

Milburn  
Psychology 335

Group Project

Length: 8-10 pages

Compare and contrast the Government's handling of U.S. intervention into Panama and Haiti and the impact of the television news coverage of these invasions on the respective President's (Bush and Clinton) popularity. Refer to any assigned readings and topics we have discussed that you feel are relevant to this question, such as the "Rally 'round the flag" effect, Bennett's book, and the Edelman reading.

In your paper, you should consider the following questions:

- (1) What are the public opinion differences in support for the Haiti and Panama invasions? You need to report public opinion data—use the IRSS database and/or Lexis/Nexis.
- (2) What is the "Rally" effect? What are the essential elements needed to produce the Rally effect? How were these conditions met or not met in Haiti and Panama? What role did the mass media play in the Rally effect?
- (3) You have already considered what are the cognitions that Edelman says governments try to generate. What evidence is there of the cognitions that Bush and Clinton tried to generate for Panama and Haiti respectively? How successful or unsuccessful were Clinton and Bush in generating these cognitions in Haiti and Panama?
- (4) What role did the media play in the cognition-generation process? What elements of content that Bennett identifies are relevant here? How was it different in Haiti and Panama? You need to include analyses of specific news stories to provide examples of the content you identify.

Your paper should be organized into two major sections, similarities and differences. Within these sections you should go through the necessary elements of the rally effect, the Edelman cognitions, the Bennett categories, and identify where there are parallels and where there are differences, supporting your arguments with specific news stories and/or information from the readings and website information.