



## Cavalier International

Serra High School's very own International Newsletter

Published and Printed by the students of Zero Period  
American Foreign Policy & Model United Nations

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Serra MUN pays tribute to its  
Founder and Lead Delegate,  
Tommy Bothwell,  
Class of 2016!



### Special points of interest:

- Serra MUN had two delegates earn Outstanding Performance awards at the BruinMUN conference at UCLA in 2015.
- Serra MUN attended the largest MUN competition in the world in the Spring of 2016: the National High School Model United Nations Conference, in New York, NY.

## The Art and Science of Leasing Lifestyles

Adapted from the BBC Associated Press – Original Article by Mark Johanson- 4/13/16  
Re-write created by Kian Nellum – Grade 12 – American Foreign Policy/MUN Level 1 Student

When looking through rapper 50-Cent's Instagram feed, you'll find photographs of him basking in unimaginable riches. This typical image of the United States' most well known pop culture icons leaves many filled with desire and envy to be just like them someday. However, how much faith can we place in the images that these people want us to believe is reality?

The truth was revealed during 50 Cent's bankruptcy proceedings in court, when he revealed to the judge that the piles of cash

surrounding him in his Instagram photos was mostly just "prop" money. 50 Cent actually filed for bankruptcy last July of 2015, claiming debts between 10 and 50 million dollars.

Everyday people are leasing a lifestyle that is beyond their reach in order to project an image of power. This is not only true of celebrities, but also of an increasing number of people from all walks of life. So this begs the question, who can we trust to be projecting accurate images of their true selves? In terms of

international relevancy, this never appeared to be a more important question to answer than right now.

Can we trust that people like Donald Trump and Hilary Clinton will be giving the American people their whole truth? Trump conveniently hides the many bankruptcy events of his past and Hilary has a highly questionable history of foreign policy blunders as well as legal snafus. One of these people is likely to be our next President. Let's hope what they project is in fact truth, not fiction.

## Peace Breakers – When UN Peacekeepers Cross the Line

Adapted from CNN – Original article by Joshua Berlinger, Holly Yan and Richard Roth – 4/6/2016  
Re-write created by Aaliyah Galwey – Grade 12 – American Foreign Policy/MUN Level 1 Student

The Central African Republic has experienced hundreds of allegations of human rights violations since the introduction of UN Peacekeepers to the region. These Peacekeepers were sent to the C.A.R. in order to promote peace among those engaged in a fierce political battle that has been the source of widespread violence for the past 5 years.

This crisis in the Central African Republic has led to thousands of people being displaced from their homes and seeking shelter or asylum in other neighboring

countries and beyond. The UN Peacekeepers as they are called, are drawn from a multinational effort born in the United Nations to try and help in this volatile situation.

So where does the line get drawn between the authority to help keep the peace and using that authority to abuse refugees? To date, both non-UN and UN Peacekeeping forces have reportedly discarded human rights from their agenda in the name of keeping the peace, and have even gone so far as to rape hundreds of refugees, many of whom are

children.

The results thus far are that the UN Peacekeeper chief of staff for that region has been removed and discussions are underway at UN Headquarters to determine the future of operations there and to hopefully bring those accused to justice if found guilty.

**Cavalier Code**

- *Cavaliers have Faith and Integrity.*
- *Cavaliers are Humble and Accountable.*
- *Cavaliers are Scholars who Lead and Serve.*
- *Cavaliers are Soldiers for Christ.*

*We are Cavaliers.*

*All Hail!*

Serra MUN proudly upholds the Cavalier Code and hopes to contribute to the mission of making Serra students global citizens.

*Serra Model United Nations* exists under the Social Science department as an elective entitled **American Foreign Policy**, which is taught by Mr. Reynolds. This is an A-G approved elective that runs as a year long course. **If you are interested in joining**, please see Mr. Reynolds to sign up and get a zero period permission slip to submit before this school year ends. *You will find him in **room 307**.*

## The New Wild West: Surfing the “Dark Web”

Adapted from The Hacker News – Original article by Rakesh Krishnan – 4/13/2016

Re-write created by Anthony Licea – Grade 12 – American Foreign Policy/MUN Level Advanced Student

The “dark web” is the new frontier for those wishing to browse the internet with total anonymity and do everything from purchasing weapons to hiring assassins. Originally developed by the United States Military for the exchange of anonymous information, this largely undiscovered internet network is starting to raise a lot of attention in the international community. It was released to the public in order to increase the number of people using it so that those messages that were government related and those that were not would

become even harder to identify.

