

In the article, Morris conveys his main point that the American government gets too much blame for the Cambodian genocide. In my paper, I want to explore the making of the regime and all factors that helped create the environment for the genocide to occur. This article goes in-depth on a specific factor which is American involvement.

This is contrary to the more popular opinion that American interference in Cambodia played a massive part in the recruitment of the Cambodian people to the Khmer Rouge. It is also widely thought that American inferences and bombings contributed to the Cambodian version of communism begin more inherently violent than past interpretations. Many see the Khmer Rouge as “normal people driven crazy by constant U.S. bombings.”¹ Morris finds the idea of blaming the American government absurd. Instead, he turns the blame toward the American journalist who took too long to report on the genocide or the anti-war activist in America who opposed involvement in Cambodia.²

Morris cites the feud and political battles between the Vietnamese and Cambodian governments. He writes specifically about the common misconception that American bombings help destabilize society enough to overthrow the ruler of Cambodia.³ The article points out the ethnic cleansing that had nothing to do with American bombings but instead had to do with the feud the Cambodians had with the Vietnamese. Morris gives facts about the actions of the Vietnamese against the Cambodians where he believes that people are quick to put the blame mostly on the American government.

¹ Stephen J. Morris, “Don’t Blame America for the Killing Fields,” Wall Street Journal, May 3, 2002, <https://www-proquest.com.ezproxy.bu.edu/docview/398713540?OpenUrlRefId=info:xri/sid:primo&accountid=9676>.

² Ibid.

³ Stephen J. Morris, “Don’t Blame America for the Killing Fields.”