

Viewpoints on the Atomic Bomb:

Against:

- **Japan was trying to negotiate a peace with the U.S. through the Russians.**
- **Weapon was used to scare the Soviets (demands in Eastern Europe)**
- **Not necessary to drop two bombs.**
- **U.S. could have dropped the bomb on an uninhabited island.**
- **Moral issue: killing of more than 100,000 civilians**

For:

- **Japanese would not surrender unconditionally.**
- **Bombs were not used to scare the Soviets.**
- **Dropping the bombs on an uninhabited island would have wasted a bomb and precious time (what if the bomb did not work?)**

- Shortened the war and saved lives (between 25,000 and 500,000 - estimates vary).