

## Outline

### I. Introduction

- A. Hook: describe history about the Spanish speaking country Equatorial Guinea
- B. Brief (2 -3 sentence) summary
- C. Thesis: In Equatorial Guinea mistreatment in political power, ultimately resulting in lack of concern for the environment and abuse of financial revenue is unethical and unjust.
- D. Topic (Sub-topic) sentences
  1. support #1: (**role of important leaders**) rigged elections are keeping one leader in power
  2. support #2: (**important resources**) misuse in money from off- shore oil discoveries which does not go back to citizens
  3. support #3: (**human environmental interactions**) killing animals which is inhumane act

### II. Body

- A. support #1: presidential elections have been rigged under Obiang's rule [BBC News Article]
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
- B. support #2: oil reserves are enriching him not the country [BBC News Article December 2012] <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-13317176>
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
- C. support #3: trade demands leads to: deforestation is used to export timber is killing animals-specifically apes [BBC News Article 2012] <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/2872421.stm>
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.

### III. Conclusion

- A. Thesis: In my opinion, Marianne's parents should have removed her from life support sooner, allowing her to die.
- B. Sub-topic sentence
  1. support #1:
  2. support #2:
  3. support #3:

C. Concluding remarks -

Tera Cafro

Mr. Laitio

World History Honors

3 June 2013

O.I.L. (Overall. Interesting . Leader )

The Spanish colonized a small region off the far west coast of Sub-Saharan Africa currently known as Equatorial Guinea, one of the few Spanish speaking countries in Africa. Currently the president, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, has been the one of the world's longest to hold power in a country. Some sources even categorize him as one of the most corrupt leaders. He seized power after Francisco Macias Nguema in 1979 and since then there's been an obvious abuse of power, which directly results in: a lack of concern for the environment, linked as well to the misuse of financial revenues.

One main problem affecting this small country directly is there is not reliance and assurance in the government. The past Presidential elections have been rigged under his rule for decades, usually him winning over 90% everytime. An article with an overview of country describes that "Mr Obiang won more than 97% of the vote in presidential elections in December 2002". The past three decades of his rule have sparked opposition groups who have begun to react violently against his constant reelection. In 2004, several mercenaries plotted a coup to overthrow the president. Most ,who were involved, were arrested and some eventually sentenced. Even years later in 2010, they were identifying people who were involved with the coup in 2004. Although later in 2010, other countries such as France feel threatened by Obiang dictatorship and pressed charges against him as well as three other head members of state in Africa, there has been little change in the electoral system in Equatorial Guinea.

Similar to how the government seems to blatantly disregard the need for a democratic transition, the leaders seem to also continue in the sale of timber. They destroy rainforests, which are habitats for a significant amount of native animals and as these rainforests undergo the renovation called deforestation, their homes are destroyed leaving an abundance of apes on the brink of extinction. A BBC article's analysis of the already endangered species of gorillas explains how animals in Equatorial Guinea are affected by dwindling rainforests, similar to other countries in that region, such as DPR and Central African Republic. In conclusion, the priorities in this country are not to help strengthen the country, but to enrich the men in power.

Equatorial Guinea has been exposed to offshore oil findings which made the country one of the top exporters, however when the funds are being misused, the country is not able to benefit from this advantage. According to a BBC article, "the dictatorship under President Obiang has used an oil boom to entrench and enrich itself further at the expense of the country's people" This has been a significant issue especially when the country itself has the 114th largest GDP. A 2004 US Senate investigation into the Washington-based Riggs Bank found that President Obiang's family had received huge payments from US oil companies such as Exxon Mobil and Amerada Hess. The citizens of Equatorial Guinea have suffered due to these corrupt leaders, which has erupted into chaos and violence.

The fact is that Obiang is just like most leaders in most developing countries. Most tend to be corrupt in some way which is why it takes so long for countries to thrive. All three factors are what make or break a country when it comes to their standing. The idea of

having a Spanish speaking country in Africa is astounding and it would only be more special if the leaders weren't so misleading.