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Strong Leader- President Truman

When it comes to the United States presidency, there have been both strong and charismatic leaders as well as complete washouts and screwups. Harry Truman was one of the most decisive yet controversial presidents in the history of the United States. He made crucial decisions during time of war that, although strongly disputed to this day, proved to be necessary. Already under the many stresses of his position as president, Truman had to also take on the responsibility of millions of lives both at home and abroad during an active conflict. Potentially one of the most difficult choices a president has ever had to make was Truman's decision to drop nuclear bombs on Japan during World War II. This decision had the ability to turn the tide of the war and bring it to an abrupt end, but it would come at the cost of millions of lives instantly. Being responsible for that many deaths would have been a big demoralizer in the process, but Truman accepted that he needed to take that burden to serve his country in the best way he could at that time.

Truman was put in a very complicated position from day one of his presidency. President Roosevelt, the longest serving president in United States history, had died suddenly and he was left with some fairly large shoes to fill. Truman exemplified a great amount of leadership. He took his strategic view and supported it in a way that encouraged others to as well. President Truman was faced with making more crucial decisions than perhaps any other president so far, but he handled them in a collected and responsible way. Not only did president Truman make the decision to drop the two nuclear bombs on Japan, but he took all of the scorn and hate that came from it as well, not blaming the scientists or advisors that he had consulted to make his decision. Essentially, Truman handled the situation to the best of his abilities, which can be amounted to nothing short of admirable. Although his decision is considered contentious by many, no one can deny that the way he handled the repercussions was with class and decency.

Many of Truman's decisions are controversial, but most would agree that the way in which he handled every aspect of his decision-making and its outcome was right. Some decisions do not have a right answer, and Truman was faced with these types of choices. His decisions (as with anyone else's) could never be agreed with by everyone, but the way he handled himself is something that can be. Truman may not be respected by everyone for his decisions, but he is most certainly respected for the ways that he dealt with their results. He took responsibility for his actions, something that unfortunately cannot be said for every leader. Conservative or liberal, Truman is considered by many to be one of the greatest presidents in United States history.