Here are three possible opinions from very different people about whether Germany was right or wrong for sinking the Lusitania. Have a read of them below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A person from Germany alive at the time.** | **An American survivor of the sinking.** | **A scientist studying the event.** |
| *I feel that Germany was absolutely right to sink the Lusitania. Did you know that the British Royal Navy ships were blocking food reaching our country at the time? My husband was off fighting and I had 3 children who I could barely give food to because there was hardly any left. Imagine what it must have felt like to be a mother and watch your young children growing weaker by the day!**Our country (Germany) could not have afforded to let the Lusitania bring more weapons over to help the British. Our government even warned passengers not to get on the ship! Finally, don’t for one second think that we are the bad guys. 202 out of 375 of our submarines were blown up – that’s nearly 6,500 people dead.*  | *What Germany did was absolutely disgraceful. How could they have killed innocent people who had nothing to do with the war? The submarine could have done what British ships did at the time and forced us into the nearest port to be searched from top to bottom. That would have told them whether the ship was carrying bombs without killing over 1,000 people!**In addition to this, what Germany did was totally illegal. The law stated that if you are going to blow a ship up that isn’t involved in the war, you have to give the passengers time to get off and escape. Did Germany do that? No. Do I believe that Germany is responsible for me losing my husband and 3 children? Yes!* | *It is very tricky to know if the Lusitania was carrying bombs and bullets to help the British or not. I mean, that mysterious second explosion was not caused by just air was it? There must have been something dodgy going on. Although my friend did tell me that the explosion could have been the torpedo hitting the boilers in the boiler room.**I have run tests on my computer and I have discovered that if there were bombs and bullets on board, they would have exploded instantly. The second explosion happened 15 seconds after the first. It does not take 15 seconds for a bomb to go off…which does make me wonder if there were any weapons on board in the first place.* |