

Persuasive Essay #1 - Ms. Kittelson, 2011-2012

Write a 600+ word persuasive essay in which you convincingly answer one of the following controversial questions:

- Should all forms of abortion become illegal?
- Should homosexuals be granted the same marriage rights as heterosexuals?
- Should public schools include as part of their curriculum “Intelligent Design”?
- Does God exist?
- Should students be allowed to use iPods or MP3 players in class?
- Should handguns be banned in the U.S.?
- Should children be given the right to vote in political elections, and if so, at what age?
- Should violent video games be banned?
- Other [controversial](#) question of your choice

In your essay follow the following outline:

- Introduction that starts with a hook and ends with a clear, strong **thesis** statement
- Body paragraph #1 with a clear, strong **topic sentence** that states **Reason #1**, that includes logical **support** and that ends with a **concluding sentence** relating that support to the thesis
- Body paragraph #2 with a clear, strong **topic sentence** that states **Reason #2**, that includes logical **support** and that ends with a **concluding sentence** relating that support to the thesis
- Body paragraph #3 with a clear, strong **topic sentence** that states **Reason #3**, that includes logical **support** and that ends with a **concluding sentence** relating that support to the thesis
- Counter-argument which states what the opposition might say and which then **counters that opposition**
- Conclusion that **restates the thesis**, the reasons and perhaps makes a plea for some sort of action

Also, perhaps, consider **ethos** (your credibility, which will be in effect if you are simply well spoken), **logos** (great reasons with lots of support/evidence) and **pathos** (heart-felt story or other appeal to emotion)

The rough draft is due at the end of class Wednesday, August 31, 2011

The final draft is due typed and in [MLA format](#) Wednesday, September 7, 2011

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