

---

## **Politics (Higher): Assignment**

---

**Candidate evidence**

## **Candidate 1 evidence**

To what extent is the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn the reason for the fall of the Labour Party?

Lord Ashcroft

Jeremy Leadership

"Some Labour MPs will never accept me"

YouGov Poll best Prime Minister  
Theresa May 64% Corbyn 15%

Iraq

Million March.

Guardian Article Clause four at 20.

Tony Blair changes the Labour Party Constitution  
Blair stated at the time "Let no one say radical politics is dead. Today a new Labour Party is being born."

Telegraph - Gordon Brown failed us all. Will anyone miss him

"Gordon Brown did not save the world from the banking crisis. In reality, his misregulation of the financial industry went a long way in precipitating it."

\* To what extent is the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn the reason for the fall of the Labour Party?

~~With~~ The shock announcement from 10 Downing Street earlier this week calling a snap election signals for the Conservatives and Labour battling it out to become fake office, as the government of the United Kingdom, but with Labour sitting at 27% in the opinion polls for the first time since the dark years of Michael Foot and the 80s who is responsible for the decline of this political giant. The current leadership of the Labour party have ~~a~~ <sup>many</sup> ~~answers~~ <sup>questions</sup> to answer for ~~but~~ <sup>they</sup> are not the only reason for the demise of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Labour party. The image of ~~Edwin~~ <sup>Edwin</sup> Brown, the Labour economy minister, the abolition of clause 4 and taking Britain into the Iraq war are all ~~major~~ <sup>significant</sup> factors for the fall of the party's popularity. It is my belief that the aftermath of the abolition of clause 4 was the defining ~~factor~~ <sup>factor</sup> nail in Labour's coffin.

After Ed Milliband resigned as the  
Leader of the Labour Party in  
2015, 200/1 outsider Jeremy  
Corbyn won the shock leadership  
election that followed. Since that  
moment Jeremy Corbyn has been  
side tracked from his role from  
leader of the opposition and  
had to try and sort out  
the ideological war inside his own  
party. Labour MPs have tried to  
get rid of him even just  
in year into his leadership of  
the party another leadership contest  
was called in 2016 which he won  
comfortably. Labour MPs just are not  
respecting backing their leader which  
is causing the electoral collapse of  
the Labour party. This is shown  
as Jeremy Corbyn told the Guardian  
"Some Labour MPs will never accept me"  
This surely is an admission  
that he cannot lead his party,  
and this is directly shown.  
Another reason why Jeremy  
Corbyn is contributing to the fall  
of his own party is that  
the public don't see him as  
prime ministerial. In a time  
where image and public appeal  
is right at the forefront of  
our vain society citizens want

the leader of the country to  
look the part and Jeremy Corbyn  
just does not look the part  
with his scruffy jumper and slicks  
not doing his party any favours  
in addition to this Jeremy  
Corbyn's leadership is put in  
doubt as he does not agree  
with his own party's stance on  
Nuclear energy which is <sup>strongly</sup> ~~strongly~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>Labour</sup>  
and industry of that many Labour  
supporters work in ~~trade~~ and was  
probably the main factor for Labour  
losing the coalfield by election was  
his leadership stance on Nuclear his  
image and personality is having  
a clear effect on votes opinions  
on his effectiveness as a prime minister.  
This is shown by a YouGov poll  
published in April 2017 which asked  
who would make the best prime  
minister out of all the party leaders  
only 15% said ~~to~~ Jeremy Corbyn  
Jeremy Corbyn is directly contributing  
to the fall of the Labour  
party for failing to have the  
public perceived attributes to be  
prime ministerial and to simply  
lead his divided party.

Gordon Brown is also another leader of the Labour Party who has to take some responsibility for what the Labour Party remains now. Gordon Brown was the leader of the Labour Party who had to tackle the 2008 economic ~~crash~~ crash which the country is still recovering from today. The economic crash ~~part~~ painted the image again of the Labour Party that they simply could not manage the economy. This had largely damaged Labour's electoral performance as the 2010 and 2015 elections focused on the economy. The public view of Labour's handling of the economy during the Brown years was shown when ~~there~~ by an article in the Telegraph which was entitled Gordon Brown failed us all, will anyone miss him. The article went on to say that Gordon Brown did not save the world from the banking crisis. In reality, his misregulation of the financial industry ~~was~~ next a long way in precipitating it. Labour's image of the economy is a large painful legacy for the party and his still in the minds of the electorate. However, this is not helped at all by the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn and his far left.

agenda. Some argue that Labour strategies  
in the lead up to elections  
is a massive reason why the  
are failing in their and ~~election~~ falling  
in significance as a party.

Labour Campaigning strategies over the past  
elections have only shown their frailty.  
The Conservatives and the SNP north  
of the border have far more  
effective campaigning strategies than  
the Labour party and this is the  
main reason Labour has lost its constituencies.  
This was shown in 2010 when  
Conservative party chairman at the  
time Lord Ashcroft pursued a  
margin seat offensive and had  
a strategy to take marginal seats  
off the Labour party. His strategy  
involved the Conservatives starting  
their campaign in marginal constituencies  
years in advance and getting  
Conservative volunteers and putting up their  
local communities and help out  
for example by painting the  
fences in parks etc. This proved  
a popular tactic and appeared  
to the electorate and created  
a positive image of the  
Conservatives to the electorate  
in contrast to Labour poor  
Campaign in 2010 at the



Gordon Brown coming into people families  
living rooms did not create a  
great image of himself or  
his party, although however the  
image of Labour's campaigning  
strategy today is only a clog in  
the Labour block right now  
has their image as a party  
partly due to their terrible  
contributing directly to the fall  
of the party.

The image of the Labour party  
and the ideological struggle within  
it was partly caused by the  
abolition of Clause 4. Ever  
since 1918 it had been apart  
of the Labour constitution since  
1918 drafted up by members of  
The Fabian Society. Sydney Webb's  
Clause 4 was Labour's commitment  
to common ownership of industries  
that were all use such as  
coal steel the railways etc  
although in 1995 Tony Blair felt  
that Clause 4 was a factor  
for the fall in the Labour  
Party's electoral performance and a  
reason why they had not been in  
power since 1974. When Blair changed  
this he moved the whole Labour  
Party from a left leaning political  
party to a party of

Centre ideologically. This was ~~like~~ like a new Party and although he had moved the Party individuals within it such as members of Parliament Jeremy Corbyn were still left leaning members of the Labour Party and Labour's time as in Government was simply a short term silence for the left leaning men and women of the Party. An article from the Guardian sums up the significance of the abolition of Clause 4 in the words of ~~former~~ leader Tony Blair at the time in 1995 in the article entitled Clause 4 at 20 Blair at the time stated "Let me one say radical politics is dead. Today a New Labour Party is being born." This for me was a short term bliss and signalled the short term victory but the implications for vocal Labour was with the Party as a hugely significant factor in the fall of the Labour Party today. This factor is in addition is also contributing to the struggle of Jeremy Corbyn's leadership as he has to deal with men who are

in his book who are so called called  
'Blairites'.

