

## ABSTRACT

Title: Present Day Detention Camps: North Korea Vs. The United States

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The purpose of this research was to determine how similar detention facilities run by the U.S. government are to the gulags of North Korea. The research spanned many different media sources from online news articles to reports in scholarly journals to an anthology of memoirs and articles concerning the treatment of prisoners in U.S. detention facilities. Although some of the specific details of the camps were inconsistent across sources, this can be attributed to the secret nature of the prison system. However, despite those inconsistencies, an overall theme present in all the sources was the secret nature of the camps as well as U.S. lack of cooperation with human rights standards presented by the United Nations. The research also showed that the U.S. in fact had imprisoned innocent persons. Because of the similarities to North Korea camps in terms of secrecy, the incarceration of innocent people and the deliberate avoidance of compliance with human rights laws, it is possible to compare the U.S. "democratic" government with North Korea's communist regime.