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HIS-200: Applied History

Professor Sarah Estee

Writing Plan Assignment #2

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Throughout doing research on my topic I discovered a lot of factors that revolved around US impact on the South African apartheid and their impact then and now. There are a few main topics of impact such as the US direct assistance to South Africa, economic relations, and the roles of both Bill Clinton and Nelson Mandela.

One source I found helpful in explaining US assistance to South Africa was the State Gov website. "U.S. assistance focuses on improving healthcare, increasing education standards and teacher training, building capacity in agriculture to address regional food security, developing clean energy, and adapting to changing weather patterns." To battle the "Many challenges, including slow economic growth, high rates of crime and unemployment, lingering corruption, and a persistent HIV/AIDS epidemic that South Africa was facing."

Becoming a part of capitalist economy was one of the goals for South Africa during the time of the apartheid. With becoming part of the capitalist economy, South Africa opened itself to opportunities to participate in the free market. This means that South Africa and its 50 million citizens would be able to get traded and trade goods and services and compete in the supply and demand. I found the majority of this data on the NY Times and their article "End of Apartheid in South Africa".

Lastly I found that CNN had a lot of good data about Clinton and how he addressed the issue. The article states that Clinton was the first of any US president to visit South Africa's and when he visited, he spoke with Mbeki who was the head of the South African National Congress at the time. It even explained that prior to Clinton going to speak with the head of congress and former South African President and Civil Rights advocate.

I believe that these secondary sources contain a lot of good data for this assignment. Not only are the articles from three different time frames, they also get different perspectives on the apartheid from both South Africa and the US. I also took into consideration that the NY times as well as CNN while my state gov source may be more in the middle.

References:

CNN Collection (1998). Clinton addresses a South Africa 'truly free at last'. World News Story

Page

Joao Silva (2017). End of apartheid in South Africa? The New York Times

Bureau of African Affairs (2020). US Relations with South Africa. Bilateral Relations Fact Sheet