Tony Blair is not only to blame for  
the splitting of his own party but  
also created a bad image of  
himself and the Labour Party  
by sending British troops to Iraq  
in 2003. This action was  
highly divisive and forced protests  
out on the streets. Almost one  
million members of the public went  
to the streets to join the act  
in my name ~~parade~~ in London.  
As a result of the action  
in Iraq it has not only  
caused more violence and instability  
in the region and for example with  
the rise of rebel groups and the  
so called Islamic State. This has  
too directly contributed to the fall of  
the Labour Party has although  
Labour did not face any short  
term political ~~conflict~~ loss over  
Iraq Iraq primarily due to  
the opposition at the time of the  
conservative breaking his military  
action in the long term legacy  
had severely damaged the  
Labour parties electoral base  
and certainly contributed to their  
demise and unpopularity in 2015.

a whole, but especially in areas such as Scotland which as the whole largely disagreed with the conflict.

In conclusion, the sharp fall in the Labour Party cannot simply be put down to one factor although it is my belief that although Jeremy Corbyn's leadership or lack of effective leadership is a huge factor why the Labour Party as a whole is starting to crumble I believe that Tony Blair's decision the aftermath of Tony Blair's decision to abolish Clause IV is still being causing huge division and within the party and I believe that this ideological war caused mainly due to his decision is the most significant factor for the fall of the party and has not helped Jeremy Corbyn lead his party into the next election it is for that reason why I only think Jeremy Corbyn's leadership is only partly the reason for the fall of the Labour Party.

## **Candidate 2 evidence**

**Politics Higher Resource Sheet**

**Candidate Name**

**Scottish Candidate Number**

Scotland's reliability on the union  
Scotland's long term economic/ diplomatic consequences  
Leaving the UK to remain in the EU

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/mar/13/scottish-independence-why-second-vote-back-on-table-nicola-sturgeon>

"Sturgeon has to answer critical questions on which currency Scotland would use and whether it will need to accept the euro in future"

"Scotland's economy is growing more slowly than the UK's and its exports to the rest of the EU are not growing as fast as to the rest of the UK."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2017/03/14/five-charts-show-economically-risky-scottish-independence-would/>

"The North Sea is an extremely expensive place to produce oil, with recent estimates putting the cost at \$44 per barrel. This leaves little room for profit and makes it almost impossible to compete with countries like Saudi Arabia who can produce oil for less than \$10 per barrel"

"Scotland's economy isn't exactly ailing but nor is it excelling to the extent where independence is anything other than an extremely risky proposition"

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/apr/10/independent-scotland-would-be-welcome-to-join-eu-say-green-meps>

"Scotland would be most welcome as a full member of the EU, with your 5 million European citizens continuing to benefit from the rights and protections we all currently enjoy."

"The truth is that the SNP still can't say whether an independent Scotland would seek to get back into the EU" - Jackson Carlaw

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/02/15/scottish-independence-cameron-un-security-council\\_n\\_1279408.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/02/15/scottish-independence-cameron-un-security-council_n_1279408.html)

"warns of the nation being marginalised at the UN Security Council and among NATO" - Cameron  
"Alex Salmond is on-record as saying that an independent Scotland would not be a nuclear nation"

Q To what extent would Scotland not succeed outside the United Kingdom?

A The issue of Scottish independence has been widely and fiercely debated around all of Scotland. This topic is politically relevant as it is currently the fundamental most important Scottish political issue and has recently come to the forefront of Scottish politics as Nicola Sturgeon MSP ~~has~~ has formally requested a second independence referendum to the UK Government. Scotland joined with England into the Kingdom of Great Britain in the 1707 Act of Union and has since operated under ~~the~~ the will of the UK Government until recently when the ~~UK~~ Scotland was given a devolved parliament by the newly elected Labour Government in 1997. Independence has since been a significant political issue, ~~the~~ however, it is clear that if Scotland were to break away from the United Kingdom, the Scotland would suffer long-term economic, political and diplomatic issues which could make Scotland ~~it~~ to a large extent, less ~~an~~ powerful and prosperous ~~in~~ in perpetuity. The Angus where it is clear that Scotland would not succeed outside the UK are ~~the~~ Scotland's

reliability on the one hand, the long term economic and diplomatic consequences of leaving the UK and the promise that Scotland would be leaving the UK to remain within the EU.

It is clear that the Scottish economy relies to a large extent, on oil production in the north sea as this topic was ~~widely~~ extensively debated in Scotland's first independence referendum. This means that this part of economy was seen as to a large extent, Scotland's main economic asset. However, since the result of the ~~independent~~ first referendum, oil revenue in the north sea has significantly declined. This is compounded by the fact that the price of ~~the~~ oil production in Scotland is very high. For example, an article in the telegraph stated "The north sea is an extremely expensive place to produce oil, with recent estimates putting the cost at \$44 per barrel. This leaves little room for profit and makes it almost impossible to compete with countries like Saudi Arabia who can produce oil for less than \$10 per barrel." Consequently, this shows that a newly independent Scotland would be forced to spend a significant amount of money on the production of oil as it is to a large extent, Scotland's main source



of economic capital and therefore this would mean that there would be less money to spend on social services, education and health due to an overreliance on a relatively low amount of oil revenue. However, independence campaigners would argue that there are other forms of income that a newly independent Scottish Government could invest in, such as renewable energy production. However, it is also clear that as the oil industry is, to a large extent, declining in Scotland, to such an extent that economic revenue would also lose a significant amount of revenue in itself. For example, the article from the telegraph also states that "Scotland's economy isn't exactly thriving but nor is it collapsing to the extent where independence is anything other than an extremely proposition". Therefore, this evidence shows that, similarly to the "better together" argument from 2014, ~~there~~ there is too much economic uncertainty around an independent Scotland which therefore means the Scotland ~~should~~ should focus on improving its economy within the United Kingdom rather than ~~jumping~~ jumping into a potentially uncertain and unknown future. Therefore, it is clear that Scotland does to a large extent, rely on its union with ~~between~~ England, Wales and Northern Ireland as the lack of ~~economic~~ economic growth

significant amount of revenue in Scotland means that to be able to produce and grow industries, Scotland consequently relies upon both the money given to it by the UK government and the large trading opportunities that come with being in the central economy.

