," even if the U.S. soldiers did lose to Vietnam, the United States ~~would just~~ absorb the defeat due to the sheer strength and power it ~~holds~~. The war would only be a minor setback, and there would be no permanent aftermath or effect (Lawrence).

The high costs of war are another ~~reason that proves further that the United States should have never joined this war~~Next, ~~the United States shouldn't have been involved in the Vietnam War because of its high costs~~. It is ~~evident is~~obvious that the monetary cost for a war is indeed expensive; however, the cost of lives is even more devastating. An estimated 2.2 million Vietnamese civilians died ~~due to the war~~, and between 200,000 and 250,000 U.S. troops lost their lives in the fight (Spector). As both countries ~~consider their substantial death tolls~~, the war proves devastating for both sides.~~The war now becomes a lose-lose situation, as both sides were crucially hit by their country's death count~~. According to "Five Reasons Why the U.S. Should Not Have Invaded Vietnam," the war cost ~~approximately the United States around~~\$738 billion ~~dollars~~if the value ~~it was~~were converted to ~~in~~today's dollars ~~money~~. The Vietnam War ~~This is the~~ just behind ~~third most costly battle, aside from~~ WWII and the wars in Iraq in terms of monetary

costs. The war increased America's already high debt and left fewer resources for programs and interests at home (Tucker).

The United States should have realized the difficulties they would face in succeeding in this unwinnable war. Furthermore, the United States shouldn't have been involved in the Vietnam War because it was unwinnable. The soldiers of North Vietnam, were also known as the Viet Cong. They were far better supplied, had vastly superior firepower, and possessed an advantage in mobility, thanks to their transport planes and helicopters (Boylan). On top of that, American soldiers were often ambushed by the Viet Cong, who knew how to maneuver in the dangerous jungles using and use guerrilla tactics. U.S. troops were not prepared to face this style of warfare from the Viet Cong; and even President John F. Kennedy stated said that 500,000 U.S. troops aided by and 700,000 South Vietnamese fighters had no chance against the 250,000 Viet Cong soldiers in North Vietnam (Tucker). Fighting on foreign land is a task that poses extra obstacles, including even difficulties in progressing through battlegrounds and obtaining territory. Whenever one side is fighting in a foreign country, they will be faced with extra obstacles, which include having a far more difficult time progressing through the battlegrounds and meeting the objective.

The Vietnam War caused American morale to hit an all-time low. In addition, the United States shouldn't have been involved in the Vietnam War because of the bad reputation it caused. Back at home, citizens were furious about America's fighting in the war involvement. There were countless many protests, riots, and killings that all stemmed from our the involvement in the Vietnam War. According to "Vietnam War," there were multiple incidents at universities where students protested the war and were later killed by state officials. would protest the war, and

~~multiple would be killed.~~ On May 4, 1970, at Kent State University in Ohio, four student protesters were shot and killed by national guardsmen ~~that were~~ stationed at the school to keep the protests under control. Additionally, ~~another~~ two student protesters were shot and killed by police at Jackson State University in Mississippi (History.com Editors). The United States' reputation was ~~also~~ tainted by the ~~shattering of~~ ~~because it shattered~~ the country's image of invincibility. Many returning veterans ~~now~~ faced ~~adverse~~ ~~negative~~ reactions from ~~citizens~~ ~~opponents of the war~~ because some of the soldiers killed innocent civilians back in Vietnam. They also received backlash from the war's supporters; ~~because~~ ~~as in their eyes~~ they had lost the war ~~in their eyes~~. On top of the ~~hostile social effects soldiers faced~~ ~~is~~, they also had to deal with the side effects of their exposure to ~~the soldiers had to cope with the effects of exposure to~~ the toxic herbicide agent orange ~~after~~; millions of gallons ~~were~~ ~~of which had been~~ dumped by U.S. planes on the dense forests of Vietnam (History.com Editors).

On the contrary, ~~e~~ ~~Even though the Vietnam War did not threaten the United States~~ ~~the United States was not threatened by the Vietnam War~~, Vietnam's surrounding countries were at risk. America's concern of this ~~This~~ is known as the domino theory, or that if Vietnam fell to communism, the smaller ~~nations~~ ~~countries~~ surrounding it would too. Asia's economy would then collapse, and the whole world would be severely affected (Dunn 18). This is why ~~the United States needed to take~~ ~~it was crucial for the United States to take~~ action in the Vietnam War. According to "Was the Vietnam War Necessary," President Lyndon B. Johnson said that the rest of Southeast Asia would fall to Communism once Vietnam did; ~~therefore,~~ ~~therefore~~ the United States ~~had to~~ ~~must~~ intervene. However, more than 30 CIA officers debunked that a failure in Vietnam would not open the way to devastating setbacks, much less lead to a ~~significant~~ ~~major~~

economic collapse (Lawrence). This further proves ~~shows~~ that the U.S. would not gain anything from fighting in Vietnam, and choosing not to intervene would not lead to a societal meltdown.

In conclusion, the United States shouldn't have gone to the Vietnam War because it was ~~never's~~ ~~not~~ a U.S. concern, it ~~heightened America's debt,~~ ~~its high costs~~; it was unwinnable, and ruined morale in America caused fatal riots and protests. ~~and the bad reputation tainted the United States's strength.~~ The Vietnam War was not a U.S. concern because it was overseas and ~~it~~ posed no threat to ~~Americans' freedoms~~ ~~the freedoms that Americans enjoyed~~. On top of that, the high costs of ~~war~~ ~~money~~ and ~~the lost lives~~ ~~that the war caused~~ ~~were~~ was not worth the outcome and the effort ~~that was~~ put into a losing battle. Fighting the Viet Cong in their homeland was never a winning fight, and the United States should have never intervened. ~~It was also an unwinnable battle, as the Viet Cong had a clear advantage over the United States and its allies.~~

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