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Personal Thoughts on the Future of United States Involvement in Afghanistan

I think United States policy in Afghanistan should end involvement in Afghanistan moving forward. Troops should be withdrawn as soon as possible and funding should decrease significantly or entirely over a couple years. Foreign relations with Pakistan and other nearby countries should not interfere with the withdrawal from Afghanistan. It appears that there is no significant and positive direct effect as a result of our involvement in Afghanistan. Anticipating future results does not seem feasible because of the United States history of cost and time resources expended with Afghanistan.

The direct benefits of United States involvement in Afghanistan include fighting terrorist groups and supporting Afghanistan's economy. There has been success in hindering terrorism focused on the United States. The huge costs spent on Afghanistan do not make a good enough comparison to the improvements made to their economy and society as they stand. We can monitor the economy in Afghanistan as the United States Military leaves and as funding for Afghanistan decreases.

The United States should try to reduce debt and have good relationships with other countries. Leaving Afghanistan will reduce debt or a cost that was being paid and it will not ruin relationships with Afghanistan or nearby countries. Plain funding and military involvement should not be the only or main form of United States involvement in other countries in order to form or maintain good relationships. If high school students support politicians or become politicians that want to end our involvement in Afghanistan then we can change the political future of the United States.

Someone involved in Britain's relationship with Afghanistan said that a self supporting Afghanistan is optimal for future relations, "[A]n independent Afghanistan, friendly to us, would be infinitely more valuable in every way than a dependent or conquered Afghanistan.... [The Afgan Ruler]] must realise our view of his position as a weak power between two enormously strong ones - an earthen vessel between two iron ones." The United States should try to let Afghanistan be less dependent on our involvement.

"We welcome U.S. efforts in the Afghan peace process. We hope to witness a long term comprehensive cease-fire with the Taliban, and hope that direct negotiations of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Taliban Begin soon." -Haroon Chakhansuri, spokesman for Afghan President Asharf Ghani March 12, 2019. Peaceful relations are in the right direction. If we want to help make peace talks an option again then removing military involvement should help encourage peace talks.