

JFK: hero or villain?

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Crime |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communism and Cuba | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam war |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family life | |



After the Bay of Pigs incident was the Cuban Missile Crisis - spy planes found that the Russians had nuclear weapons in Cuba. JFK had to make a choice to use force or try to reach an agreement. Russia and America managed to make an agreement but JFK had brought America close to war.

He was a devout Catholic and very devoted to his family and children ensuring they had an excellent quality of life.

When JFK came to power, America had already been fighting in Vietnam for seven years. He had inherited involvement in the war and it wasn't simple to just pull out.

JFK was rumoured to have been unfaithful to his wife as it was said he had affairs with mobster's girlfriends as well as Marilyn Monroe.

Thousands of American soldiers died as did innocent Vietnamese people as a result of JFK's decision to continue fighting in Vietnam.

The JFK presidency led to the increase of military and financial support for South Vietnam in their war against North Vietnam. Numbers of soldiers rose from 800 to 16,000.

He stopped a racist incident towards the end of his life and proposed what became the Civil Rights Act which came into action after his death.

He did not introduce any civil rights reforms during his Presidency as he was worried about the reaction of white voters, especially as he had just narrowly won the election and he needed to keep their support for the future election.

In the Bay of Pigs incident, 1961 he ordered soldiers to invade Cuba to overthrow their leader Fidel Castro. It failed and relations between the two countries became tense and many captured soldiers suffered. It was a humiliation and failure for the US.

Once in power, JFK cut ties with these gangs by launching an attack on organised crime to stop illegal trading and bullying rackets.

The Kennedy family was argued to have been in debt to gangster families and involved in their crimes before his presidency.

If JFK had completed his term as president and won the next election, he may have introduced more civil rights reforms.

JFK felt it was wrong that black people didn't have many rights and had a friendship with Martin Luther King. He began to explore civil rights reform.