

Chart Notes

Columbus Main Library

April 24, 2003

Approach One: International Order

- Angry - because we are arrogant in our policies
- Hypocritical - we don't look at our flaws
- Imposing our will on others
- Absolute power corrupts absolutely
- Could cause backlash
- Superpower now (economic/political/military), but what comes up must come down
- Where are the ideas to follow?
- Economic dry rot
 - Exploiting foreign capital
- Attitude of might is right
- Preemption leaves so much unsaid
 - veiled colonialism
- our military is challenged yet not matched
- doesn't have to be ours alone, use the world's power
- World's Police? We can't
 - We're not alone in the world
- Blunt object approach
 - Not seeking to understand others
- Social forces?
- Local/Regional impact
- Narrows view of our role in the world

Approach One Costs

- Might makes right = porcupine
- World feels we want to make the world safe for American business
- Feared & hated instead of respected
- Military credibility took a hit - reason keeps changing
- If we exercise preemptively, then other countries should have that right
- Leaders should act responsibly
- Financial
 - What % of GDP - 4% now; WWII 40%
- Force to create peace will cause more hate. Need to get rid of the source of hate.
- Only approach to address some situations [genocide in Bosnia]. Are we leaders if we don't do something?
- Need to define rogue nations/movements [U.N.? World Court?] Cooperatively with other nations
- How to explain the preemptive nature of what we've done to our kids? What are we teaching our kids?
- Do as I say (diplomacy) not as I do

- Our own history follows the pattern of violence while emerging as a power.

Approach Two: The Democratic Project

- Carrot not a stick
- Democracy is good
- Where's the Republic? The Corps have taken over
- Other parts of the world laugh at our democracy
- Others know more about us than we know about them
- How can we export democracy given our state?
- Can't impose unless they want democracy
- Cultures may have different value systems
- Local sovereignty vs. World Orgs
- What of the premises we grew up with have the power to sustain us? Honesty? Integrity?
- Universal agreement? Agree to abide & uphold
- Pursuit of happiness - for all
- respect each others "happiness"
- Democracy is a luxury we can afford. Others have more pressing needs
- We have a simplistic view of what it takes to create a democracy
- Democracy = choice esp locally
- Sometimes there is a role for dictatorships
- Our elections = beauty contests
- Hypocrisy - arrogance
- F 451 - people fat, dumb & happy
- Promoting democracy when we don't have it
- Advised - not to stand for anything
just be nice
- Go to war to make the world safe for democracy
- Iraq - legitimate threat? to us?

Approach Three: The Global Market Prescription

Note: Having some trouble reading this recorder's writing for approaches 3 & 4

1. Fairness?
2. ? underclass (unemployed/underemployed)
3. Protection of national markets prevail
remains today
4. Global free trade will not abate terrorism
5. USA's economic system overrated
6. Exploitation is a serious issue
7. Poor/rich disparities (widening gap)
8. Free trade isn't "free" Foll of exploitation
9. What can replace "Free Trade" (Capitalism)

Approach Four: Preserve Our Global Future

1. Great expenditure on military
2. Do not think through long term impact of environmental behavior
3. Policy of USA creates hatred
4. Economics protection (i.e. Pharmaceuticals)
5. 9/11 redefined USA - world view/behavior
6. ? the arrogance that is the prevailing view
7. How do we think through the issues together?

Chart Notes

Newman Center

May 8, 2003

FLIP CHART PAPER:

Approach 1:

Gives us control / feel superior
Need international authority to address issues / prevent wars
Some view it as moral obligation
9/11 – began to feel powerless
concern with preemptive strike / need an actual threat / action that requires response or absolute proof of threat
our justice system does not follow preemptive theory / we can't justify it
decisions are based on economics not human rights
preemptive strike vs. preemptive action
unilateral action is dangerous to US
need to involve UN to diffuse religious issues
need to understand underlying issues which cause strife
action in Iraq should have happened sooner before war

Approach 1:

bully principle – people will fight back
We need to know other cultures
Need tools to understand other peoples

Approach 2:

Seem to be moving to approach 2 as justification for approval
Need to be proud of American values
We are a republic not a pure democracy
Need to reform at home first / consider protection of minority right / elsewhere
Can't export what we don't have
We don't do a good job as citizens / don't vote / unaware, etc.
Haven't signed international bill of human rights
Foreign exchange needs to be a 2-way street
Bad assumption that one size fits all
Democracy isn't always democracy
Our democracy has evolved here / can't expect any different elsewhere
Human rights is key
Perspective of non-Americans are different (not so great here)
Paternalistic / arrogant
Don't intend to support dictatorships
Credibility is an issue / hypocrisy / lack of consistency
Need creative engagement

Approach 3:

US companies are getting bigger and bigger. Are we free capitalism? Concentration of industry media

Competition is good if it's honest

Cheap labor – concerned

We are discriminating middle class

Like to raise standard of living but different; do real people like women really benefit

We need sustainable development: use resources wisely / our direction is not the way

Go in with moral / altruistic approach

We dictate economic policies / world debt; we give \$ and dictate terms

The marketplace is the worldwide war

Who is defining free trade / does the military have the right to promote free trade?

