

Resolved: The World Needs America

Affirmative: Isaiah Berlin (Jordan Goldberg) '14

Negative: Charlotte Bronte (Ursula Moreno-VanderLaan) '13

Last night in Florida, two men sat down to explain why they should be elected President. The problem though, at least for this night, was that they said the same thing. Relegated to the sidelines, Gary Johnson (the Libertarian candidate for President) had a tweet sized field day. Decrying drone strikes, outsized defense spending, and general irresponsibility, Mr. Johnson asked us to consider a global situation where America relieved herself of her geopolitical baby sitting duties. Many others, not so far on the economic right, continue to argue this position. Enough with policing the world, they cry. We're doing this at the expense of human rights and a peaceful world. Torture, indefinite captivity, and thousands of deaths - these are the casualties of the Bushbama doctrine.

And yet, who will keep the global moral conscience pointing north (towards Santa Claus) if not America. Is the world any freer of evil than it was in the 1940s when we had to step up to curb the encroachment of National Socialism? What of a nuclear Iran? What of Al-Qaeda? What, even, of the rise of China? Leaders of both mainstream political parties have concluded that American must maintain a global military presence. We must carry the torch of freedom for those women, students, and religious minorities who seek to unburden themselves of their oppressive yoke. If we are not their allies, are we not hypocrites? If we do not fight for them, are we not heartless? If we do not remain vigilant defenders of human freedom abroad, do we not endanger our own longterm safety?

Please make your pilgrimage to the Faculty Room (third floor) of Massachusetts Hall at 7:30pm this Thursday, October 25, 2012.

Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty.

-JFK

What say you?

Yours,
The Rabbi