**Social Injustice Blog Project**

Lang-Nerds,

You will

* In groups of four create a weebly page for your group or this project can be done one one members existing weebly page.

Step 1: choose a researchable topic about a social injustice that you care about as a group. The topic must be arguable, relevant, and current. Some examples are provided for you. **\_\_\_\_\_/1 (due 1/11)**

* African Americans and marriage
* Bullying
* Climate Change
* College Education Vs. Trade
* Colorism
* Domestic violence
* Education reform
* Gay rights
* Gender inequality
* Gendercide/feticide
* Gun control
* Healthcare
* Human trafficking
* Illegal immigration
* Interracial dating
* Israeli- Palestinian conflict
* Marriage perception of different ethnicities
* Mass incarceration of African Americans
* Outsourcing
* Police brutality/killings
* Prison reform
* Prison to pipeline
* Public education
* Racial profiling
* Single parenting
* Social Media
* Social welfare programs
* Standardized Testing
* Stereotyping
* Sweat shop labor
* Terrorism (domestic and foreign)
* Unemployment
* Violence in the African American community

Step 2: Work with your group to brainstorm multiple factors, positions, perspectives related to your topic. **\_\_\_\_/10 (due 1/11)**

Step 3: From your brainstorm, choose FOUR factors, positions, perspectives that will be research **(due 1/11)**

Step 4: Each group member should then be assigned a factor/position/perspective to research **(due 1/11)**

**Step 5: Individually, you are going to choose TEN sources specific to your assigned “piece of the puzzle”** in regards to your group’s topic. This will ensure that your group will be providing sources that show the complexity of the issue.

Therefore, when choosing your sources, keep several guidelines in mind:

1) Choose sources which cover a variety of viewpoints on your assigned factor, making sure to keep sides “even”

2) Choose sources from a wide variety of locations and formats. Use the list below as guidance; it is certainly not all-inclusive. Requirements are in CAPITAL letters. Beyond those required types, you may choose the rest of your sources at your discretion. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jHaBQENTNk>

\*\* ACADEMIC JOURNAL

\*\* DATA

Documentary  
Essay by an expert

Field-Specific Magazine

Government Publication

Government Website

Graph  
\*\* IMAGE

Letter to editor

Local Newspaper

National Newspaper (online or print editions)

\*\* NEWS WEBSITE  
Online Article (about.com, Wikipedia, etc.)

\*\* EDITORIAL (from newspaper/magazine)

Poll Results

Popular Magazine (*People, Time, Newsweek)*

Primary Book Source  
Private Web Page or Blog  
Published letter from an individual

Transcript of Oral Commentary or Interview

3) Consider the validity of your sources. It is okay to have an opinion piece which could obviously be biased, but make sure that the source is still reliable. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyMT08mD7Ds>

4) Your sources should be a combination of opinion and factual writing. It’s hard to “have a conversation” with facts so make sure that you’re getting sources that talk about the issue, rather than just defining it or giving background information

5) Think “outside the box” when looking for sources. The most obvious choices are not always the best.

Step 6: Individually, complete an annotated bibliography for all ten sources. An annotated bibliography is a glorified Works Cited page. Each source citation must be formatted according to MLA format with an annotation (“blurb (minimum150 words)” of explanation). **\_\_\_\_\_\_/100 (due 1/22)**

What is an annotate bibliography <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0Hsnx0l1q4>

How to write an annotated bibliography: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oj9wngepvdw>

* An annotated bibliography is essentially a Works Cited page that you will create. However, rather than simply refer to the sources used in your response, it will include all 10 of the sources that you have found for your project. Your annotated bibliography will likely be 4-5 pages long.
* Three sample has been provided for your perusal.  
  An annotated bibliography consists of two parts: the citation and commentary about it (the annotation).

*\*Book*

**Washington, George and Nathaniel Greene. *Military Strategies: On a Limited Budget.* Boston: Colonial Press, 1799. Print.**Geared for both a broad audience and professional military historians this book provides an insight into the financial crises involved in the war. The authors show the importance and reliance on foreign currency and support in the prosecuting of the war. The authors share their first hand experience of deprivation and include a list of books that they used in planning military strategy. By common consensus the authors were the best American generals and so their book is a valuable resource in understanding the relationship between economics and strategy. Chapter Two of the book is particularly useful since it contains Washington’s and Greene’s plans for the Battle of Manhattan.

