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Section one

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North Korea and the Right to Develop Nuclear Weapons

Although, the US as a country has disagreed with North Korea’s “unstable” government, I believe that North Korea has the right to nuclear energy and weapons.

North Korea’s government is seen by many as unstable. In the past they have had problems with being truthful, as stated in “7 Reasons to Worry About North Korea’s Weapons”, an article from The Atlantic by Joel S. Wit and Jenny Town, “Pyongyang’s arsenal could grow from a few bombs, to according to some estimates, as many as 50 by 2016…” (Doc. 1) North Korea is not permitted to have nuclear weapons to begin with, not to mention that they could very easily increase their arsenal. They could also sell these weapons to neighboring countries for needed money for their government; due to lack of income because of sanctions places upon their nation. With the North Korean government being far less stable than our government, there is definitely a threat of nuclear attack. “The more immediate danger, however, is that the North could use nuclear weapons against its neighbors, South Korea and Japan.”(Doc. 1) This was also a point made by Joel S. Wit and Jenny Town in their article. These are very major points, but their government could improve in the future, if not already.

We all know that as humans, a sense of security and self-defense is very important, so why shouldn’t North Korea be allowed to act on this? Well I believe they should. The US has nuclear weapons and we do not get along well with North Korea, so how do they know we won’t still pose a threat to them if they give up their weapons? They don’t. Any other countries could attack as well. “Washington policymakers might reply that if North Korea would truly negotiate in good faith, they could offer its regime guarantees for its survival.”(Doc. 5) a quote from the article, “Why North Korea Needs Nukes”, by Robert D. Kaplan and Rodger Baker. No one can know if they meant this or if they were just saying it to get North Korea to give up their weapons. This is similar to what has been happening in our own country with gun rights, we, as a country, should know how this and the ongoing battle feel. Rights are something we can all relate to in some way.

The UN is almost at the end of their rope with all they can do to control North Korea’s nuclear weapons. Because they are a sovereign nation, they do not have to do what the UN says, it is simply a suggestion. Sanctions have already been placed on the country. A report from the UN News Centre, titled “Security Council tightens sanctions on DPR Korea in wake of latest nuclear blast” reported, “7 March 2013 – Following its strong condemnation of the nuclear test conducted last month by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the United Nations Security Council today tightened sanctions on the country’s trade and banking, as well as travel by targeted officials.” “The DPRK shall abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs, in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner.” but this was simply a suggestion made by the council. The UN Security Council cannot force them to do anything. Just as people do, countries have rights to their possessions. ­­­