Furthermore, Scotland could survive independently but it would be very difficult for a newly independent Scotland to thrive in the international stage. This means that, Scotland would be seen as a nation with to a large extent, less political power in the world. Independence complainers argue that Scotland would be out of sync with Alex Salmond even stating "that an independent Scotland would not be a nuclear nation" (according to an article from the Huffington Post). This means that Scotland would find itself in a difficult position in terms of membership of NATO and of any international efforts ~~that~~ that come with this. ~~It~~ Therefore, Scotland would be diplomatically worse off as ~~the~~ the prime minister at the time David Cameron ~~stated~~ stated it became clear that Scotland would be less willing to be a large extent, to intervene in future conflict zones abroad which would mean the United States would be less



that "Scotland would be most welcome as a full member of the EU" (article from the Guardian). Therefore, this means that ~~independence supporters~~ are some independence supporters are in favour of an independent Scotland remaining part of the EU, however this assurance has not been given by the Scottish Government as Jackson Carlaw MSP points out that "The truth is that the SNP still can't say whether an independent Scotland would seek to get back into the EU" (article from the Guardian). Therefore, the position of the SNP's mandate for a referendum is untenable as the ~~first~~ Nicola Sturgeon ~~stated~~ that has ~~not~~ formally requested a referendum on the basis that Scotland would be taken out of the EU, without its consent, however she has failed to give any assurance that an independent Scotland would rejoin the EU. This is a consequence of the minority eurosceptic wing of ~~the~~ SNP supporters including ~~prominent~~ prominent SNP politicians such as Alex Neil MSP and previously Tim Sillars. Therefore, this shows a hypocrisy of the SNP's EU mandate and ~~that~~ ~~it~~ creates a lot of a large extent, a lot of uncertainty over whether an independent Scotland would be inside or outside the EU which means that if a referendum were to be won by <sup>the</sup> independence

campaign, it would inevitably be unclear over  
the direction of Scotland's economic future  
which could consequently lower Scottish  
growth and could hurt business'  
sceptical about investment in an  
uncertain and ever changing Scottish economy.

~~The issue of what Scotland~~  
~~economic~~ ~~currency~~  
Furthermore, the issue of Scottish currency  
may raise even more questions about  
Scotland's direction as the Gordon Hales  
"Sturgeon has to answer critical questions  
on which currency Scotland would use and  
whether it will need to accept the  
euro in future". This compound the  
feeling of business uncertainty as it  
clear that Scotland would be to  
large extent a less influential independent  
nation and thus, may need to  
accept the euro if it rejects  
the single EU single market meaning  
that a newly independent Scotland  
would be tied to a falling currency  
and perhaps be forced to bind up  
other falling European union nations  
which would overall, weaken the Scottish  
economy and the overall economic growth  
of Scotland.

In conclusion, ~~but the~~ ~~it~~  
is clear that Scotland would not  
succeed outside the united kingdom. ~~at~~

On the one hand, Scottish taxpayers the Scottish government would be forced to pay extensive amounts of taxpayers money to ~~the~~ prop up Scottish industries as well as have to use Scottish taxpayers money to sustain ~~the~~ failing economies such as Greece in the European union. On the other hand, Scotland would be seen as loss of an economic ~~power~~ ~~the~~ diplomatic power in the world as Scottish growth is currently lower than the rest of the UK and because the union gives Scotland a significant amount of money to boost growth as well as a good diplomatic hand in negotiating deals and dealing with issues that Scottish people care about. Overall, it is clear that Scotland's economy and its position as a major power would be ruined if Scotland were to leave the United Kingdom and thus therefore Scotland could not succeed outside the ~~unite~~ UK.

## **Candidate 3 evidence**

## Politics Higher Resource Sheet

Candidate Name

Scottish Candidate Number

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-13297573> - av referendum surprising results

<http://www.ukpolitical.info/Turnout45.htm>

<https://www.uk-engage.org/2013/06/what-are-the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-using-the-first-past-the-post-voting-system-2/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2015/results>

-BNP gaining 1667 votes, extremist party, strong beliefs in abolishing immigration

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/special/election2011/region/html/36143.stm>

- 4 different parties gaining regional seats conservatives won 12% of the list vote and 11% of the list seats more proportional system

Ams=hybrid system

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2016/scotland/results>

snp votes are accounted for

<https://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/sites/default/files/2007-local-authority-elections-in-scotland.pdf> ballot papers being destroyed and labours gaining success

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/av-referendum/8485118/David-Cameron-why-keeping-first-past-the-post-is-vital-for-democracy.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/special/election2011/region/html/scotland.stm>

msps less accountable because of confusing system



To what extent is the current voting system used in the UK ~~unproportional~~ unproportional and unrepresentative, (Bosman) compared to another system (80 marks)

It is important to have a system which is representative of the public's views and desires. The current system of

- (FPTP) First past the post is deemed to be highly ineffective and does not proportionally support the views of the people. The Additional Member System (AMS) is another voting system which is used in Scottish Parliament elections, this system is seen to be far more effective in representing the ~~major~~ majority of the public and is known for creating far more proportional results. Many people believing that changing the current system used in the United Kingdom would be far more beneficial in representing the views of the people. For example in 2011 AV referendum showed that a majority of the people voted to change from using FPTP to the new Alternative Vote, however ~~this~~ the new alternative vote was seen to be ~~at least~~ ~~proportional~~ no better than ~~the~~ FPTP if not worse than what is currently used.

AMS is a hybrid system which is made up of both FPTP and AMS. This system is far more proportional as the percentage of votes match up more equally to the percentage of seats therefore showing that the system gives smaller parties a chance to be represented and hold their say within parliament. For example the British Independent Party gained 10% of votes within this 4 different parties gained regional seats under the AMS system in 2011 election, this shows that AMS is far more proportional towards smaller parties and shows that it does not over/under represent the main parties unlike FPTP with the first past the post system it is more likely to favour two main political parties for example Conservatives and Labour. Therefore meaning if you do not vote for one of these parties it will mean your vote is not accounted for leaving you unrepresented, therefore creating a two party system. This then results in voters using tactical voting in order to best represent their views. David Cameron has said that keeping the FPTP system is

Vital for democracy, However this is because this particular system follows his party and best benefits him in the long run whereas if the system were to change to AMS it would represent a wider variety of smaller

✓ of extremist parties

With AMS using first past the post also this makes the system into the only mostly proportional. As under AMS gives voters two votes one for the system party and one for to choose for the regional list. The regional list is what makes this system more effective within representation than FPTP, however the first vote is used under the regional FPTP system therefore meaning that many votes are still wasted and does not reflect the views of the public.

which

are a

extremist

party who

are strong

opponents in

debating

migration

AMS provides maps which are less accurate. With this system providing two votes it makes it extremely difficult for people when voting. With AMS the second vote within AMS these there are 7 regional maps however the voters do not know who they are as they are much less accurate, which therefore causes consequences for people within that constituency as they are unable to reach their map, ~~leading~~ meaning but they are not doing their job right and are not fully representing the views of the public. This is where FPTP is slightly better as it does not provide the second vote and provides maps which are much more accurate and are able to provide better services to their constituents, however this does not mean that FPTP is fairer in representing the views of the people or providing more proportional results.

