

## **Social Studies**

### **A Glossary of Issues Affecting the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election as Mini-Researched by You!**

#### **Benghazi** (Emilie and Adrian)

On September 11 2012, there was an attack on 2 US government facilities in Benghazi, Libya, killing 4 Americans including ambassador Christopher Stevens and wounding 10 others. Clinton, who was secretary of state at the time, and the Obama Administration claimed it a 'protest'. However, it was really a planned attack from a terrorist group. The Republican Party accused Clinton and Obama of lying about the attack being a 'protest' and down playing the situation. They had an investigation, trying to determine if it was a cover up but found no evidence. However, the Republican Party is still going after Clinton during the debate and saying it had something to do with her deleted emails and that she cannot be trusted.

#### **Business Regulations** (Ryan, Jayee, and Tove)

Business regulations are set to protect employee's rights and the environment, and hold corporations responsible for the amount of power they have. Business regulation are laws that businesses have to follow and to provide things like customer satisfaction.

They include requirements for opening a company, human resource regulations (employing, labor), advertising rules, anti-spam laws, privacy (information collected from individuals), Health and safety regulations, exporting regulation (moving your company to another country), environmental regulations, accessibility (for disabled people), Founding codes (when founding the company, music regulation (for playing music at events).

#### **Deleted Emails of Hillary Clinton** (Meera and Shawn)

Hillary's team deleted about 33 000 emails that were assumed to be not "work-related". These emails were not turned into the State Department and Clinton claims that the legal team didn't know that they were not related to work.

In March 2015, it was revealed to the public that Hillary Clinton was using her family's private email server for official communications. Clinton was supposed to be using the official State Department email accounts which were being maintained by the federal servers.

Some of the emails had classified information which was a sign for the FBI to start investigating. Soon enough, the FBI found out that around 2100 emails were marked as classified.

## **DNC Hack/Wikileaks (Cynthia and Daniel)**

- DNC stands for Democratic National Committee
- Email hack
- 19,252 emails and 8,034 documents were leaked from seven key DNC members
- DNC is the formal governing body for the United States Democratic Party
- Most likely from Russians
- Hacker going as Guccifer 2.0 did the hacking
- Uploaded on WikiLeaks
- Many of the most damaging emails were suggesting that the committee was trying to undermine Bernie Sanders campaign
- Debbie Wasserman Schultz emails leaked, which contained her saying that Hillary Clinton was the presumptive nominee, and not calling Bernie Sanders a Democrat
- Debbie Wasserman Schultz is a member of the Democratic who served as a chairperson of the Democratic National Committee from 2011 to 2016
- Financial and donor information leaked which were transitional exchanges between the Democratic Party and the party's wealthy donor class.
- Tim Canova's emails leaked
- Canova sought Florida's 23rd congressional district
- Tim Canova is on the Democratic Party
- Trump says that Russians had no part of hack
- Trump says that it could have been an obese nerd who did hack
- Trump says that China may have done hack, although no proof has been found
- Hillary blames Russians for hack, although no proof has been found
- DNC hack affected Clinton campaign and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee because many of the leaked emails were sent by Clinton
- Controversial because Clinton used private email to send official communications, which were leaked in part of the DNC hack

- DNC CEO Amy Dacey, CFO Brad Marshall, and Communications Director Luis Miranda resigned in wake of the DNC hack, due to the fact that her emails were leaked
- WikiLeaks founded in 2006
- WikiLeaks is international non-profit journalistic
- WikiLeaks release significant documents
- WikiLeaks founder, Julian Assange
- Julian Assange is an Australian computer programmer, publisher, and journalist, Editor in chief of the organization WikiLeaks
- Chelsea Manning leaked classified documents to WikiLeaks
- Chelsea Manning disclosed to WikiLeaks, nearly 750,000 classified and unclassified, but sensitive military and diplomatic documents
- Millions of leaked documents on WikiLeaks
- WikiLeaks site: <https://wikileaks.org/>
- According to Wikileaks their goal is to bring important news and information to the public
- Another goal of them is to ensure that journalists and whistleblowers are not prosecuted for emailing sensitive documents
- The material that has been leaked are emails, military files, scandals, corruptions, assassinations, killings, nuclear waste dumping, etc.