Need self help programs to support the world economy (need “bricks to build a road”)

Have and have not are different definitions: what is the have? Money or family? We value things differently

At what point will it affect our lifestyles

Coming from a different country, it's not as bad as you think to be poorer than in US

Living wage / labor issues

Excessive consumerism a concern (not just go after people with money but also help people through a living wage)

Our own people are losing their jobs

Our natural virtue is greed/ need an equalizing force in this country

Approach 4:

It's hypocrisy / how can we promote this if we are not doing this in this country? Greed. Those who are making decisions (e.g. congress) don't care.

Concerned about MNCs polluting the world and our country. Lessening of standards – more so than 30 years ago.

We lost “we the people” because of marketing / greed has taken over.

We don't always need to take the lead all of the time.

Living in other cultures; we are more adolescent.

I support the issue, but we have to live to maturity.

It is a question of do we wish to share?

The iceberg is the environment (titanic)

Support issue by maybe concerned with specifics

No connection with our ancestors

Reflections:

Can we do this more often?

Can you imagine if you were a victim of our arrogance / native Americans

There is hope for us via forum / discussion

US-big exporter of weapons need to work with UN / others will follow

Apathy is big problem / need to do forum with America

Chart Notes

Temple Israel

May 8, 2003

Approach One:

Power to Secure Peace

Safety from terrorism is a plus
Democracy: will security still be an issue?
Education is required for democracy
Food too
Force = expedient; cheaper?
Leaves U.S. open to exploitation
False friendships
We are taken advantage of
Perceived (us) as bully
Lends understanding of educated Germans (WWII)
Their embarrassment

International Order

Safety and security is difficult now in Afghanistan
Why does it always have to be our way? We seem to impose our way
Paradox – much of the world is fearful of us; using Korea as an example they have as much power as we do and this leads us to fear
Who are we to say it is alright for us to have nuclear weapons but not for others?
What is our role as Americans in getting behind our soldiers now?
Painless/fast war
 Does this change how we look at war?
 Most of population not affected
 Has no meaning for us
After war – then what?
Reactive Mode is easy to jump into
 Without determining the problem
 Arrogance that your system (democracy) is best – because it is ours
 Not enough focus on historical perspective
Even war seems to be instant gratification

Democratic Approach

Able to speak up
Easy to sell
Others' definitions

Materialistic

Rule of law (how to apply it)

Not important without basic need – food, housing clothes

Concerned about our idea that we can give a country democracy

Show the world what we have and our wealth will be appealing but likely would be the wrong approach

Perception of freedom of choice

Requires time

While we are spending time forcing democracy in another country we are beginning to lose our democracy here at home

We should not use force to establish democracy

Pull together our own voices to make democracy real here at home

Needs – food, clothing, shelter, lead to a feeling of security which provide the basis our of which the political system can emerge

How would we like to have our regime forcibly changed?

Ability of people to get together

Use votes to influence policy (foreign)

Imposing Democracy is not Democratic

Proving basic needs a necessary way to move to Democracy

Need a Marshall Plan

Our current record (after war) is not good

Preserving our Global Future

Consider some sort of national service that would expose more people to what is going on in the world

We have lost the spirit of sacrificing for a greater good

Connect with Habitat for Humanity as one means of learning what it is like in other countries

Doing things like the above to overcome the “Ugly American” view in some countries

Seems like the hatred is more toward corporate America

It is not us as individual Americans but perhaps government practices that are hated

Economic plan and a humanitarian plan

Allows for a kind of listening to the needs of those we are attempting to assist

We need a charismatic leader to demonstrate walking to save oil for instance

NGO's and non-profits may be the better vehicle than government intervention

Imposing upon any others is not the way

Where does the money come from?

