# Research on JFK and his assassination in 1963

#### Thesis statement:

The assassination of John Fitzgerald Kennedy would shed light on negative relations with foreign countries, inequality in the nation and reunions between long time axis powers

#### Supporting evidence:

- 1. The Vietnam War
- 2. The civil rights bill of 1964
- 3. The reunion of China with the United States because of Nixon

#### Work cited:

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## Research:

## JFK's presidential library:

- assassination took place on November 22nd 1963 at 12:30
- Place of assassination was Dealey plaza, Dallas Texas
- Reason for being in Dallas Texas was to campaign for re-election
- Occupants that where traveling in the open top motorcade where JFK, Jackie Kennedy, Texas governor and his wife
- JFK was shot from the six floor of the Texas School Book Depository
- Three shots where fired
- Two shots hitting JFK and one shot hitting the governor
- Bullets struck the president's neck and head and he slumped over toward Mrs. Kennedy. The governor was shot in his back.
- The motorcade made a quick get away to Parkland memorial where the president died
- Time of death 1 pm
- Texas governor, John Connally would make a recovery and stay in office till 1969
- The president's body was brought to Love Field and placed on Air Force One.
- A saddened Lyndon Johnson took the oath of office before the plan took off
- The oath of office took place at 2:38pm

### The shooter

- 1:38pm Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested for shooting a police officer dead.
- Oswald was recently hired by the Texas book depository to be an employee

- The officer shot was patrolman J.D Tippit from the Dallas proliferation department
- On Sunday morning, November 24, Oswald was scheduled to be transferred from police headquarters to the county jail.
- Viewers across America watching the live television coverage suddenly saw a man aim a pistol and fire at point blank range.
- The man that shot Oswald was Jack Ruby, a night club owner that wanted revenge
- Oswald died two hours later at Parkland Hospital due to his injuries.

## The presidents funeral

- November 24 was the day that the funeral of president Kennedy took place
- The casket moved from the White House to capital hill in a horse drown carnage (six grey horses)
- The details of the funeral was modelled after the funeral for Abraham Lincolns funeral
- Crowds lined Pennsylvania Avenue and many wept openly as the caisson passed.
- During the 21 hours that the president's body lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda, about 250,000 people filed by to pay their respects.
- On Monday, November 25, 1963 President Kennedy was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.
- Millions were watching the funeral on television
- Over 100 countries attended the funeral

# **History** .com:

Lee Harvey Oswalds earlier life

- Moved to New York when he was 12 I
- New-York he was sent to a youth detention centre for truancy.
- This was the time he became interested in socialism
- In 1956 he joined the marines
- He earned sharpshooter qualification, and discovered Marxism.
- After receiving an honourable discharge in 1959
- After discharge he defected to the Soviet Union
- In Russia he met his wife

- He was denied citizenship but allowed to stay in the country—and was monitored by the KGB.
- Upon learning that Oswald had wanted to defect, the Marines downgraded his 1959 discharge from "honourable" to "undesirable" in 1962.
- Later that hear Lee Harvey Oswald returned to the USA and settled down in Texas with his wife and daughter
- Oswald would purchase, by mail, a rifle with telescopic sight and a .38 revolver.
- That year, he allegedly attempted to shoot retired United States Major General Edwin A. Walker who had been a staunch critic of communism
- Lee later when to Mexico where he tried to go to Cuba and the USSR where he was dienes entry
- After Mexico Oswald started his job at the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas.
- The man is 24-year-old Lee Oswald, espouser of leftist causes, an active member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, an avowed admirer of Russia and of Cuba's Fidel Castro.
- Oswald was always denying his guilt and pleading his innocence

