

Core American Values Current Events Activity

In this activity you will use what we have discussed about core American political values to evaluate whether or not a recent event in the news either fulfills or denies those values. This assignment will give you the opportunity both to apply the values we have learned about to a contemporary real world situation, and to practice what we have learned about using the internet effectively as a source of accurate information. It will also allow me to read a sample of your writing. The group part of the project is worth 10 points and the individual paragraph is worth 30 points.

Here is the assignment:

In your groups:

- Using the techniques for effective internet research discussed in class, identify a short article about a current event that your group feels either fulfills or denies one or more of the core American political values discussed in class.
- When you have identified an article you think meets the standards for internet research laid out in class, get Mr. Haydock's approval for the article.
- Click on [this link](#) to access the source analysis template (or use the hardcopy provided in class)
- As a group, discuss and fill out the source analysis template provided in class based on the article and what you and your group are able to learn about the author and the publication (everybody should fill out their own template but all members of the group should have the same information)
- Brainstorm with your group the ways that the article either fulfills or rejects one or more of the core American values. Record this brainstorm on the back of the source analysis template.

On your own

- Read the article and think about how the events described either fulfill or deny one or more of the core American political values described in class.
- Use the BMP/Claims paragraph template to outline a paragraph that either claims that the events described deny and or fulfill one or more of the core American political values described in class. Your topic sentence should introduce the event and clearly indicate whether you will argue that the event in question denies and or fulfills one or more of the core American political values. You should include three examples/quotations from the article and explain how each supports the argument made in your topic sentence.
- After you have outlined your paragraph on the template, use the outline to structure your paragraph. Your paragraph should be 8-12 sentences in length and should be fully proofread when turned in.
- Use parenthetical citations to indicate the source of your quotes. The citation should go after the quotation mark but before the period. Parenthetical citations should indicate the last name of the author and the year of publication only)
- Include a full bibliographic citation at the end of the paragraph. See [this link](#) for how to format parenthetical citations and full bibliographic citations.

The group part of the project is due on: _____

The individual part of the assignment is due on: _____