

Scopes Monkey Trial:
The Frontier of Church and State

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Junior Division

Group Website

Website Contains 879 Student-Composed Words

Process Paper Contains 294 Student-Composed Words

Our topic is the Scopes Monkey Trial, one of the most important battles of Evolution versus Creationism in history. We chose this topic because of the importance and popularity of the trial. The trial relates to the theme of frontiers in history because this event was one of the first big debates over whose side is true. The trial is what sparked the debate that is ongoing to this day.

Our research consisted of a lot of books, websites, and online government documents. One of our primary sources was a book that was a transcript of the entire trial. This helped us immensely as it is their exact words. We also had online copies of the original documents of the law passed that started the whole conflict. This gave us an insight into the original intentions of the law.

The creation process for our project was very simple. My partner created most of the advanced things, like the next button and image slider. I cited most of the images and put them on the pages. My partner did most of the advanced processes because he had done a website for his previous History Day project, while I did a documentary. This played into our strengths and experiences because he knows how to navigate the website and I have experience with citing and using images.

The trial is important in history because it was the spark a massive debate about who was correct. It was an extremely influential event for a lot of people across America because, at this point, a lot of people haven't even heard of evolution before. The theory of evolution was only about 50 years old and had much less evidence than it does today, but it was still very believable.