~~Within FPTP~~ When using FPTP as the particular voting system many people see or believe it to be a waste of time and effort going to vote as they already have made their mind up and know that their vote will not count. This even means that not only has someone wasted their chance to vote

participate in politics,  
and ~~have~~ ~~an~~ ~~idea~~ ~~of~~ ~~democracy~~  
It means that the final results will be  
less proportional and not represent  
the majority of the public. ~~For~~ ~~William~~  
Adams makes sure that mostly  
all votes are counted for and  
that the majority of the public are  
happy. For example in 2016 Scottish  
election SNP's votes were counted  
for and they won a majority ~~of~~  
government, however anyone who voted for  
them in the UK general election  
will have wasted their vote as SNP  
are not one of the following parties  
under the FPTP system which  
reinforces the fact that it is a  
system which ~~is~~ creates unfair  
and unequal results and also does  
not best benefit the views of  
the public. However FPTP is an easy  
system to understand and use as  
~~the~~ voters are only required to place  
an 'x' in a box for the party of  
their choice this makes the system  
quick and easy to use and also  
less confusion for voters, whereas  
provides voters with two votes which  
are a little more complex. The first vote  
is ~~just~~ easy and simple as it uses  
FPTP however the second vote is more  
complex for voters to understand as  
you are given 7 regional maps with

is slightly more confusing for the public.

Overall, ~~Amis~~ although Amis is only slightly ~~more~~ mostly proportional it does reflect the views of the public more proportionally than the system used in the UK & right now. FPTP provides unfair results and ~~does not~~ ~~match~~ ~~up~~ ~~the~~ ~~percentage~~ ~~wasted~~ the majority of the public's ~~the~~ votes. Therefore meaning that it is highly unproportional between parties and is ~~not~~ representative of the people's views. Therefore showing that to a greater extent Amis is for ~~more~~ better within representation and proportionality and is a much fairer and equal system that should be used

↳ Within the UK as it reflects the general views of the public and allows ~~elections~~ parties which would be highly under represented within FPTP a chance to be represented and ~~more~~ allows for more opinions people opinions and views to be heard within providing significantly better representation within Parliament.

## **Candidate 4 evidence**

## Do Referendums strengthen Democracy

A referendum is a form of direct democracy and is defined by the government on their website [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) (Source 3) as "a vote on a single issue". Rules for voting in a referendum change depending on the vote but you must be of recognised voting age, a British citizen and resident in the United Kingdom. A referendum normally consists of a question where you make a choice between two options. The use of referendums in the United Kingdom is rare. In 2011 a referendum on the Alternative vote was the first UK wide referendum in 36 years when in 1975, the public was asked to decide on whether to remain in the European Union. Referendums have been used more frequently at a regional level to make decisions on: independence in Scotland, the Good Friday agreement in Northern Ireland and a devolved assembly for North East England. Between 1975 and 2014 the Labour party have held 8 referendums, the Conservatives 2 and the Coalition Government 3. The use of referendums to make decisions has increased both in the UK and worldwide over recent years however has their use strengthened or weakened democracy

In 2010 the Select Committee on the Constitution in the House of Lords started an investigation into the use of referendum. This was seen as important because several parties had made commitments in their manifestos to hold a referendum. The Coalition Government had pledged a referendum on changing the election process and adopting the Alternative Vote (AV). The Conservatives had also promised a referendum on EU membership and there were likely to be proposals for referendums in Wales on increased devolved powers and on Independence on Scotland. The committee wished to investigate the use referendums as they had not been used often in the UK. They set out to look at the disadvantages and advantages involved, identify when they should be used and outline rules for their use (House of Lords Select Committee on the Constitution 2010).

The committee discussed many arguments both for and against referenda. Two arguments listed for using a referendum to decide an issue were: "Enhanced citizen engagement" and "referendums are popular with the voters". Arguments against referendums included: "Referendums can have a damaging effect on minority groups" and "are dominated by elite groups".

In 2014, the referendum on independence in Scotland took place. During the campaign there were television debates, countless newspaper articles and social media campaigns. The country was inspired by the process as they were taking part in directly in policy making. Stephen Tierney is Professor of Constitutional Theory in the School of Law, University of Edinburgh and he states that the referendum was the "catalyst" for unheard of engagement and interest in politics in Scotland. Previous elections had relatively poor turnouts (50% in Scottish parliament elections 2011 (source 2)), however 85% of Scotland voted in the referendum (source 1), the highest turnout in UK history. This shows that a basic yes or no question gets voters more involved in politics this is because there is less complicated choices to make compared to general elections when parties have many policies/promises that may be too complex for the less politically literate person.

(Source 4)



In the 2014 Scottish referendum the voting age was lowered to 16 for the first time in a Scottish vote. The report by the Electoral Commission on the referendum noted that "many teachers, youth workers and youth organisations across Scotland were also keen to support young people to develop their political literacy and participate in the referendum". (Source 5). Many schools held debates and ran mock referendum campaigns and votes. Research by The University of Edinburgh showed that pupils who had talked and learned about the referendum in school were more politically confident than pupils who had not. The lowering of the voting age allowed a higher turnout and showed that the next generation was ready to take part in the political discussion. The decision also allowed 16 and 17 year olds to make decisions based on what would be best for them since it would be them dealing with the decision, older people will also deal with the decision, however it will be 16/17 year olds who have to find jobs/university, houses and pay taxes under the results of the referendum.

The media from many countries from around the world came to Scotland to witness the referendum and Scotland was shown positively engaging in political debate. The number of referendums has increased throughout the world and it would seem that they are popular with voters. This might be because people feel politicians are out of touch and prefer the chance to be directly involved (Source 5). The House of Lords Select Committee on the constitution agreed saying that the voters turned out in high numbers during big referendums and wanted to take part. An article in the Guardian quotes Matt Qvortrup, professor of politics at Coventry University as saying that we are now more "individualist" and "We expect to be able to compile our own playlists, in politics too." (Source 6). The single choice of the referendum appeals to the voter. This makes referendums more democratic as more people are getting their voice heard showing that true democracy is taking place.

Just as there are positive experiences of referendums, there are also negative ones. A disadvantage listed by the House of Lords Select Committee was that referendums can disadvantage minority groups. The concern raised by the committee was that popular feelings can override the rights of minority groups. Every person has human rights that are upheld in law and these laws protect minority groups. Ireland held a referendum in 2015 asking the public to decide whether same sex marriage should be legal and voted in favour of this change to the law. An article in the Guardian questions the need for a referendum and points out that this was only the public's opinion on gay marriage and had nothing to do with the rights of gay people to get married (Source 8). The result of the 2015 referendum in Ireland could very easily have limited the rights of homosexual citizens. Ireland a deeply Catholic country could have voted with the same view that the Vatican had in 2015 that there was no need for same sex marriage (Source 9) thus limiting the rights of a minority group in Ireland. That situation is only hypothetical, in 2016 Hungary hosted a referendum on whether to limit the relocation of migrants following the European migrant crisis the result of this limited the rights of migrants to move freely throughout Europe.

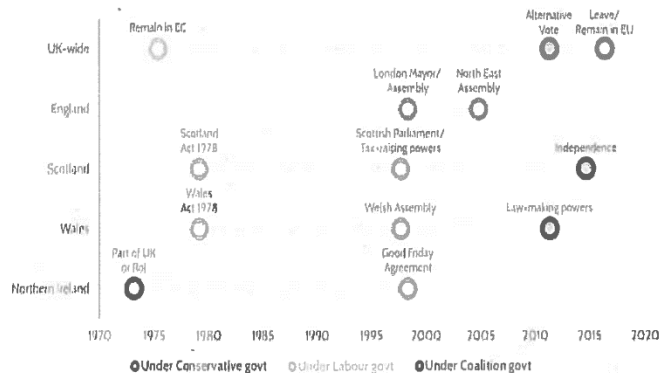
A second criticism of referendums is that they can be influenced by elite groups such as the media. In the Independence referendum in 2014 there was a lot of criticism of the BBC for the way it reported events. Alex Salmond the leader of the SNP at the

time felt that "BBC bias was a significant factor" in the outcome of the Independence referendum. (Source 10).

