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United States vs. Iraq, More Than a War

The country I chose to compare voting rights with the United States was Iraq. I chose Iraq because when I was one month old my dad was deployed to Iraq for the first 15 months of my life. The United States has a more advanced voting system, dating back to the late 1600's. Iraq dates to the biblical days but did not become a country until 1932. Their first 'free' election was 73 years later. The United States military protected the Iraqi poll booths to give the citizens of Iraq a safe voting experience.

Surprisingly, women have been voting in Iraq since 1980. In 1950 Iraq became the first Arab country to have a woman minister and to have a law that allowed women to ask the courts for divorce. The Iraqi constitution states the 25% of government must be women. As nice as that may sound, it is not that great. The women in government hold no power, their votes do not count.

In the United States in 1870 non-white men as well as freed male slaves were given the right to vote, thanks to the 15th amendment. Women were given the right to vote approximately 48 years later when President Woodrow Wilson gave a speech to congress supporting women's rights to vote just before congress voted and passed the 19th amendment. Now all United states citizens have the right to vote.

Voting in the United States may have its problems, but voters do not have to worry about suicide bombers, mass shootings, and other types of terrorist attacks that the Iraqi citizens face while voting as well as in their everyday life. United States citizens have the right to vote but so many do not utilize their right. Voting is a privilege. The citizens of Iraq understand this better than United States citizens do. United States citizens makes excuses as to why they did not vote, Iraqi citizens risk their lives to vote!

I feel that Iraqi citizens take more pride in voting than United States citizens but the politicians in the United States seem fairer and more professional. Women politicians in the United States have equal rights as their men counterparts. When I am of age I will vote. I am proud to be a United States citizen as well as an Army brat!