

JFK

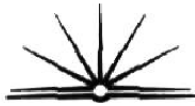
History's purpose is to understand the past. To understand the past a person or a historian must tackle new interpretations head on. This theory can be seen through the Presidency & case study of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Different historians including Schlesinger, Sornsen, & Thomas Reves, Seymour Hersh have all written about JFK and his life and have all made different interpretations to the debates of Public & Private and Relationship & dealings with Khrushchev.

The purpose of history is to understand the past and tackle new interpretations head on. This view is seen when dealing with the debate of Public and Private. The historians Schlesinger ~~and~~ Sor. who wrote A thousand days and Sornsen who wrote

Kennedy both were cannot historian and
was wrote these books 2 years after the
assassination of JFK. Schlesinger and Sorrens
were both very close to Kennedy. ^{Sorrens} Schlesinger
was Kennedy's speech writer and Sorrens
Schlesinger was a counsellor to Kennedy.
Both these historians view Kennedy in a
positive light which is seen in the debate
of Public & Private. Both historians say Kennedy had
a happy family life, was a perfect father and
loved spending time with his young family.
Both Schlesinger & Sorrens describe him in
pretty good health apart from a back injury
from the war and a past football injury. They
also claim he had a great personality and
was charming and friendly to everyone. When
the 2nd revisionist period came the historian
Thomas ~~Reeves~~ Reeves and the journalist Seymour
Hersh revisited the debate about Private &
Public. Both Reeves & Hersh claim that

Kennedy family life was autocratic and everything was done to please their father Joe, both men describe Kennedy married life as a high society marriage which was a cover and it was happy as seen through many of Kennedy affairs. Reeves & Hersh both had access to new archive files which showed that Kennedy "was one of the most unlikable presidents to sit in the oval office". Reeves had access to medical files which showed Kennedy having Addison & Venereal diseases. By looking at the historians Schlesinger, Sorenson, Reeves and journalist ~~is~~ it can be clearly seen that the historians have tackled new interpretations in wanting to gain an understanding of the past.

Thomas Reeves & journalist Seymour Hersh have tackled the past by giving new interpretations on the past about Kennedy dealing ~~with~~ & relationship with Khrushchev. Schlesinger and Sorenson both claim that Khrushchev was a bully and that Kennedy handled him excellently and he was determined to stop communism. Reeves &



Hersh have brought new interpretations as they have had access to declassified files. They say Kennedy thought Kruschew was a bully and had no idea what he was doing and he couldn't match Kruschew and that he was out of his league. Reens and Hersh both wanted to understand the past properly so they tackled accepted interpretations head-on and found out new information. That allowed a new understanding.

Bickerton says the purpose of history is to understand the past which means tackling accepted interpretations head-on. Thomas Reens and journalist Seymour Hersh have renewed the interpretations of Schlesinger and Somerson through the debates of Public & Private and Kennedy relationship and dealings with Kruschew. The purpose of history is to understand the past.