### **Devaluation of Currency (Brian and Adrian)**

Devaluation of currency is when a country makes its currency worth less than it was. When a country devalues their currency, it usually means that it will help that country's trade.

"There are two implications of devaluation. First, devaluation makes the country's exports relatively less expensive for foreigners. Second, the devaluation makes foreign products relatively more expensive for domestic consumers, which discourages the imports. It decreases the trade deficit and may increase trade competitiveness of the economy. A government might use devaluation to boost aggregate demand in the economy in an effort to fight unemployment."  
 - [UK Essays](#)

Countries also devalue their currency so that the minimum wage is lower. This means that people can be paid less when they do jobs. When they do this, people who want to start companies start the companies there. Or, if a already existing business wants to earn more profit, they can move

there, and get a better business. A country can also devalue their currency for trade and sales. If one country sells a certain product for less and another for more, that certain country will earn more money from their awesome deal.

### **The Fed** (Fu and Jayee)

The Federal Reserve also known as “The Fed” is the central bank of the United States. That provides a safe monetary and financial system for the United States It was formed on December 23, 1913. The Fed has 12 regional banks. It includes the board of governors in Washington D.C. There are 12 regional reserve banks. There are federal reserves in Atlanta, Chicago, Boston, Cleveland, Kansas, Dallas, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, San Francisco, and St. Louis. The most recognized function of The Fed is conducting the US’s monetary system. Congress is tasked to implement policies that promote maximum employment and stable prices. The Fed also supervises other banks in the country to make sure they have financial stability. Other than that they also work with people outside, with non-profit organization to help people with housing problems and such. The current members of the board are Janet L Yellen *chair*, Stanley Fischer *vice - chairman*, Daniel K. Tarrullo, Jerome H. Powell, Lael Brainard. The Federal Reserve has 4.486 trillion dollars and over 2 trillion dollars in US government debt.

### **The Great Recession** (Anika, Emilie, and Yoshin)

The Great Recession was a period of general economic decline observed in world markets during the late 2000s and early 2010s. In the USA, it began in December 2007 and ended June 2009; thus extending it over 19 months. The US Bureau of Economic Research declared it the greatest global recession since World War II. Trillions were lost in general banking gold reserves, minted bills, Wall Street economy and shadow banking assets. The economic recession began when the US market decreased and many mortgage-backed securities lost a significant amount of value. They believed the cause was companies and businesses taking too much risk and gradual economic decline followed.

### **The Hispanic Vote** (Shreyas)

The Hispanic population in America as of July 1, 2015 is 56.6 million or 17.6 percent of the national population. The projected Hispanic population in 2060 is 119 million or 28.6 percent of the national population at that date.

Hillary Clinton currently has a 66%-24% lead in Hispanic voters over Trump.

Clinton lead is mostly among Hispanic women, 71% say they support Clinton while 19 % say they support Trump. Among Hispanic men, 61% support Clinton while 30% support Trump.

In the past, the Latino population has not been represented consistently in the electorate. Only about half of all Latinos in America (49%) say that they were registered to vote.

Clinton holds a major lead over Trump out of Latino adults who say they are not sure that they are registered to vote (87%-7%).

### **Housing Crisis** (Shreyas, Amy, and Peiyan)

The American housing crisis was the result of a major drop in housing prices in 2008. This started in 2006-2007 and is the primary cause of The Great Recession. This did not only affect the housing prices, but the mortgage market, real estate, and home builders had been affected as well. In 2008, The US government allocated for \$900 billion with over half going to government sponsored-enterprises. The cause of this crisis came from too much mortgage credit that this economy couldn't handle.

### **Implicit Bias** (Anika and Emma)

Unlike explicit bias, which is the belief or attitude at a conscious level, implicit bias refers to attitudes or beliefs that affect us at an unconscious level. The attitudes "...are automatically activated by the mere presence (actual or symbolic) of the attitude object."

