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American "Foreign Policy" in Film

Final PhD. Dissertation Evaluation

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As I have already commented upon George Hays' PhD. dissertation *American "Foreign Policy" in Film* for the lesser defense, I see no reason to repeat what is stated in my previous evaluation. The work is well argued, properly referenced, and highly original. George explains well his argument that the democratization of media is accompanied by the democratization of identification. He replaces "inside/outside" with "here/there" when discussing the perception of American foreign policy in the theoretical discourse. I think that George's approach, which concentrates on sub-elite discourse, is most welcome. He has completed editing, which makes the final version of the dissertation clearer to the reader. He emphasizes that, whereas hierarchy and order dominate the elite discourse, the sub-elite discourse emphasizes proximity and moral action. The difference between the elite and sub-elite discourse represents the crux of the work. "America" has different meanings in the two discourses. The conclusion that the respective elite and sub-elite identities differ is sound. The examples cited in the body of the dissertation are more than sufficient.

My overall feeling is that this work should not only be accepted, but also published in book form. I look forward to the final defense. George has done an excellent job.

