

HIGH SCHOOL CIVICS PROJECT

Required Tasks: Each of the following tasks must be submitted before handing in the final paper.

Pre-Tasks

1. Identify a Civic Issue Problem (ie. National Issue, State Issue, Local Issue)
2. Identify the level and branch of government where the policy is being debated.
3. Identify how the issue is affecting your community

Task 1: Background & Overall Issue/Controversy

A. Provide background information on your specific policy.

- * What is the Civic Issue Problem? (ie. Crime, Poverty, Economic Issues)
- *What government body is being asked to address change? (Local, State, National)
- * Is there any current agency advocating for change? When? Why? How?

B. Positions on the issue.

- *What are two perspectives (SIDES) of this issue?
- *Identify two interest groups (one on each side) who are involved with influencing your specific policy and list one action taken by each group.

Task 2: Organizations

A. Organizations:

- * Identify at least 2 organizations that have been working to influence your specific topic. Explain why these organizations care and how the policy is related to their overall mission.

B. For each organization you should:

- * Research the specific actions each group has taken to influence your specific public policy (ie. lobbying, petitions, rallies, posts, etc.).
- * Identify, to the extent possible, the resources (money, manpower, social media presence, celebrity endorsement, etc.) each organization has.
- * Research and describe the goals and future plans each organization has to influence the specific public policy
- * How effective has each group been so far?

Task 3: Data Collection and Analysis

A. Data Collection

- *Organize a survey (or other manner) to collect data from your community concerning the specific issue and ways to solve the issue

B. Analysis

- *Analyze the data and developing a course of action to combat the issue based on the data

Task 4: Trends and Action

A. Recent social and political trends:

*Political: What has been the outcome of other/ similar recent bills, lawsuits, or ballot initiatives regarding this policy?

*Social: What citizen-driven movements, and/or current events, such as marches, walk-outs, social media campaigns, petitions, etc. have occurred related to this policy?

*Analysis: How does the debate over your specific public policy reflect larger political and social trends? How will these recent political and social trends likely impact the outcome of your specific public policy?

B. Action

*What further steps would be necessary for your policy to be resolved?

Final Paper Submission: Combine all three tasks into one cohesive and analytical research paper, adding a conclusion that evaluates your specific topic; its chances of becoming policy and if this policy will be beneficial to the people. See Below Guidelines for specifics

Guidelines

Task 1: Introductory Paragraph (Paragraph 1)

- Clear thesis statement and clear description of policy issue under review.
- Thesis statement states position, but does not contribute persuasively to policy argument.
- 3 Sentences

Task 1: Body Paragraph 2 and 3

Task A

- Background Information
- Minimum 5-6 sentences

Task B

- State two positions of the side
- Minimum 3-4 sentences for each side

Task 2: Organizations (Body Paragraph 4)

- Minimum 4-5 sentences explaining each organizations position on the issue

Task 3: Data Collection (Body Paragraph 5)

- Submit copy of survey (or other mode of collection)
- Submit results of survey
- Minimum of 4-5 sentences to describe the data and analysis based on results

Task 4: Trends and Action (Body Paragraph 6/7)

-Task A: Trends

- Minimum of 6-7 sentences
- Political (2 sentences)
- Social (2 sentences)
- Analysis (2 sentences)

-Task B: Action

- Minimum of 6-7 sentences
- Future Action by level of Government Involved

Task 5: Concluding Paragraph (Paragraph 8)

- Clear thesis statement and clear description of policy issue under review.
- States position on how to set a course of action for change
- Minimum 3 sentences

DUE DATES

PARAGRAPH 1-3

Due by Friday May 6, 2022o9

PARAGRAPH 4-5

Due by Friday May 20, 2022

PARAGRAPH 6-8

Due by Friday Jun 3, 2022