Also known as implicit social cognition, implicit bias refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding and decisions.

Implicit bias describes the automatic association people make between groups of people and stereotypes about those groups.

Some examples of implicit bias are:

- a doctor with implicit racial bias will be less likely to recommend black patients to specialists or may recommend surgery rather than a less invasive treatment
- you could tell someone whether or not you like math. That is your explicit attitude. Your IMPLICIT attitude would be that you do or don't like math, but you may not be actually aware of that.
- managers may be less likely to invite a black candidate in for a job interview or to provide a positive performance evaluation.

### **Iran and U.S. Relations** (Vlad, Jayee, and Kevin)

#### *Introduction*

Iran's relation with USA is very complicated. It is uncertain whether they are at a friendly situation or an aggressive one. Sometimes they oppose each

## *The Issue*

The issue is that Iran was making a lot of nuclear facilities and enriching the uranium to make it more useful so it can be used in a nuclear bomb. When the U.S. found out, they accused Iran of building these nuclear facilities, but Iran denied. After this, the U.S., along with China, Russia, and other countries, imposed heavy sanctions on them so their economy crashed. Later, U.S. made a deal with Iran to lift sanctions on Iran in exchange for them to only enrich uranium for peaceful services. They are only allowed to stockpile 300 kg of under 5% enriched uranium. They are so far maintaining their end of the deal as shown by international monitors so far.

## *Candidates' point of view*

“I would have said sorry, we can't give you the \$150 billion back. We want to give you the money back, but we don't have it. It's not there,” states trump however it is known as a fact that the US never had 150 billion dollars to give back.

Trump also states that if he were the president at that time he would have negotiated a better nuclear deal with Iran.

“I want the Iranians to know that if I'm president, we will attack Iran. In the next 10 years, during which they might foolishly consider launching an attack on Israel, we would be able to totally obliterate them.” Clinton says, showing detest towards the country.

President Obama sent 400 million dollars to Iran to free four American prisoners say that “they needed to be returned to their home country” Trump blames this on Clinton calling her a “incompetent secretary.”

## **ISIS (Tove and Ryan)**

ISIS is an organization founded by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in 1999.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:AQMI\\_Flag\\_asymmetric.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:AQMI_Flag_asymmetric.svg)

- ISIS is a group of terrorists whose goal is to raise a leader to rule the world.
- Its leader is Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.
- It was founded in 2006 when it became independent from Al-Qaeda.
- The group started as the Iraqi chapter of Al Qaeda.
- ISIS doesn't have a neutral state. It only fights or truces.
- They get money by selling oil and extracting taxes. The Iraq and Syrian government are the main buyers.
- Before, ISIS was expanding territory. Now they are attacking outside of their original countries.
- They rule an area larger than the UK. ISIS, though called Islamic State, is not really a state.

- ISIS is an organization founded by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in 1999.

*Candidate's Feelings about ISIS:*

Trump: Blamed Hillary and Obama for creating ISIS.

Clinton: Says she has plan and Trump doesn't.

**Israel and the U.S. Relations (Vlad and Ryan)**

*Introduction:*

Israel and its relations with the U.S. are very tense right now because they argued lately, and the hostility and suspicion towards the U.S. is only worsening relations between the U.S. and Israel. This will probably continue until they make amends to each other. This might take a while because the U.S. and Israel might think they will look weak if they attempt to make amends, especially if the other country refuses.

*History:*

The relations started when George W. Bush because he had a great relation with the Israelis living there. Ever since, the U.S. has been an ally to Israel. Lately though, because the Israeli government leaned towards the right and the American government leaned towards the left, the relations quickly deteriorated between them. The reason for this is that while the U.S. government shift made it more environmentalist, Israel's shift made it care more about the equality of people.

