

Michel Sturm
Robert Pankratz
Carl Finnander
Richard Pabista

Process Paper

We choose to do our History Day Project on the fall of the Berlin Wall because the reaction it created affect us and our family in ways that changed our lives forever. Our generation was born into democratic stability in Czech Republic, Germany, Sweden, and the United States. All of these countries had major revolutions. The fall of the Berlin Wall had such a big impact on the world, if affect all of our societies, even though it was happened years ago. This project gave us the opportunity to learn about how our ancestors from all across the world fought for our democracies and the world milestone that brought us all together.

We began this journey of research with a Skype interview of Michel's (German) grandparents who provided us with general information of what happened along with some precise details. Michel's grandparents also sent us primary sources in the form of letters and Berlin newspapers in 1989 and 1990. For the American point of view we interviewed HHS European history teacher, Mr. Kerr.

After considering all the possible projects we could do, we decided to do an iMovie. Learning to make a movie intrigued us, plus we knew that we were going to have a lot of video primary sources from our parents and grandparents and history teachers. We also found lots of videos of the fall of the Berlin wall on "Youtube" which we are able to use in our project. We find making movies very entertaining with computers provided by our school.

The fall of the Berlin Wall was huge revolutionary change in the history of democracy

and the history of the world. This also started other revolutions in Europe connected with countries dominated by USSR. Thus this is a perfect example of “Revolution, Reaction and Reform in History”.

The first part of the movie is used to give a background of why the Berlin wall was built. We portrayed the way the media did during this revolution. We focus the rest of the video on what happened during and after the fall of the wall, from a democratic point of view.

The hardest part was producing an annotated bibliography because we acquired a lot of different of primary sources on our topic. Another challenge was cutting and editing the video. It took many long hours and late nights to produce, but all in all, the hours are worth the final product.