Process Paper

I chose this topic due to my curiosity to Chinese culture. Both of my parents were born in China and partially experienced the Cultural Revolution. Hearing their conversation about their childhood motivated me to do a research on the Chinese Cultural Revolution. When I heard about the National History Day project, I figured that the theme was well embedded into the topic so I decided to research about the topic while finding answers to what the Cultural Revolution had contributed to China.

I conducted my research through both English and Chinese search engines and sites that have fair reputations. Since the Cultural Revolution took place in China, I was not able to obtain any physical primary newspaper or photos, but many online websites provided a plenty of primary images that helped me to further understand the Cultural Revolution. At first, I was only looking through English search engines, in which I had found many informative sources, such as the *Morning Sun* website that contained countless primary sources and song lyrics. Books I borrowed from the library, such as *Mao Zedong and China* were also very helpful. However, later in my research, I switched to the most popular Chinese search engine and a Chinese interview video caught my attention, and so I went to find more videos and pictures such as Zhang Hongbing’s description of the Cultural Revolution environment and Chinese propaganda posters. I have also interviewed two Chinese Cultural Revolution experienced people, whom gave detailed information on the environment and their thoughts about the revolution as a survivor.

I had decided to display my research in a way that would allow both media and text. After looking through all the possible choice of presentation, I feel that a website is the best way to present my project. With great excitement, I outlined the pages, contents, sorted the research information under each page, and how each tab will be formatted. Later, following my outlines, I built the website as I imagined. The formatting was easier than I thought and videos and pictures were extremely easy to upload. Though I did encountered problems such as media clip length and how to capture reader’s attention, but the process of making the website gave me priceless experiences and fun.

The horrible incident that occurred in the Chinese history involved a great deal of citizen rights and government responsibilities. Citizen rights were violated during the Cultural Revolution like limiting the freedom to express opinions and the freedom to do as one wished. Government responsibilities were also not fulfilled during the time period by not providing citizens a peaceful environment, ignoring the country’s wealth status, and limiting citizens’ actions. Even so, over the course of reforming, both the amount of citizen rights and government responsibilities have significantly improved. After doing the project, I concluded that the relationship between citizen rights and government responsibility is the key to a country’s success; with the correct balance will lead this country to a developed, peaceful future.