*Issue:*

The issue is that because the governments of each country leaned in opposite directions at the same time, the points of view changed and made the countries bother each other. Israel tried to interfere with the nuclear deal between the U.S. and Tehran, while B. Obama did a revealing interview on chapter 2 in Israel. Because the relations between them are worsening, there is a minor risk of the alliance being scrapped. The U.S. is saying that Israel could be losing its essential values.

*Candidate Point of View:*

The candidates both talk about Israel a lot. There are lots of people working for ISIS in Israel. Clinton strongly supports helping Israel in the war, however, Trump's position on Israel is not clear, he sometimes supports Israel and sometimes doesn't. He changes most often when Clinton makes a good point. Trump has said before, he plans to be Neutral on the Israel problem, but he it doesn't really look like it. Clinton also has a part about her position on Israel on her website, but Trump doesn't mention the topic.

*Summary:*

Before, during the rule of George W. Bush, the U.S. made an alliance with Israel. Now, Israel

and the U.S. are arguing, and both Clinton and Trump have different opinions on this topic. That's what's happening in Israel at the moment.

### **NAFTA** (David, Henry, and Harrison)

NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) have very multilateral clear rules that went into effect on January 1st, 1994; it has not expired. It was signed by Canada, Mexico, and the United States. So far, it is the largest free trade zone. It eliminated most tariff and non-tariff barriers between the 3 NAFTA countries. It is supported by institutions that make sure it runs smoothly. Its benefits are economic growth, job creation, and better priced customer goods. It also give business with better access to materials, talent, technology, and investment capitols that are outside of their country. This is what we so far know about NAFTA the trading agreement.

### **NATO** (Ella and Amy)

NATO stands for North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and it is a political and military alliance. There are 28 countries participating in this club. NATO participates in operations and missions to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means. Trump says that NATO isn't paying their fair share. He says they need to "their bills". Treaty of Brussels signed on March 17 1948. The main building is on Boulevard Leopold.

### **No First Use Policy (NFU)** (Fu and Yoshin)

In 1964, when nuclear weapons were relatively new to this world, China was first to agree to a NFU (no first use) policy in which, in the case of a war consisting use of nuclear weapons or not, China would not use nuclear weapons first. India followed the NFU treaty in 2003. During the 7th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in 2016, dictator of North Korea Kim Jong-un stated that North Korea would "not use nuclear weapons first unless aggressive hostile forces use nuclear weapons to invade on our sovereignty". However, just two months after the statement, North Korea threatened a preemptive attack against the United States using nuclear weapons. In 1999, Germany made a proposal to NATO to apply the rules of NFU to NATO. Nine countries together has more than 15,000 nuclear weapons. USA and Russia together has roughly 1,800 nuclear missiles on high-alert mode, which allows the missiles to be launched into enemy countries just minutes after a national warning. China decided to keep a relatively small nuclear arsenal instead of joining other countries worldwide in a nuclear weapon race. Russian federation (formerly Soviet Union) has made roughly 55,000 nuclear warheads since 1949. At its peak (1986) it had approximately 45,000 nuclear warheads in its arsenal. The largest nuclear weapon ever created was made by the Soviet Union, it was named the Tsar Bomba. It had a yield of 50 megatons, approximately 28,000 times the yield of the Hiroshima bomb, launched in WWII. It had a pure destructive radius of 22 miles not including radiation or shock effect.



The no first use policy makes nuclear power plants not be able to use nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons against other countries unless first attacked. NATO has been rejecting the no first use policy saying that nuclear strikes might have to be an option. In 2000 Russia declared that they can choose not to or to use nuclear weapons.

Countries pledging no first use policy:

-China

-India

-North Korea

Countries pledging to use nuclear weapons only defensively:

-Russia

-United Kingdom

-United States

-Pakistan

-Israel

China

China was the first country to pledge the no first use policy when it got nuclear weapons in 1964. During the cold war China kept a rather small nuclear arsenal. China has called multiple times to reaffirm in 2005, 2008, 2009, and 2011.