We need International organizations and we need to support them

A common effort will be required – UN/WHO

Global Market

We need to be reeducated as to what is necessary to give up in order to give to the global market

There used to be a stronger sense of community and now it seems to be a valve in competing with everyone else
Law of supply and demand has brought others here and if we can allow that to happen in other countries this would lead to stable economy on global level
Loss of U.S. jobs to other countries
We can teach others, but no money in that
Using natural resources to maintain lifestyle
Economically stable countries = happy people
EC has closed cultural gaps via economic changes
Better economies seem to be the basis of a better world
Make basic investments that allow for people to prosper
Marshall Plan effective because it was selfless
U.S. consumerism incited 9/11 terrorism
 “Coca-Colonials”

Future Preservation

Takes Money

 Where did money for war come from?
Change of some of our priorities may save money
 We aren't willing to give up what we have
Previous model of education, food, clothes is gone.
 Economy blossomed after a period of self-discipline
Americans in service to others may overcome negative attitudes
 Rationale of Foreign Policy to reduce immigration to U.S.
Some emigrate for safety
More willing to give money knowing it will be used as it was intended
 Government has been a good thing in my life
 Minimum wage
 Civil rights
 Other laws that have made life better
 Better choice than reliance on corporate U.S.

Themes

Investing in basic needs and how that might be delivered
Common sense
Balance and fairness
Optimistic – we know changes will keep happening, keep trying, keep talking
What shall we do?
 Be informed
Look more broadly at where we get our information
 If we care about democracy we must pay attention to what is happening in government so that we don't end up like Rome where Nero ??fiddled?? while Rome burned

We have to accept the fact that we are living in one world where what is done in one place effects the other

If others benefit we benefit

Personal Approaches

Keep talking – the effort will get us to a solution

All that was said is important

In response to Patriot Acts

Get back to “We the people”

We should get more involved

Show us the others realities

Contact congressional reps.

Chart Notes

John Glenn Living –Learning Center

MAY 11, 2003

Host: OSU College of Education and John Glenn Living Learning Center
Participants: 26 freshman students, one adult community member

CHART ONE

International Order

- Our way of life is threatened
- Preserve peace/self defense
- Moral right to defend/protect
- Will result in fewer threats to US

Concerns

- Concern with draft and the fairness of the draft
- Costs=defense spending /human capital
- Preserve military hegemony
- Moral authority of the US where does it come from
- Where is the support for our actions from the UN/others
- Minority choosing the “causes” for action
- More dangerous to be an American

CHART TWO

DEMOCRATIC PROJECT

- Promotes freedom loving governments
- Protects US interests
- Nation building leads toward self determination

Concerns

- Is the US voting apathy a good model?
- Will democracy work everywhere?
- Does the US promote/push specific government systems
- Is it cultural/political imperialism
- African history has shown this is not always effective
- Cultures have been destroyed
- Does democracy lead to western values

CHART THREE

GLOBAL MARKET

- May reduce tensions
- Can help break down cultural barriers

- Can build political alliances
- Helps US Citizens see themselves as global citizens
- Investing in other countries same as the Marshall plan
- Invest in communities not countries

Concerns

- It will cost the average American dollars
- Free trade will hurt American business
- Child labor issues
- Protectionism will also cost Americans
- Lack of environmental standards and human rights abuses
- Increased US unemployment
- Need to protect American interests
- International standard of living is well below US

CHART FOUR PRESERVING GLOBAL FUTURE

- We need to protect the environment
- World will benefit/aid others
- Requires international cooperation
- Tap into existing programs, peace corps/WHO

Concerns

- Too expensive/impact our lifestyle
- Over regulation
- Not practical/will US role model?
- Why should the US pay for this
- Moral duty vs practicality
- Will US always be the most dominant?

Chart Notes

Columbus and Worthington Northwest Library

May 15, 2003

Transcribed by Chris Taylor

note: these are mostly "as is" from the flipcharts. My few editorial additions are in [brackets].

Approach 1

- Military power
- Enforcing ideas w/out consent may be resented
- Military build up benefits Military/Industrial Complex
- Would require building alliances
- Would the US go all over the world?
- Our republic does not allow useful political input. (meaningful participation)
- Global Communications give us a different perspective
- Other people may or may not want us in their countries.
- If you use military, you need to reconstruct.
- How is a "threat" defined?
- "motives" behind the who want us is questionable
- How to keep the peace and order afterwards?
- What would it cost"
- Pre-emption sets a dangerous standard
- Unilateralism vs. Global Cooperation. We're seen as bullies.
- Need to reserve right to act alone
- Need to use US and World Court to contain Dictators
- Warfare is too dangerous. Need UN police action.

