

Unit V: Post 9/11: Consequences and Challenges

Grade Levels: 7 – 8

Time: 90 minutes

Lesson MV-12: The 9/11 Commission

Objective:

- Students will describe the findings of the 9/11 Commission and the responses of government and individuals to the final report.

Key Terms:

National Commission of Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (known as the 9/11 Commission)

Homeland Security

Nonproliferation

Materials:

Newspaper articles and online video segments (below)

- <http://video.nytimes.com/video/2007/08/21/washington/1194817092301/c-i-a-s-9-11-report-faulted-tenet.html?scp=3&sq=9/11%20report%20reactions&st=cse>
- <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/12/06/iraq/main2232860.shtml> <http://www.9-11pdp.org/>
- http://www.9-11pdp.org/press/2005-09-11_op-ed.pdf
- http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/terrorism/july-dec05/commission_12-5.html

Activities/Procedures:

1. Group Share/Brainstorm

- Place the quote of Rep. Edward Markey of Massachusetts (December 5, 2005) on the board for students to group share/brainstorm: "The country had a heart attack on 9/11. The 9/11 Commission today said if we don't put in better prevention -- unless we change our habits -- we'll have that second heart attack, a second terrorist attack. Let's hope that the country listens."
- What does this quote mean?
- Has the United States "changed its habits" since 9/11?

2. Students will be placed in groups and each group will have a copy of the Final Report on 9/11 Commission Recommendations. Assign each group one category from the three listed - Homeland Security and Emergency Response; Intelligence and Congressional Reform; Foreign Policy and Nonproliferation.

3. Students will present a summary of their topic to the class.

- Students will use the various websites listed above to help them gather news reports of the Commission's recommendations.
- Students should view at least one online video from one of the above websites.
- Students should include reactions and quotes from government leaders as well as individuals. Students may wish to present their findings in a PowerPoint format, poster format, or report format.

5. Students will orally share their research with the members of the other groups.

Evidence of Understanding:

Based upon group presentations of the material.

Extension Activities: Taking Action and Giving Service

1. Students can describe changes in government policy as of today.
2. Research: how can United States security improve without infringing on the rights of citizens?