The end result has been the creation of an internet underworld that functions very similarly to the “black market,” since people can gain access to the purchase of a variety of otherwise illegal merchandise and morally reprehensible services, including purchasing slaves.

“TOR”, otherwise known as “The Onion Router” is a browsing software that is required to gain access to the “dark web.” However, there are now a variety of other browsing

programs that function in the same way, giving access to some 30,000 websites in total, all of which keep their activity hidden.

However, there is a positive to this, which is that for people living in nations whose laws censor certain internet access, they now have ways of accessing it without fear of government reprisal. In many nations, the penalty for accessing non-government websites is imprisonment or death. In either case, the “dark web” is now the “Wild West” of our time.

## Heartache and Suffering: Slavery in Brazil

Adapted from BBC – Original article by Matt Sandy – 7/18/2015

Re-write created by Kayla Jenkins – Grade 11 – American Foreign Policy/MUN Level 1 Student

There is a journey across the North of Brazil that if survived, few ever forget. This is the slavery road, along which thousands of poor workers are trafficked, beaten, threatened, and forced to work without pay. Many slaves have been rescued, but the total number of those who have not is unknown at this time.

The journey begins in the Northeastern states such as Maranhão and Piauí, known for their high poverty rates, all the way to Northern Brazil at the beginning of

the Amazon rainforest. It is estimated that as many as 4.9 million people have been enslaved in Brazil since the colonization in the 1500s.

Victims often live without proper sanitation, food or shelter, and are often viewed as animals by their owners. Sexual exploitation is common amongst children, a practice that is highly utilized by truck drivers that pass by the route taken by the slaves.

The forest itself is also

dangerous, filled with lethal creatures such as jaguars, vipers, and scorpions.

When people are lucky enough to be rescued, it is not unheard of to migrate again to the same place due to re-capture. Most are simply in a state of hopelessness. It is sad to think that long after we abolished slavery in our own country, it still exists anywhere in the world today.

## The Most Important Issues in the World Today – 2016

The following quotes were provided from an all level Serra MUN end of the 2015/16 school year timed writing.

Authors Include: *Areli Acosta* Lvl. 1, *Kurt Brennan* Lvl. Adv., *Kyle Brown* Lvl. 1, *Saire Cooper* Lvl. 1, *Kariam Cross* Lvl. 1, *Marcelly Guzman* Lvl. 1, *Kayla Jenkins* Lvl. 1, *Scott Leverett* Lvl. 1, *Sean May* Lvl. Adv., *Malcolm Sabal* Lvl. 2, and *Jace Vincent* Lvl. 1

**World Hunger:** “If the US distributed its annual food waste to the UN World Food Programme, we could feed the entire planet twice.” “The surplus is thrown to waste when people in our own country are starving.”

**Global Warming and Climate Change:** “We as human beings are losing the one place in the entire galaxy that we can call home.” “Our country has a responsibility to be involved,

since we are among the largest contributors to carbon emissions that damage our ozone layer.” “This is an issue that will affect future generations for years to come.” “If we don’t solve this problem we won’t survive as a species to solve other global issues.” “It’s our world, and we keep destroying it slowly but steadily.”

**Terrorism:** “ISIS has committed so many crimes like

forcing women into unwanted marriage and televised beheadings.” “It is a crisis to the world because it is a danger to everyone.” “Terrorists are not located in any particular country, but can attack any place and any time.”

**Refugees and Immigration:**

“There are now over 60 million refugees worldwide, making this an issue that affects Europe, Asia, and even the United States.”



**Serra Model United Nations** would like to pay a special tribute to all of the students of the MUN class of 2015-16. The names on this list were also contributors to the publication of this first issue. They are listed here in Alphabetical order as follows:

**American Foreign Policy/MUN Level 1 Students**

Areli Acosta  
Kyle Brown  
Saire Cooper  
Simeon Cooper  
Kariam Cross  
Ilario Della Catena  
Aaliyah Galwey  
Bryce Gentry  
Marcelly Guzman  
Jace Vincent Holmes-Floyd  
Kayla Jenkins  
Scott Leverett  
Kian Nellum

**American Foreign Policy/MUN Level 2 Students**

Malcolm Sabal  
Justin Shepherd

**American Foreign Policy/MUN Level Advanced**

Ian Tommy Bothwell  
Kurt Brennan  
Jorrod Cook  
J'Son Jones  
Anthony Licea  
Sean May

