

Topic: How the war affected the economy.

Abstract: September 11, 2001 changed the lives of many. After the terrorist attacked our nation it caused the economy to have a down fall. In this time many people lost their jobs including me.

Key Words : twin towers, war, economy, jobs lost

## September 11

September 10<sup>th</sup> 2001 I was 14 years old, I enjoyed everything there was to enjoy that a normal 14 year old would do. I loved to dirt bike ride, play recreational sports, skateboard and going on occasional vacations with my family. I had a lot of friends who also played sports, had dirt bikes and skateboard with me. At the age of 14 I had big dream of having the first car of my dreams, having the job of my dreams and at a young age owning the house of my dreams. The night of September 10<sup>th</sup> 2001 I went to bed with not a worry in my head not knowing that the day of September 10<sup>th</sup> would be the last normal day this world has to offer for a very very long time. I woke up in the morning to go to school and heard my mother watching the news in the living room which wasn't out of the ordinary as I was walking to the living room and I heard " oh my god" repeated by my mother. As I approached the living room I looked at the TV. And saw the huge twin towers with massive amounts of smoke clouds coming out of the structure to find out a plane had intentionally crashed into the building. It had stunned me, everything had seemed I was still asleep or I was watching some Hollywood movie.

While reality hit that a plane had crashed into the twin towers another plane struck the other structure then one by one I saw them both collapse. I remember feeling a huge sense of fear, a fear so strong that I was almost disoriented, I am sure I was not the only

one as there was a fearful silence everywhere I went. The world seemed to be confused not knowing who did it or what their intentions were. I remember thinking; okay what are we going to do as a nation now? Will everything be okay? Will these terrorists try

another attack? Every soul I'm sure was thinking the same as everyone as they were glued to the TV watching CNN as George W Bush spoke and informed us with new information. That day forward everyone became more patriotic as young adults, men, women began joining the US military to go fight for our freedom. Throughout the years seeing more and more family and friends joining it got a little more nerve wrecking knowing that any war is not a pretty thing to live first hand. The military kept getting bigger and bigger meaning the more troops we send meaning more government money to support and pay for war costs.

At this age I was very collective and curious on what was going on I had heard that the longer we stayed in the war the more in debt we would bury the US. Sure enough the US was in a full out war the rebels of the Middle East. Every day and night there was some sort of war footage on the TV. To me it seemed like the more footage was shown on the TV the higher prices on daily items began to rise. A significant rise was gas prices, gas prices went to an all time high. I remember when gas was 1.12\$ and when 9/11 happened it seemed like every other day it jumped up 30 cents until it almost hit five dollars a gallon. It was then people were thinking twice about driving for vacations or even going on one at all. I know my family completely stopped going on vacations for gas price reasons and we were not the only people seeing it that way. People no longer wanted to

buy SUVs or full size pick up trucks because it would cost them an arm and a leg to fill. People were not buying or traveling meaning no money into the economy meaning a receipt for a depression.

The longer the war went on the more our government was spending, the deeper our economy was falling. Throughout the years it was a chain reaction within our economy one business would collapse making it difficult for the companies buying product from the original falling company, to stay afloat. In time I thought things would get better but so far all time has brought to us is more of our economy collapsing. People are losing their jobs due to these hard times. People are also losing their homes and vehicles. It is sad to see how many homes are up on foreclosure and left there to deteriorate. It is sad to see all these people without a job and forced to live in tent cities such as the ones in Sacramento and Fresno.

Our great nation is to sit and watch as our homeless and pan handling rates go up followed by crime on the rise as well. It is sad to see how the surviving companies running strong are the companies supplying the world with alcoholic beverages. People tend to turn to an outlet, if people see alcohol being the easiest to turn to ease the pain of that harsh reality they don't want to face. It is a scary thought to imagine the future and what it has in store for us. It is so difficult to obtain a good paying job to support a comfortable life style. At this point even people with great paying jobs are taking a pay cuts or retirement plan changes. Adults are not the only one effected but the children are

even more so affected. School funds are being used on other things causing children to be robbed of their education. It is a scary thought to think that these kids we are depriving of their education will soon be the new leaders of this nation. My story is similar to the

Great depression, not as severe but the way things are going I am sure we are not very far from it.