

Eine politische Rede analysieren

→ Kapitel 2.1: USA – Land der (un-)begrenzten Möglichkeiten? (Schulbuch S. 248 f.)

Transkript einer Rede von Barack Obama während des Vorwahlkampfes der Demokraten, am 8. Jänner 2008 in New Hampshire

(The New York Times, Jan. 8, 2008):

(...) I want to congratulate Senator Clinton on a hard-fought victory here in New Hampshire. (...) But in record numbers, you came out and spoke up for change. And with your voices and your votes, you made it clear that at this moment, in this election, there is something happening in America.

(APPLAUSE)

There is something happening when men and women in Des Moines and Davenport; in Lebanon and Concord come out in the snows of January to wait in lines that stretch block after block because they believe in what this country can be. There is something happening. There is something happening when Americans who are young in age and in spirit, who have never participated in politics before, turn out in numbers we've never seen because they know in their hearts that this time must be different. There is something happening when people vote not just for the party they belong to, but the hopes they hold in common. And whether we are rich or poor, black or white, Latino or Asian, (...) That is what's happening in America right now. Change is what's happening in America. (...) you can be the new majority who can lead this nation out of a long political darkness (...) Our new American majority can end the outrage of unaffordable, unavailable health care in our time. We can bring doctors and patients; workers and businesses, Democrats and Republicans together; and we can tell the drug and insurance industry that, while they'll get a seat at the table, they don't get to buy every chair. Not this time. Not now.

(APPLAUSE)

(...) We can stop sending our children to schools with corridors of shame and start putting them on a pathway to success. We can stop talking about how great teachers are and start rewarding them for their greatness (...) We can do this with our new majority. We can harness the ingenuity of farmers and scientists; citizens and entrepreneurs to free this nation from the tyranny of oil and save our planet from a point of no return. And when I am President of the United States, we will end this war in Iraq and bring our troops home.

(APPLAUSE)

We will end this war in Iraq. We will bring our troops home. We will finish the job – we will finish the job against al Qaida in Afghanistan; we will care for our veterans; we will restore our moral standing in the world; and we will never use 9/11 as a way to scare up votes, because it is not a tactic to win an election, it is a

challenge that should unite America and the world against the common threats of the twenty-first century: terrorism and nuclear weapons; climate change and poverty; genocide and disease. All of the candidates in this race share these goals. All (...) have good ideas. And all are patriots who serve this country honorably.

(APPLAUSE)

But the reason our campaign has always been different (...) is because it's not just about what I will do as President, it's also about what you, the people who love this country (...) can do to change it. (...) We know the battle ahead will be long, but always remember that, no matter what obstacles stand in our way, nothing can stand in the way of the power of millions of voices calling for change. (...) But in the unlikely story that is America, there has never been anything false about hope.

(APPLAUSE)

For when we have faced down impossible odds; when we've been told that we're not ready, or that we shouldn't try, or that we can't, generations of Americans have responded with a simple creed that sums up the spirit of a people. Yes, we can. Yes, we can. Yes, we can. It was a creed written into the founding documents that declared the destiny of a nation: Yes we can. It was whispered by slaves and abolitionists as they blazed a trail toward freedom through the darkest of nights: Yes we can. It was sung by immigrants as they struck out from distant shores and pioneers who pushed westward against an unforgiving wilderness: Yes we can. It was the call of workers who organized; women who reached for the ballot; a President who chose the moon as our new frontier; and a King who took us to the mountaintop and pointed the way to the Promised Land: Yes, we can, to justice and equality. Yes, we can, to opportunity and prosperity. Yes, we can heal this nation. Yes, we can repair this world. Yes, we can. And so, tomorrow, as we take this campaign South and West; as we learn that the struggles of the textile workers in Spartanburg are not so different than the plight of the dishwasher in Las Vegas; that the hopes of the little girl who goes to a crumbling school in Dillon are the same as the dreams of the boy who learns on the streets of LA; we will remember that there is something happening in America; that we are not as divided as our politics suggests; that we are one people; we are one nation; and, together, we will begin the next great chapter in the American story, with three words that will ring from coast to coast, from sea to shining sea: Yes. We. Can. Thank you, New Hampshire. Thank you. Thank you.

(The New York Times, 8. Jänner 2008, online auf: https://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/us/politics/08text-obama.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0; abgerufen am 19.3.2020)

Fragen und Arbeitsaufträge:

Arbeitet in Kleingruppen. Recherchiert zu Fragen, die ihr nicht beantworten könnt, auch in euren Geschichtebüchern und/oder im Internet. Achtet darauf, nur vertrauenswürdige Internetquellen zu verwenden.

1. Erstellt in Stichworten eine Kurzbiografie Barack Obamas.
2. Recherchiert Genaueres über die Situation, in der Obama diese Rede gehalten hat.
3. Fasst den sachlichen Inhalt der Rede zusammen.
4. Benennt Ziele, Zweck, Adressatinnen und Adressaten.
5. Untersucht, welche rhetorischen Mittel und welche sprachlichen „Stilfiguren“ Obama einsetzt und markiert sie im Text. Formuliert Vermutungen darüber, welche Wirkung Obama damit erzielen wollte.
6. Untersucht, welche Versprechen gemacht werden. Geht auch darauf ein, an wen sie sich richten.
7. Arbeitet heraus, welche Textpassagen auf amerikanische Grundwerte verweisen und formuliert Vermutungen darüber, welche Gefühle damit bei den Zuhörerinnen und Zuhörern ausgelöst werden sollten.
8. Untersucht, ob Obama stärker an das Gefühl oder an den Verstand seiner Zuhörerinnen und Zuhörer appelliert. Belegt eure Aussagen mit Beispielen aus der Rede.
9. Recherchiert, welche Wirkung die Rede hatte, und diskutiert über die Gründe dafür.