Accusations were made that the BBC had been used by the government to scare the public about independence and that they had not been neutral as the national broadcaster. During the 2017 EU referendum the press used bold headlines about immigration and how it is damaging our NHS, taking jobs from British people and costing the nation a lot of money in benefits. Many people in the UK are struggling because of the recession and the papers were accused of using this and making the fears about immigration worse. They influenced the vote by demonising the immigrant and suggesting all the UK's problems could be solved if there were no immigrants. This weekend the democracy of a referendum as it is a one time vote that may influence the country for a long time, if a person is misinformed during this process they may make a decision they may come to regret.

Do referendums strengthen democracy? is a tough question to ask. on one side they are a basic form of decision making that if done right can make all feel included and more politically literate. On the other hand, referendums can be hijacked by the elite and twisted into a gain for them this can be seen through the brexit vote in 2016 the leave campaign have been complained about for lying during their campaign and have even been considered by the director of public prosecution for breaking electoral law. To conclude Referendums do increase democracy however it needs to be done fairly.

Timeline of referendums (at national or regional level) in the UK since 1973



Source: Institute for Government analysis of parliament.uk, 'Referendums held in the UK; and original research.

source 1 Turnout 84.6% (<http://scotlandreferendum.info/>).

source 2 Turnout Scottish parliament elections 2011 50.6% (<http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/>)

Refs popular

Source 3 [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) Types of election, referendums, and who can vote ( Def).

source 4 <http://www.icconnectblog.com/2014/09/and-the-winner-is-the-referendum-scottish-independence-and-the-deliberative-participation-of-citizens/>

Positive experience, large turnout, suggests politics has changed because of positive engagement in indey ref

Source 5 [http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/179812/Scottish-independence-referendum-report.pdf](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/179812/Scottish-independence-referendum-report.pdf)

lowering age of voting engaged younger. Schools using as lesson (debating).

Source 6 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-38002820>

Refs more popular, Politian's don't know what we want. World watched Scotland

Source 7 <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/political-science/2016/oct/06/why-referendums-are-problematic-yet-more-popular-than-ever>

individualist....making own playlist like our music like to select individual issues.

Source 8 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/commentisfree/2015/may/22/a-referendum-is-not-the-way-to-go-when-it-comes-to-gay-rights-or-minority-issues>

Irish ref 2015. A right or popular opinion?

Source 9 [www.pinknews.co.uk/.../vatican-concludes-that-there-are-no-grounds-for-same-sex-m](http://www.pinknews.co.uk/.../vatican-concludes-that-there-are-no-grounds-for-same-sex-m).

Source 10 <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/alex-salmond-bbc-bias-was-significant-factor-in-deciding-scottish-independence-referendum-10506491.htm>

Elite groups influence outcome.

Plan

Intro- what is ref. House of lords select group investigation.

Advantages- engagement+ popular

Disadvantages minority + elite groups. Conclusion—good but big issues only not replacing political system used along side

## **Candidate 5 evidence**

## Politics Assignment

Voting behaviour is looking at how people vote. There are two main theories when it comes to examining this. These are the sociological model and the rational choice model. The sociological model, according to Butler and Stokes (Source A) is voting in accordance to your social class. It would have been predictable as to which way an individual would vote if you were to see which social class they belonged to. Between 1945 and 1978 this was the dominant model. It was seen to be as simple as middle class voters voting Conservative and working class voting Labour. However as a result of partisan dealignment the sociological model is on its way out. A series of short term factors (sociological model) such as party leadership and ~~politics~~ policies have seen to become more indicative as to which way an individual would vote. This is why it can be seen that the sociological model is no longer the dominant model when it comes to voting behaviour.

Ivor Crewe said that social changes such as more females in work and changes in the labour market is what has resulted in dealignment in recent times (Source D). Dealignment is the weakening link between social class and party support. He also ~~the~~ further explained why there was a move away from the sociological model. In 1961, 44% of the electorate were strongly identifying with Conservatives or Labour but in 2010 this number had reduced to 10%. Partisan dealignment has meant individuals no longer vote how they used to. It cannot be said that working class will vote Labour and middle class Conservative as this is no longer the case. Parties cannot rely on specific sections of society to vote for them and therefore have to work increasingly harder in order to gain the support of the 'floating voters'. This could explain why 80s Conservatives saw an increase in their working class support. This could be a result of Thatcherism. The Conservatives introduced a series of policies attractive to the working class such as allowing the purchase of council houses, lower taxation and allowing the public to buy shares into recently privatised industries such as gas and electricity.

and unskilled work

Geographical Differences can play a role in how voters vote. Working class voters in the South of England are more likely to vote Conservative than professionals in the North. This would suggest that voters of all classes had not forgotten the damaging impact the Conservatives had on Northern industry. This clearly indicates your location can impact how you vote. Labour's ~~social~~ Social class can still impact voting in some areas of the UK though. Labour's safe seats tend to be in inner-city constituencies. Contrastingly, Conservative safe seats are in suburbs and rural areas of South England. First Past the Post System divides the country. Labour struggles to gain votes in South England and recently Scotland, while Conservatives struggle in North England. In the 2015 General Election (Source C) Labour won 1.3 million votes however only gained 8 of the 193 seats available in South England. However, this pattern is more fluid and results are becoming more difficult to predict.

The 2015 election in Scotland saw class voting losing its value completely with Nationalism becoming the most prominent factor in voting behaviour. In the lead up to the 2014 Independence Referendum, the unionist parties didn't expect to have to put up much of a fight. Opinion polls suggested only a quarter to a third of Scots wanted independence. Labour hoped this would block the SNP's ~~move~~ move and consequently increase their popularity. This was not the case. The referendum saw an increase of interest in ~~political~~ politics that didn't exist before and the SNP became hugely popular. Nationalism had become the leading factor in influencing voting behaviour. Johann Lamont, Labour's leader resigned stating reasons that the party was not separate from the London branch. While Labour's leader resigning saw a decline in votes the SNP, bringing in Nicola Sturgeon as party leader benefited them greatly. While the independence referendum resulted in a 'no' vote it was far closer than anyone could have predicted and SNP won 56 out of 59 seats in the 2015 General Election (Source C) showing the impact of nationalism was limited as the referendum results did not match the General Election results.

Although ~~as seen~~ seen in the impact of leadership nationalism was not necessarily the only factor that resulted in this outcome. ~~lead~~

Leadership among other factors such as issue voting and media make up the Rational Choice Model of voting behaviour. Since the 70s this has been the most dominant model in a further move away from the sociological model.