**NRA (National Rifle Association of America)** (Meera and Karen)

Founded: November 16th 1871; 144 years ago

Founders: William Conant Church, George Wood Wingate

Focus: Firearm ownership rights, political advocacy, publishing

Location: Fairfax, Virginia, U.S

Services: Membership Organization, Magazine Publisher, education and certification, museum curation

No. of Members: 5 million as of May 2013

Key people: President Aldan D. Cors, Executive President Wayne Lapiere

### *Background Checks*

Process of Finding criminal records, commercial records, and financial records of a person or organization. This relates to Clinton's deleted emails.

Requested when seeking high trust jobs, such as working at schools, hospital, airport, bank, government

### *Second Amendment*

Part of Bill of Rights. Adopted December 15th 1791. Part of first ten Amendments in Bill of Rights. Based on English Bill of Rights 1689.

### *Donald Trump:*

- Buying lots of ammunition & body armor should be a red flag. (Jun 2016)
- Mass shootings are due to a huge mental health problem. (Jan 2016)
- No limits on guns; they save lives. (Jan 2016)
- Keep enemies of the state away from guns. (Nov 2015)
- Make concealed-carry permits valid across all states. (Nov 2015)
- Gun-free zones are target practice for sickos. (Oct 2015)
- Gun ownership makes US safer, not more dangerous. (Oct 2015)
- Mental health more important than gun control. (Oct 2015)
- Laws are ineffective in preventing gun violence. (Oct 2015)
- Gun violence is inevitable; regulations won't help. (Oct 2015)
- Protect the Second Amendment, but address mental health. (Sep 2015)
- Take guns from good people & bad people have target practice. (Jul 2015)
- A very strong person on the Second Amendment. (Jun 2015)
- I am against gun control. (Feb 2011)
- Dems and Reps are both wrong on guns. (Jul 2000)
- For assault weapon ban, waiting period, & background check. (Jul 2000)

*Hillary Clinton:*

- 2008: Fondly recalled being taught to shoot by grandfather. (Apr 2016)
- FactCheck: 33,000 gun deaths includes suicides & accidents. (Jan 2016)
- I support Brady Bill and closing the Charleston loophole. (Dec 2015)
- Arming more people is not appropriate response to terrorism. (Dec 2015)
- Reverse gun manufacturer immunity; let them get sued. (Nov 2015)
- Don't shield gun manufacturers from lawsuits:I vote that way. (Oct 2015)
- Sensible restraints on manufacturer liability & online sales. (Oct 2015)
- Gun control advocates see Clinton as an ally. (Jun 2015)
- Rein in idea that anybody can have a gun anywhere, anytime. (May 2014)
- 2000: advocate for national gun registry; 2008: backed off. (May 2014)
- Balance lawful gun ownership & keeping guns from criminals. (Apr 2008)
- Give local police access to federal gun tracking info. (Apr 2008)
- Let states & cities determine local gun laws. (Apr 2008)
- Against illegal guns, crack down on illegal gun dealers. (Jan 2008)
- Backed off a national licensing registration plan on guns. (Jan 2008)
- Get assault weapons & guns off the street. (Jul 2007)
- Background check system could prevent Virginia Tech massacre. (Apr 2007)
- FactCheck: VA Tech shooter not declared a danger to others. (Apr 2007)
- Congress' failure at Littleton response inspired Senate run. (Nov 2003)
- Keep guns away from people who shouldn't have them. (Sep 2000)
- Limit access to weapons; look for early warning signs. (Sep 2000)
- License and register all handgun sales. (Jun 2000)
- Tough gun control keeps guns out of wrong hands. (Jul 1999)
- Gun control protects our children. (Jul 1999)

- Don't water down sensible gun control legislation. (Jul 1999)
- Lock up guns; store ammo separately. (Jun 1999)
- Ban kids' unsupervised access to guns. (Jun 1999)
- Get weapons off the streets; zero tolerance for weapons. (Sep 1996)
- Voted NO on prohibiting lawsuits against gun manufacturers. (Jul 2005)
- Voted NO on banning lawsuits against gun manufacturers for gun violence. (Mar 2004)
- Prevent unauthorized firearm use with "smart gun" technology. (Aug 2000)

