

## **ABSTRACT**

Since 1948 when President Harry Truman appointed Eleanor Roosevelt as chairman of the drafting team for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United States has been proud to present itself as the principal force in the global battle for human rights. However, the U.S. government has in the past, and continues to operate in opposition to its own notion of “universal human rights.” Deception by U.S. government leaders, withdrawal from several human rights treaties, covert operations of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the invasion of Iraq, an ill-treatment in Guantanamo Bay prison, U.S. corporate abuse of worker’s rights, as well as a range of violations against children, women, and diverse ethnic groups in the United States are just a few examples from a long history of its human rights violations. It is therefore not surprising that this claim by the U.S. is constantly being scrutinized by various international communities, NGOs, and even the U.S. citizens.

In order to broaden the reader’s horizons, this paper aims to study and analyze the United States’ claim to be the world’s prime advocate of human rights. Is this claim reliable? If not, then what is the rationale behind the hypocrisy? Finally, what consequence will this false commitment have on the norms of “Universal Human Rights”? These questions will challenge the reader to view U.S. politics from another perspective. In the end, the reader can decide, from his/her own unique perspective, whether or not the United States is still worthy to call itself the primary global protector of human rights.