This model examines short term factors that influence how people vote. In the lead up to elections parties produce manifestos outlining how they plan to make positive changes and their key issues. Particularly issues such as the economy which will remain a key issue when it comes to the majority of voters. Before the 2015 General Election 39% thought Conservatives had the best economic policy with Labour and Liberal Democrats gaining 23% and 26% respectively. Due to the Conservatives victory this indicates how important this policy is to the public. Leaders become the face of the election more than ever following the introduction of the 2010 Leader debates. Voters tend to make their judgement of a party based on how capable they feel their leader is. 29%

thought David Cameron was most capable of running the country with only 12% thinking the same for Gordon Brown.<sup>\*</sup> Additionally, leadership and policies <sup>(source B)</sup> tied in importance, in the eyes of the voters at 33%, previously being 10%.<sup>\*\*</sup>

Finally, one of the main aspects of the rational choice model is media.

Media is distinguished into two sections new, old and new. Old media is TV and newspapers; and new media is social media. With over 60% of adults having a social media account it was expected that new media would dominate the 2010 election. Instead it was TV that transferred the election. With all three leaders participating in the leader debates this gave Nick Clegg a chance to break away from the traditional two party system. Opinion polls saw the Liberal Democrats increase by 10 points following the debate however this was not translated in actual voting. Furthermore, there was an estimated ~~7~~ million tweets to politicians in the 10 weeks leading up to election. Social media allow people to interact with people they wouldn't normally engage with in day-to-day life and therefore puts people in touch with more political opinions than their own. The downfall of social media is that it is mostly influential to

young people and this is the age group least likely to vote. For example, during the Independence Referendum, 80% of tweets were supportive of the 'Yes' campaign yet this was not reflected in the voting where 'Yes' only received 45% of the vote. (Source B).

However, it would be correct to dismiss <sup>not</sup> social class. Up ~~until~~ <sup>the influence of</sup> until the late 90s social class was still considered the dominant factor in voting behaviour. Oxford political scientist, P. J. Pulzer said in 1967 "class is the basis of British party politics; all else is embellishment and detail." (Source A) He found that people would vote for the party which best represented their social class. Between the 40s and 60s most people voted for one of the two major parties. The majority of the middle class would vote Conservative and the majority of the working class would vote Labour. In the 1960s when you took middle class Conservative voters and working class Labour voters this accounted for 64% of the electorate. (Source B). Furthermore, in 1951 97% of the electorate voted either Conservative or Labour (Source B). These statistics demonstrate voting patterns that highlight long term feelings of loyalty to one of the two major parties. This party identification was passed down from generation to generation and was unlikely to change. However, ~~under the 20s~~ social class has been on the decline with other factors taking a more central role in voting behaviour.

Other factors that fall under the rational choice model are age, gender and ethnicity. There are clear links between age and party support. Within the last five election Labour received 42% of the 18-24 year old vote, (Source D) with Conservative only receiving 28%. (Source B) Contrastingly, the older generation have always favoured the Conservative party with 47% of the 65+ voting them and only 23% of 65+ voting Labour. Additionally, the older generation are far more likely to vote, benefitting the ~~Labour~~ Conservative party. In 2015 only 44% of those under 25 voted compared to 78% of over 55s. Age is particularly important in Scotland where 16 and 17 year olds have been given the vote. This is not the case in the UK



where David Cameron refused to give 16 and 17 year olds the vote in the EU referendum sparking political debate. Gender is another factor which can influence voting: Up until 1997 women were more likely to vote Conservative than men but following that election became more likely to vote Labour. Linking with age women under 35 are more likely to vote Labour with 40% doing so compared to 30% voting Conservative (Source B). Again, linking with age 47% of women over 65 vote Conservative. There are more women than men in this category benefitting the Conservatives. Finally, ethnic minorities have always been far more likely to vote Labour. However, after the Iraq war Labour lost 5.5% of their support from Muslim voters in the 2005 election. It is clear that long term factors such as these can also influence voting indicating the sociological model still holds relevance in voting behaviour.

In Conclusion, the sociological model is no longer dominant when it comes to voting behaviour. Instead, Rational choice among other factors such as ~~the~~ geographical differences and Nationalism have prevailed.

The move away from social class and other long term factors have been a result of societal changes and class disillusionment. Between the two models it is far more reliable to look at rational choice model when it comes to ~~voting behaviour~~ predicting results of elections. Issue voting leadership and media are some of the main reasons people vote for who they vote for. While defining features about ourselves like age, gender, ethnicity and social class can play a role they are no longer the main reasons. People have become more informed in making their own decisions than blindly voting for 'who they are meant to vote for' leading to the downfall of the sociological model. ~~But~~ it is still important to note that class and income are important factors just not as important as they once were.

## Politics Source Sheet

### Source A

<http://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/sociology/voting/revise-it/voting-behaviour>

**Pulzer (1967)**, claimed:

**'Class is the basis of British party politics; all else is embellishment and detail.'**

Traditionally then, political sociologists have identified social class as the most important factor associated with voting behaviour. This is hardly surprising given that one of the major political parties - Labour - was founded upon a commitment to a class, and whose origins lie in the organised trade union movement.

The sociological model of voting behaviour, associated with Butler and Stokes, was based on the consistent finding that social class was the most accurate indicator of likely voting intention. In general, working class voters did vote for the Labour Party, and middle class voters voted Conservative. Usually, about two-thirds of the working class voted Labour, while four-fifths of the middle class voted Conservative.

### Source B

Higher Modern Studies Democracy in Scotland and the UK Textbook - Frank Cooney, Gary Hughes and David Sheerin

### Source C

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2015/election/2015/results/>

### Source D

<http://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/sociologytwynham.com/2008/11/01/social-influences-on-voting/amp/>

### Statistics

- 1961 44% strong Con or Lab , 2010 10%
- 2015 GE Lab 1.3 million votes, only 8 of 193 seats in South England
- 2015 GE SNP won 56 out of 59 seats
- Before 2015 GE best economic policy 39% Con, Lab and Lib Dem 23% and 26%
- 29% thought David Cameron most capable, 12% Gordon Brown
- Leadership and policies tied at 33%, previously 10%
- 80% tweets supported yes campaign but 45% result
- 1960s middle class Con voters and working class Lab was 64%
- 1951 97% voted Con or Lab
- Last 5 elections, Lab 42% of 18-24 vote, Con 28%
- Con, 47% of 65+, 23% Lab
- 44% of under 25 voted, 78% of over 55s
- Women under 35 40% Lab, 30% Con
- Older women, 47% Con
- Lab lost 5.5% of Muslim vote in 2005

## **Candidate 6 evidence**

Candidate Name

Scottish Candidate Number

Human Nature

John Locke - argues that society should be organised, to promote diversity and the free development of individuality

T.G. Green - suggested that people have a natural desire to enhance others' welfare as well as their own.