**[http://www.ontheissues.org/Gun\\_Control.htm](http://www.ontheissues.org/Gun_Control.htm)**

### **ObamaCare: Affordable Care Act (Amy and Yoshin)**

ObamaCare, The ACA(Affordable Care Act) was signed into law to reform the health care industry by President Barack Obama on March 23, 2010 and upheld by the Supreme Court on June 28, 2012. ObamaCare's intention was to give more people access to affordable, quality health insurance. The pro is that more people in America will have health insurance. The con is that it is a costly and heavily funded act. Millions of people will lose health insurance if ObamaCare is dropped, candidate Donald Trump intends to get rid of or replace ObamaCare. Trump himself said "we are going to replace this disaster with reforms that gives you choice, freedom and control over health-care at much lower cost. It is improbable that such a program can be carried out. Contrary to Trump's intention, candidate Hillary Clinton intends to build on ObamaCare's success and further improve and extend it. As of the end of open enrollment 2016 there was estimated to be as many as 12.7 million in the marketplace, and roughly 20 million total covered between the Marketplace, Medicaid expansion, young adults staying on their parents plan, and other coverage provisions due to ObamaCare.

### **Police Shootings (Shawn and David)**

Police shootings have caused a lot of grief in the US year after year, and according to The Washington Post there have so far been 768 people that have died due to police shootings in 2016 and 991 people in 2015. Also, since the last decade, there has been an average of 400 shootings per year.

There is a huge controversy on this topic regarding Black people who have been shot by police officers. This is because Clinton and Trump have different views on the subject and what America should do about it.

Same as last time, Clinton has talked about these shootings to be intolerable and unbearable which has led to her saying that the US needs to restore community bonds with the police. She also said that we need to do something about the problem of implicit bias.

Trump has called these shootings terrible and wants to have more Stop and Frisk throughout the US. Trump wants an end to this "violence and unrest" and says that America needs more "unity and leadership". He also thinks that Crutcher looked like a good man and that Shelby should have acted differently. He also added "you have some people that always makes mistakes. He suggests that for both police officers they might have been "choking" or "scared".

Police shootings happen every year and the numbers are not good. Currently, the US laws does not meet the standard of human rights around the world. So far, only 8 of the 50 states need a verbal warning by police to allow shots to be fired.

On Sept 16, 2016, a black person named Terence Crutcher was fatally shot by officer Betty Shelby after not responding to verbal commands from her. This quickly escalated and Betty was sentenced to first-degree manslaughter in the court of law.

Clinton talked about this as "intolerable" which led to her to talk in the debate about restoring the bonds between communities and the police. Trump was "very troubled" about this which led to him to talk about more stop and frisk and to make America great again.

On Sept 20, 2016, an African American man named Keith Lamont Scott was shot 4 times by a police officer named Brentley Vinson. He was shot after repeatedly being told to drop the gun. Dorsey, a witness thinks the police should have responded differently. This is the latest police shooting.

Clinton says "We must ensure justice and work to bridge divines," on twitter. Both of the politicians postponed a trip to Charlotte. Trump tweets "Crooked Hillary's bad judgement forced her to announce she would go to charlotte on Sunday to grandstand. Dem pols say noway"

### **Stop and Frisk (Henry and Harrison)**

- Allows police to stop and pat down a person they suspect is or could commit a crime
- The police has to have a reasonable suspicion
- In New York City
- The vast majority of those stopped were African-American or Latino
- Over half were aged 14-24
- In 2011 police stopped 46,784 women, frisking nearly 16,000
- Guns were found in only 59 cases; but there were 3,993 arrests of women

- Stop-and-frisk has become an issue in the 2016 presidential election
- adopted English law
- Used to only be stop and question
- When police officers make stops, they fill out a form explaining the situation and details of the stop
- Stop-and-frisk was an issue in the 2013 mayoral election
- 1% of Negroes stopped had weapons or contraband and 1.4% of white people stopped had weapons or contraband
- 684,000 stops in 2011
- 191,000 stops in 2013
- 23,000 stops in 2015
- stops declined
- in 2012 stop and frisk had few effects on crime

### **Special Interest** (Emilie and Tove)

The Special Interests Group (SIG) is a group that supports larger organizations and companies. They can be about anything. They Lobby government for “favours” to help them. Lobbying is basically bugging the government. Sometimes they have boundaries. They are like clubs but more centered and sophisticated. They are apparently given too much money in the USA.