Approach 2

- U.S. has long history with democracy (200+)
- Other countries aren't going to be able to develop overnight
- Democracy not perfect
- Not best for some cultures-shouldn't push
- Masses not interested in democracy being pushed at them (resentment)
- Do they hate Americans or American Foreign Policy? Used to generalize, now she says "government" not people
- People want standard of living of the U.S.
- Not forcing democracy (doesn't like) but likes human rights respect
- Qatar-regime is progressive-good human rights don't need democracy
- We need to help other countries to create human rights regardless of government type
- We need to help them to choose what government will look like (not arms is schools)
- Framework doesn't recognize role for U.N. in approach 2
- U.N. not effective (too slow)

- What would you like to say to other countries? Working through UN would have been better in Iraq.

Approach 3

- Nike's employees don't seem to prosper
- Need regulation for fair wage and play by same rules
- Doesn't help other countries; it helps corporations
- Business has it's own goals
- Can't separate \$ and politics. Gov't dictates what happens.
- Corporations claim governments are "communist" as "cover story"
- Horizontal Gravity. Until there is a global equality, corporations will move to where it's cheapest.
- Some strong governments negotiate agreements to ensure the countries benefit. Smaller, weaker countries can't pressure companies
- World Bank \$ has poor record.

Approach 4

- Spending \$400-500 billion yr. to solve world problems [on military]
- Need to abandon "war" mentality
- Need to allocate wealth more carefully-spread around world. Make friends that way
- Poverty in U.S. too
- Military [spending] undermines local programs (libraries)
- Asked foreign nationals- are your countries concerned?
- Russia is in turmoil-still don't have good water, ecology
- Lack of support for conservation due to economic drain that would result
- How can we ask other countries to follow laws that U.S. won't support
- U.S. makes majority of pollution. Need to be part of solution-even if it's costly.
- Better gas mileage on cars (no SUVs)
- Can't walk/bike-not safe
- Need good flow of information and ethical governments (incl. ours)
- Socially responsible Mutual funds (investing in) are increasing (good sign)
- U.N. needs to be at center of world community
- We have strength in supporting companies (or not (SUVs))
- Would like for Americans to recognize it

Wrap Up

- What do we as individuals do if we think the country's going in the wrong direction?
- Voting
- Become informed
- Convince people that voting is still useful
- Have town meetings. Forums!
- Politicians don't listen until they need your vote.
- What do we value?
- Justice for everyone

- Input on decision making
- This Forum
- Freedom to express ourselves. [Do] not give up freedoms.

Chart Notes
Delaware Library
May 15, 2003

Personal Stake

Approach #1

- political officials want power and those behind the scenes manipulate situation
- finances - \$ plays a part
- macho American - feeling better because you're a winner
- uncoordinated international cooperation
- intelligence inadequate
- we (American Foreign Policy) are not being diplomatic or using diplomacy
- International feedback about ambassadors is not good or conducive to foreign relations (appointed for wrong reasons) inappropriate candidates, can't speak the language
- Euro-dollar connection through Iraq possible cause of Iraq conflict
- 9/11 many nationalities affected, but we only think of ourselves
- preemptive strikes are a dangerous precedent

Approach #2

- concentrate on a few nations as potential examples of success - Friedman
- better use of our resources
- rely on Peace Corps
- executive government should have a "peace" department
- what do we mean by democracy? representative republic What are we trying to develop?
- many old cultures are not ready or comfortable - theocracies - central non-democratic countries
- need long term horizon
- role of women

Approach #3

- Free trade - agree in theory, but not practical, not helping everyone equally, Rich/poor increasing
- we want \$ from opening markets for free trade
- if countries specialize, free trade may work, but sometimes it doesn't and people suffer
- In a poll of Walmart shoppers, Americans said, yes they would pay more to assure the purchased products were produced by people earning a living wage
- Fair versus Free trade - conflict occurs sometimes, some cannot compete

Approach #4

- become a team player, plenty of resources if shared
- America could gain respect for problem solving
- may not be as expensive as assumed - Bill Gates/Moyers
- not taking lead in energy use and conservation - SUV's - postpone environmental controls
- U.S. people not willing to accept controls

- if we can't deal effectively with poverty, hunger , terrorism here at home how do we pretend to lead world?
- question tax cuts when we aren't working on the societal needs identified above
- Apathy - public which is not vitally involved in public affairs and the issues we are covering

Summary

- Most desirable Approach#4 or hybrid of Approaches #2 and #4