(<http://politicsforalevel.wordpress.com/2010/04/12/liberalism/or-human-nature/>)

Peter Laslett, 'Theories of Human Nature': "Conservatives think human nature has a leader constancy to it that invariably defeats the utopian dreams of the do-gooders, reformers and revolutionaries. Moreover, the conservative thinks, these interfering schemes will, more or less, do more harm than good"

Role of the Individual

Will Kymlicka, 'Liberalism, Community & Culture': "Liberalism, as a political philosophy, is often viewed with being primarily concerned with the relationship between the individual and state. But, implicitly and explicitly, Liberalism also contains a broader account of the relationship between the individual and the state."

Paul Spicker, 'The Politics of Welfare': "Conservatives believe in the importance of social order. This is reflected in a respect for tradition, an emphasis on the importance of inequality - such as inequalities of class, or caste - as the basis for structured social relationships."

Lord Hailsham - "if we do not give them reform, they will give us revolution."

Role of the State

James W. Harrington, 'Principles, Practice and Policy': "The differences between the liberal and Conservative views lie in the degree to which they emphasise the rights and obligations of the state in a market-based society."

## Higher Politics Assignment

Q The differences outweigh the similarities between Liberalism and Conservatism. Discuss.

An ideology is a set of ideas that supports the existing and social economic arrangements of a society. and are the ideas which carry the message of the elites through the agents of socialisation such as governments (political parties, pressure groups), schools, the media and families and peer pressure groups. Even though different ideologies share different views, they still have the same main features of each other such as the state of human nature, the role of the individual in society, the role of the state, the sources and limits of political authority and the preferred economic and social order. Through looking at these main features of the two ideologies which are liberalism and conservatism, it is clear they have ~~different~~ differences in their views.

Liberalism evolved as a political creed in the early 19th century, even though it was based on several ideas from as far as 300 years earlier. During the enlightenment is when liberal ideas arose, in the ~~rise~~ wake of the collapse of feudalism and the transition to an ~~exp~~ individual, market economy. Amongst the middle class, liberal ideas were popular. They were seen as aspirational and a revolutionary change,

They stress that human nature is flawed, demonstrating both higher and lower qualities. Peter Lipton in the book 'Theories of Human Nature' says that "Conservatives think human nature has a leader conspiracy to it that invariably defeats the utopian designs of the do-gooders, reformers and revolutionaries. Moreover, the conservative thinks, these interfering schemes will, more or less, invariably, do more harm than good." They also believe that without a hierarchy or rule, human ~~kind~~ kind becomes selfish and greedy. Liberals see the individual as a 'blank slate' without inherent qualities that impact on social life, and maintain that individuals can be improved under the right social conditions. Conservatives opposed this view of the liberals and believe that instead, the essential 'boundedness' of human rationality.

Another difference between the two ideologies is that liberals hold a 'atomic' view of society as aggregation of individuals. Individuals are seen to possess a right to life, liberty and property (the American constitution guarantees these rights). Liberal thinkers such as John Locke, argues that society should be organized to promote diversity and the free development of individuality. Individualism is viewed as a central feature of liberal democracy. It emphasizes on 'limited' government as a means for preventing interference which are of

the private individual. In the book 'The Liberalism, Community & Culture' Will Kymlicka says "liberalism, as a political philosophy, is often viewed with regard primarily concerned with the relationship between the individual and the state. But, implicitly and inequality ~~is also a concern~~ liberalism also contains a broader account of the relationship between the individual and the state. However, Conservatives argue that leadership and authority are essential principles of social organization. Paul Spicker in the book 'The Politics of Welfare' says "Conservatives believe in the importance of social order. This is reflected in a respect for tradition, an emphasis on the importance of religion, and a stress on the importance of inequality - such as inequalities of class or state as the basis for structured social relationships". Conservatives assume that human well being can be best achieved in community's subject to political authority. They believe that respect for a hierarchy and authority is an obligation means for individuals to return something to the community which they are part of. They also believe authority is absolute and without restriction. "If we do not give them reform, they will give us revolution." - Lord Hailsham.

Another difference between them is their views on the role of the state. Liberals believe

in the equal worth of all individuals - functional equality - and that everyone should have equality before the law - formal equality. They understand justice ~~as~~ in a procedural sense. Traditionally they favour a procedural concept of justice in which ~~the~~ the institutions of the state and judiciary adopt a 'neutral' rather than activist position. It is important to know that liberals believe in equality of opportunity, not equality of outcome. They believe that individuals should be equal before the law and should enjoy civil and political rights. Although conservatives believe that inequality is an inheritable feature of all organic society and that ~~there is~~ hierarchy and authority is natural. They believe authority develops naturally and there is no social contract eg. the authority of a parent over a child. Liberals believe the law is there to maintain order in society. James W. Harrington says in the book 'Principles, Practice and Policy': "the differences between the liberal and conservative views lie in the degree to which they emphasise the rights and obligations of the state in a market-based society".

In conclusion, liberalism believes in the supremacy of the individual and the goodness of the human nature, this view is shared by the socialists



ideology; in contrast, Conservatism regards humans as defective and flawed. Conservative approach of the State is what distinguishes from the Liberalism ideology. Furthermore, Conservatism does not share the equality aspect of the former with Liberalism. Although they have differences, their main objective of leading the society for the better remains the same.

## **Candidate 7 evidence**

## Higher Politics Assignment

To what extent has Barack Obama been a successful President.

For nearly the past eight years Barack Obama has been the president of the United States of America. During his time of presidency he has gained many followers and still remains very popular among his own political party. However some citizens of America don't agree that he has been a successful president due to reasons like the fact he hasn't bring some of the promises he made into the light. In this assignment I will analyse if President Barack Obama has been successful. In order to do this I will refer to a list of factors such as Gun Control in America, his passing of 'Obama Care', his popularity through the past eight years and the DACA.

In 2012, Barack Obama was re-elected as Americas president again. This could be an indication that he, at the time, was doing something right. And this could argue that he has been a successful president, but what actually makes a successful president? What are some of the qualities you must have in order to be a success? Some factors were found in a politics American textbook which showed factors like political experience. Obama studied as a law student and also had a strong like to politics so therefore knew what he was talking about and held his own opinions and beliefs. Another factors was that you must be ~~pat~~ plain spoken and direct and you ~~must~~ must have your own beliefs and opinions.

The first factor ~~that~~ that will be analysed to see if Obama has had success as a president is his actions towards Gun Control. During Obama's time of presidency he has had to face a lot of tragic shootings which took place in America. The phrase 'guns don't kill people, people do' ~~can be argued~~ <sup>means</sup> that it is not the action of the gun which kills people, although it is the bullet within the gun that does, it is the person's actions when holding the gun that kills a person. Obama has tried to push ~~background checks upon people~~ <sup>background checks</sup> upon people ~~before~~ congress into passing the action of background checks on every individual trying to buy a gun. This will also include criminal background checks and mental health checks. The FBI have hired 230 extra employees to help with these background checks ~~within~~.