### *Presidential Candidates' Opinions:*

Donald Trump of course is involved with special interests since he is a business mogul, and did support it. However, now he says he is completely against it stating, ”All the special interests that the media races to and for comment have been proven wrong about every single deal they’ve promoted. Every lie and prediction has crashed on the rocks of reality.”

Hillary Clinton doesn’t fully support special interests either, but isn’t as publicly against it as Trump. She says that when she was a kid, SIG wouldn’t even let women through the doors of Wall Street banks or other major law firms, let alone fund them. “My, how times have changed,” she says, “we proved them wrong didn’t we?”

### **Supreme Court** (Ella and Shreyas)

-The members of the Supreme Court are: Justice Clarence Thomas, Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Justice Stephen G. Breyer, Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., and Justice Elena Kagan.

- Location: 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE, Washington, DC 20543 United States

- The Supreme Court is a last resort to those seeking justice

- It helps keep the different levels of government in check and makes sure they don't abuse their power

- Highest federal court

- 1 Chief Justice nominated along with 8 associated justices, chosen by the president, confirmed by the senate

- Constitution or the laws of U.S Court stands as the final arbiter and guardian of constitutional liberties

#### HISTORY:

- It was implemented in 1789 with 6 members

- Each year, a new member was added stopping at 8

#### **Tax Audits** (Daniel and Vlad)

A tax audit is the examination of a company's or individual's tax return. Usually a tax audit is commenced when something you have entered on your return is out of the ordinary. You're more likely to be audited if you earn less than 25,000 or more than 200,000. There are 3 types of audits: a correspondence audit, an office audit, and a field audit.

A correspondence audit is when you have to mail the requested documents to the CRA. This is the simplest type of audit.

An office audit is when you have to go to a local CRA facility in person. You'll also be asked to bring specific documents and be questioned by the auditor.

A field audit is the broadest type of audit. This is when the CRA sends an auditor to your home, to your business place, or tax professional's office. Usually they will commence a field audit if you have more than just a deduction or two.

There are three types of systems, the IRP, DIF and the UIDIF.

IRP is the Information Returns Processing system. It handles all the data affiliated with the tax returns.

DIF is the Discriminant Inventory Function system. It predicts how accurate, tax returns are.

UIDIF is the Unreported Income Discriminant Inventory Function system. It rates the chance of unreported incomes.

### **TPP (Henry and Harrison)**

- Stands for trans-pacific partnership
- Trade agreement
- Began as expansion of the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement
- Other countries and regions interested in TPP membership include Taiwan the Philippines, and Colombia as of 2010; Thailand and Laos as of 2012; and Indonesia Cambodia, Bangladesh, and India as of 2013.
- Signed by Brunei, Chile, New Zealand, Singapore, Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the United States of America, and Vietnam
- Signed on February the 4th, 2016
- Signed in Auckland, New Zealand
- TPP prohibits child labor and forced labor
- It is awaiting ratification to enter into force
- Participating nations aimed at completing negotiations in 2012, but the process was prolonged by disagreements over contentious issues, including agriculture, intellectual property, and services and investments.
- Implementing the TPP has been one of the trade agenda goals of the Obama administration in the U.S.
- On 5 October 2015, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper stated he expected "signatures on the finalized text and deal early in the new year, and ratification over the next two years."
- The agreement will enter into force after ratification by all signatories, if this occurs within two years.
- An academic analysis has shown that while the TPP would be more successful if China participated in it, the benefits to China are intangible.
- Sri Lanka has announced interest of joining the TPP and is currently studying its feasibility.