*\*Website*

**“How We Survived Camp Living.” *Revolutionary War Camping*. n.p., 12 Oct. 2008. Web. 25 Oct. 2008**This site provides basic information about camp life. In addition to basic information about supplies, shelter and food, it also raises some important issues about gender and status. It is a commercial site rather than an academic site, and the author is unknown, however there are several primary source documents that lend authenticity and that are useful to students completing this project. There are only a few images on this website, mostly line drawings that do not provide enough detail to truly illustrate camp life during the Revolutionary War.

*\*Article*

**Adams, Samuel, John Adams and Paul Revere. “The Importance of Beer and Taverns in the American Revolution.” American Journal of Social History. 97.3 (2008), 354-382. JSTOR. Web. 25 Oct. 2008.**

This article discusses the importance of beer and taverns in bringing together discussion of the American Rebellion. It draws on the first hand experience of three Revolutionaries and their experiences in the pub. The article includes discussion of social class. Written for a scholarly audience, the article demonstrates that even though the Revolutionaries were fighting for Liberty, it was a relative term and a dangerous one. The authors all had firsthand experience in the Revolution and write from different perspectives. The editor has provided a literature review as well as an extensive bibliography. The summary and general discussion provided a useful overview of the conclusions drawn by the authors and could be used in the research paper to support a conclusion.

* **First,** create an accurate citation for each of your sources. This could get complicated, depending on the type of source you are using. Don’t rely on an online citation-maker to complete this task for you. It’s always best to create them by hand and let your teacher check them for accuracy!! The first question I will ask is what type of source is it and where did you find it, so make sure you have that info available. You can use resources such as Owl Perdue to formatting help
* **Second**, to accompany each citation, you will write an annotation which describes and evaluates that particular source. Annotations are usually between 150 and 200 words long. Include the following information for each source:

-  Brief summary of source: What are the main points? Overview of examples? What side of the issue is it addressing?

-  Evaluate the source: Why did you choose this source? Is it expository, persuasive, narrative, analytical, etc. How will it be useful to someone responding to your question? Is it reliable or biased? Does it address more than one complexity of the topic?

Be sure to follow MLA Formatting for your Bibliography, exactly the same way it is in the example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AJbwJw9YZPs>

-  Use a hanging indent

-  Entirely double-spaced, no extra spaces in between citations

-  Make sure that an entire line of text is being used before jumping down to the next line.

Step 7: Based on your chosen factor, each group member will write TWO 700-800 word editorials (like you are a columnist) from two different perspectives/angles/positions, with two different purposes and audiences. **\_\_\_\_\_/300 (due 2/11)**

How to write an editorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvOgOWD-rPM>

* Based on your topic and your angle you can:
  + *Explaining or interpreting*: This format is used to explain how and why you took a certain stance on a controversial subject.
  + *Criticizing*: This format criticizes actions or decisions made on a third party's part in addition to offering a better solution. It's more to get the readers to see that there is a larger problem at hand.
  + *Persuading*: This type is used to move the reader to action, concentrating on solutions, not the problem.
  + *Praising*: This format is used to show support for people and organizations in the community that have done something notable
* Determine the purpose of your article and the tone that you will use to convey that purpose
* As you write your articles, you should have specific rhetorical strategic in mind that you will use to sway your audience of your purpose.
* **Lead with an objective explanation of the issue.** The body of your work should explain the issue objectively, as a reporter would, and tell why this situation is important to the reader or community as a whole
* **Present your reasons/evidence that *directly refute the opposition***
* **Build your argument.** Your sources should be integrated meaningfully and cohesively into YOUR OWN NEW OPINION. The point is not just to repeat what the sources have said, but to “have a conversation” with them, in which you are a participant, not a reporter. Quotations must be integrated and properly cited within the text.
* Your articles should be a mixture of your voice (70%) and cited sources (30%).
* **Present the opposing argument and make concessions to the validity of the opposing arguments.**
* **Strengthen your argument with analogies**
* **Provide several solutions**
* **Conclude your editorial with a punch.** A note-worthy statement would forever engrave the editorial into the reader's mind. Use quotes or a question that would make the readers think hard
* As a group, add articles, annotated bibliography, videos, images, graphics to your blog. Be sure that the final product looks professional and polished **\_\_\_\_/25 (Due 2/11)**

YOU ARE DONE AND CAN BREATHE FOR A ABOUT A WEEK THEN AND GET READY FOR YOUR DOCUMENTARY!!!!!!!!!!!