However, guns still remain a huge ~~prob~~ problem within America as just in this year thousands of Americans have lost their lives in mass shootings. In an article published on June 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 by Vox.com it showed that since the beginning of the year 76 days have been shootings and 58 days have been without. Florida now having the highest shooting rate. ~~Congress have had~~ Obama's still pushes for Congress to pass his ~~background~~ ~~action~~ of background checks ~~but~~ but congress vetos most times. In 2013 they blocked tough laws on the matter of ~~the~~ Gun Control. On Tuesday January 2016 Obama made a speech which stated "The folks in the room will not rest until congress does. Because once congress gets on board with common-sense gun safety measures, we can reduce a whole lot".

Therefore, although Obama has tried to get congress to pass his plans for Gun Control in America, Congress still vetos many of his actions which slows down the process of rectifying the problem of guns in America.

Another factor which will be analysed ~~but~~ will be 'Obama Care'. In 2010 the law of 'Obama Care' was passed. The law was made in order for many of American citizens to afford good quality healthcare and have access to quality healthcare. Obama wanted to help those who could not afford the huge hospital bills and have them insured in 'Obama Care'. It can be stated by an article on the BBC that 50% of young healthy adults support this law and believe it is a law which will help America as a country. Since the ~~beginning~~ beginning of the ~~years~~ year 11.3 million people are insured by 'Obama Care'.

However, many people disagree with this law and believe it is not a good law. This is the problem for many Republicans who say ~~that~~ that 'Obama Care' will destroy their country. In 2010 the people who agreed this act was a good idea was only 40% and in ~~one~~ ~~four~~ years four years that percentage ~~was~~ went up only 1% to 41% of people supporting the act. ~~Now the~~ The statistics for the amount of people who disapprove of the law is much of a ~~big~~ leap.

From 44% in 2010 disapproving to an increase to 53% disapproving which can be seen as a very large jump. These statistics all come from an article on the BBC. It can be seen that 5 million of American citizens are uninsured from the act as many struggle to find the money to afford the act.

Therefore, although 'Obama Care' has helped ~~many~~ many people have access to quality healthcare and be able to afford healthcare, it has been disapproved by many Republicans saying that it will destroy America as a country.

Another factor which will be analysed if Obama has been a successful president or not is the DACA.

The Act was set up to help many depressed children and young adults find a place within America and help them build a home and life in the USA. Since the Act ~~started~~ started it has helped shield 5 million immigrants. It has helped 587,366 out of 600,000 undocumented young adults work and a life in America ~~downside~~. In 2012 two thirds of adults supported the ~~system~~ system (63%) and also Hispanics believed it to be a ~~very~~ very good and thought out system that would help ~~many~~ many young ~~individuals~~ individuals. ~~the~~ President Obama hopes to expand the programme onto the children's families and parents so they have a secure home and life in America.

However many can't afford this programme as applications to it cost \$466 which many can't afford. Many immigrant families don't have the money to be able to apply for the programme and therefore aren't able to give their children a right start of a new life. Many would agree that if the application fee was smaller they would be able to apply. President Barack Obama made a promise which he failed to pull through which was ~~the~~ called "path to citizenship", he stated "a system ~~that~~ that allows undocumented ~~children~~ immigrants who are in a good standing to pay a fine, learn English and go to the back of the line for the

opportunity to become citizens". The break of this promise gained him many unhappy followers and caused a slight decrease onto his popularity.

Therefore although, the DACA helped alot of young children and adults find jobs and a new life ~~work~~, some families can't afford to pay \$8465.

Another factor ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> will ~~analyse~~ <sup>analyse</sup> the analysis if Obama has been a ~~success~~ <sup>success</sup> president in America will be his popularity among the citizens of America.

From the beginning of the year the amount of people who agreed to him being a success was 47% and by september this year it had increased to 52% due to a ~~sta~~ <sup>survey</sup> statistic ~~chart~~ <sup>chart</sup> from www.gallup.com. ~~Also~~ Also in this survey it can be seen ~~that~~ that

in 2008 when was during his ~~ea~~ campaign 70% of people were positive he was going to be a successful president. This is a far better result than Bush which only showed 27% of people being positive. During a question and answer interview with Scotland's own MP, Corrie Wilson ~~stated~~ <sup>stated</sup>, when asked if she ~~the~~ believes if Obama has been a successful president or not she ~~replied~~ <sup>replied</sup> by stating that he is an 'Approachable' and 'Family-oriented' man. The Obama family are very popular among the people of America and his wife and First Lady, Michelle Obama is equally ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> popular. Michelle Obama is very popular among the young individuals of the world and

America and serves as a great role model. She is a particularly good role model for young females as she believes that all girls should be able to get an education and have equal facilities to education as boys do. During his time of presidency he has achieved many great things like decreasing the uninsured rate to 11.9% which is a historic low in American ~~his~~ history.

However, many citizens of America still believe he is an unsuccessful president and don't support him. Obama has struggled to get congress on his side for many of his ideas in which he has created which shows a lack of faith to the the American people. In a survey from [www.gallup.com](http://www.gallup.com) it has stated that 52% of Americans believe he has been a failure and 42% believe he has been a success.



In all conclusion Obama throughout has been a successful president. He, over the past eight years has achieved many emergency things as president. He has still ~~managed~~ managed to hold onto a lot of popularity and has been able to grab onto a lot of the American citizens attention. A lot of their support still lies with him. He has managed to sort some problems concerning gun control although it still remains an issue with America and he ~~is~~ struggle to get congress onto his side.

- His passing of 'Obama Care' helped ~~thats~~ millions of Americans gain access to good ~~for~~ quality health care.

# Evidence Sheet

Intro - Nearly the past 8 years... > Popular > Unpopular > Gun Control, 'Obama Care', Popularity, DACA.

Paragraph 1 - Re-elected > Successful President? > plain spoken and direct; experience, beliefs

Paragraph 2 - Gun Control? 'guns don't kill people, people do' > FBI hire 230 extra people

REBUTAL - June 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 > 76 days mass shooting - 88 without > Florida highest shooting ~~rate~~  
2013 black tough law Obama stated "The folks in the room will not rest until

Congress dies. Because once congress gets on board with common-sense gun safety measures, we can reduce gun violence a whole lot" - Tuesday January 26th.

Obama Care - Passed 2010 > quality health care > 50% support > 11.3 million insured.

REBUTAL - Postwar country > 2009 - 41%, 2010 - 40%, 44% 2010, 2014 - 53% (disapprove) > 5 million uninsured.

Popularity - Start of year 47% agreed - 52% september > 2008, 70% positive > Bush - 27% > 'Family oriented' > "Approachable" > 11.9% - uninsured rate.

REBUTAL - Congress > 52% - failure - 42% - success.

DACA - shielding 5 million immigrants > 587,366 out of 600,000 undocumented young people were > 2012 >  $\frac{2}{3}$  adults support system > 63% > 89% Hispanics > herpes system will expand > 95% were successful

REBUTAL - \$465 > "path to citizenship" > "a system that allows undocumented immigrants who are in a good standing to pay a fine, learn English and go to the back of the line for the opportunity to become citizens"

SOURCES > VOX.COM

> NYC.gov

> the guardian.com

> www.gallup.com

> www.bbc.co.uk