- Among other things, it called for a 90 percent reduction of all tariffs between member countries by 1 January 2006, and reduction of all trade tariffs to zero by the year 2015.
- Columbia, the Philippines, Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, and Indonesia are planning to sign it
- Easier to open new markets to U.S. businesses
- Basically bigger NAFTA
- President Obama, republicans in congress, agriculture and tech sectors, and hollywood supports it
- Clinton was a yes, then a no
- Most significant trade deal for Canada since NAFTA
- Canada gets more access to markets in the asia-pacific area
- If Canada doesn't join, we will get a great GDP loss
- There is a special chapter on environment in the text
- It helps nations be aware and follow the environmental laws and policies.
- Puts environmental protection as a high priority in front of investment and trade.
- Spans 4 continents and affects 800 million people
- If the TPP goes into effect, Canada will have free trade agreements with a total of 51 different countries.
- Canadian customers will have lower prices on vehicle

### **Trickle-down Economics (Peiyan and Kevin)**

Trickle-down economics is a theory that the government uses to help boost the economy of said country. The way it works is that the government cut the taxes for the high-class so that they have more money to give to businesses so the businesses will have more money for expansion which includes more jobs and higher wages. This will (from the government's perspective) help the economy for a better country.

The reason that there is so much controversy on this theory is mainly because it does not work. If you check statistics, the time while the "trickle down economy" strategy was used it did not produce any better results while it was not. If you also think about it when you let the rich have more money, they don't always spend it, many just saves the money so it is quite obvious that this would not work.

Trickle-down economics also addressed as the “Trickle Down Theory” Was first proposed by the comedian Will Rogers as a way to aid the country out of the great depression. The great depression started when there was a severe crash in the stock market in the U.S on what they call “Black Thursday”. As he said "Money was all appropriated for the top in hopes that it would trickle down to the needy."

The idea of trickle down is that if you give high income workers a higher salary and cut their income tax it will benefit everyone. This some say it will work because if the rich get more spending money in their pockets from not paying taxes they will spend more therefore creating more demand and everyone benefits. Another reason some say it works because if they have more money they will be able to spend it on more “productive” things which benefit the economy

Trumps really likes the idea of trickling down economics. And he really believes that it will help the economy as Hillary said “Trumped up, trickle down.”

Clinton thinks that what Trump is saying is basically the "trickle-down economics" theory and it is proven to wrong. She even says right during the debate, "This is not how we grow economy."

### **Trump and the Iraq War** (Brian and Peiyan)

- Donald Trump was “on the fence” of the Iraq war
- During a BuzzFeed interview, when someone asked him if he supported the war, he said “Yeah, I guess so.”
- Before the war, he gave no public notice that he opposed the war, whereas he said he “kind of” supported the war
- When the war started, he started having doubts about the war
- After the war started, he started to say: “Don’t Do It,” saying that doing so would destabilize the middle east

Conclusion: Donald Trump supported the war more than he opposed *before* the war occurred, but after it started he noticed that it would be bad, and he started to oppose the war

### **Wall Street** (Ella and Karen)

Wall Street is a 0.7 mile street that is 8 blocks in the lower Manhattan financial district (in New York). It is by the East River. Largely due to Wall Street, New York has been called the most “economically powerful city” and “leading financial centre” in the world. It’s home to The New York Stock Exchange, NASDAQ, New York Mercantile Exchange, New York Board of Trade, etc.

Wall Street's first settlers came in 1624, they were Dutch. Wall Street was named after the wall the Dutch first built in 1711. It has been through a lot of things, including a 1920 bombing, 1929 Wall Street crash (which basically ignited the Great Depression). Also during the times when Africans were enslaved by the American white population, Wall Street was a slave market.

It is frequently used as an example of high banking and finance. Also vast wealth. It has been basically a symbol of wealth and economic growth, also corruptions and bankruptcy. Owning a building or suite, or having a job in Wall Street, symbolises great wealth, power or ability.