

## Social Issue Research Project Brainstorm

Term 4 in Sophomore English will culminate in the creation of a research project where students will research a social issue of their choosing using the PRESS model for problem solving.

Possible broad topics (we will help students narrow down within broad categories):

- Racism
- Sexism
- Climate Change
- LGBTQ+
- Immigration
- Homelessness/ Poverty

Choose a social issue you care about and brainstorm ideas that you could write about for your research project. You may need to do some preliminary research to complete this assignment.

<p><b>Problem Awareness (2-3 paragraphs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is the issue? Describe/define.</li> <li>● Do people believe that it is an issue? What is the general consensus of society?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Root Cause Analysis (2-3 paragraphs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is the root cause of the issue?</li> <li>● Why do people think the way they do today about the issue?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Empathy (1-2 paragraphs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why do you care about this issue?</li> <li>● When did you realize you cared about this issue?</li> <li>● What personal connections do you have to the topic?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Strategy (1-2 paragraphs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Based on your research in problem awareness and root cause analysis, what are some strategies that our government can use to resolve the issue? (i.e. policies)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Sacrifice (1 paragraph)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Call to action - what can YOU do in your own sphere of influence to work towards resolving the issue? How will you maintain a commitment?</li> </ul>	

Research process adapted from and guided by Robert Livingston's PRESS Model for problem solving: Livingston, Robert. *The Conversation*. Random House LLC, New York. 2021.

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