## Lyndon, B, Johnson sworn in

- The first lady and Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, who had been three cars behind Kennedy in the motorcade, returned to Air Force One at Dallas Love Field with Kennedy's body, in a bronze casket.
- Johnson was sworn in at 2:38 p.m. as the 36th president of the United States while aboard the airplane prior to takeoff.
- While being sworn in Jackie Kennedy was still wearing the pink dress covered in blood
- The grim expressions of Jackie and LBJ could be seen for miles as he was sworn in
- Shortly after LBJ gave his first presidential address as the 36th president of the United States
- He stated "This is a sad time for all people. We have suffered a loss that cannot be weighed. For me, it is a deep personal tragedy. I know that the world shares the sorrow that Mrs. Kennedy and her

- family bear. I will do my best. That is all I can do. I ask for your help —and God's,"
- On November 23, 1963, Johnson declared November 25 a national day of mourning.

## Lee Harvey Ostwald shot dead

- On Sunday morning, November 24, in front of the press, Oswald was being led to be transferred to the county jail from Dallas Police Headquarters.
- "The Dallas police were extremely worried for the safety of their prisoner,"
- A CBS news reporter stated . "We knew that Oswald was the most hated suspect of the 20th century."
- As I mentioned before Ruby who was a Dallas night club owner shot Oswald
- Ruby shot Oswald point-blank in the stomach with a small-caliber pistol.
- Oswald was rushed to Parkland Hospital
- He was taking to the room right next to president Kennedy
- Ruby was indicted two days later on November 26th
- He was convicted of murdering Oswald and sentenced to death by electric chair.
- The ruling was overturned on appeal, but Ruby died of a pulmonary embolism stemming from lung cancer in 1967 before he could have a new trial

## CBC documentary, 72 hours that changed America:

- "presidents don't visit Texas so it was a big deal"
- There were a lot of far right nuts there
- Kennedy and his family were the Camelot presidency
- They were young and brought a new energy
- Race for space
- Idea of the peace corp
- World changing initiative
- He was on top of the world with sports stars movie stars and world stars

# **Negatives**

- Cuban missile crisis
- Bay of pigs
- Vietnam war
- it was a generation inspired by the president
- Dallas would change.
- Corporate America turned its back on Dallas
- Dallas the "city of hate"

### What if Oswald missed

- would Kennedy have been re-elected
- Would Vietnam been worse off
- The generation of peace
- Would MLK have been assassinated
- Would bobby Kennedy have been assassinated after running for presidency
- Would Richard Nixon have elected and would watergate happened
- Could Kennedy ever have passed the civil rights bill like Lyndon b Johnson did
- Could Kennedy have ever made the opening to China like Nixon did
- What if?

# Civil rights act of 1964

- ended segregation
- banned employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, is considered one of the crowning legislative achievements of the civil rights movement.
- First proposed by JFK
- Was signed into law by successor LBJ
- Congress expanded the act and passed additional civil rights legislation such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

#### Vietnam war

- The Vietnam War pitted communist North Vietnam and the Viet Cong against South Vietnam and the United States.
- The war ended when U.S. forces withdrew in 1973 and Vietnam unified under Communist control two years later.

- Also known as the indochina war
- South Vietnam was supported by the United States, South Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Thailand and other anti-communist allies
- lasted 19 years, with direct U.S.
- involvement ending in 1973
- The conflict emerged from the First Indochina War against the communist-led Viet Minh.
- Most of the funding for the French war effort was provided by the U.S.
- the US assumed financial and military support for the South

#### China's relation to Nixon

- President Richard Nixon's 1972 visit to the People's Republic of China was an important strategic and diplomatic overture that marked the culmination of the Nixon administration's resumption of harmonious relations between the United States and mainland China after years of diplomatic isolation.
- The seven-day official visit to three Chinese cities was the first time a U.S. president had visited
- Nixon's arrival in Beijing ended 25 years of no communication or diplomatic ties between the two countries
- This was the key step in normalizing relations between the U.S. and China.
- When the communists took over mainland China in 1949 and the nationalists fled to the island of Taiwan, the United States allied with the Republic of China as the sole government of China..