* Global politics is about power and the struggle for power
* Contemporary politics is not bipolar, multipolar, or completely unipolar either (in all three the major powers have interest in maintaining the system)
* It is uni-multipolar with one superpower and many major powers
* United States is the super power; major regional powers that are not as capable as the super power and secondary regional powers who are often in conflict with their regionally respective major powers
* Bipolarity during the Cold War was due to the fact that neither super power would actually use the armed force required to create a unipolar system
* In this contemporary system, the major powers do not have an interest in maintaining the system
* Huntington argues that this system is a transition phase to a truly muiltpolar global system
* America is trying very selfishly to return to a completely unipolar system, even though they put a façade of altruistic virtue over their attempts
* America, despite its attempts, is losing power; their means of coercion no longer work and are rarely supported by other countries (economic sanctions and military intervention)
* America’s popularity has been greatly decreasing across the globe (in the article there were flag burnings from all different countries)
* They have been supported by few countries in the U.N. because other nations believe their foreign policies to be completely self-serving
* U.S.’s so-called “benign hegemony” is only how they see themselves; to everyone else they are a “rouge superpower”
* Feelings of animosity mostly spawn from the American ideal that they must interfere in all of the world’s problems, where as countries believe that their own problem are solely theirs
* In response to what they believe is the U.S.’s arrogance, other countries will refuse to cooperate with the U.S. agenda; in an extreme case, these nations may even form a coalition against the U.S.
* This response will result in the natural tendency of a uni-multipolar world to become multipolar
* Some antihegemonic (or antisuperpower) coalitions have begun to appear trying to balance power such as the E.U.
* However there is no global antihegemonic coalition, for many reasons (pp.45-46)
* Of course through cultural commonalities, America has been able to keep its power by rallying some of the support of secondary regional powers who need the U.S. to help them keep major regional powers at bay
* America needs to recognize that they are not in a unipolar world, that they cannot hide the fact that their agenda is not in synch with the values and needs of other nations, that they should elicit cooperation among countries in order to benefit both American and international interests, and that they need to take advantage of cultural commonalities so that they can gain support
* In the end, the world does not want the United States to watch over them
* The world will become multipolar and essentially the “sheriff” position that the U.S. holds now will be replaced with community policing
* It is better for America to be a major power in a multipolar world (pp. 49)