Research Paper

English 10

Over the next few weeks you will be writing a research paper on civil rights. This topic will tie into the novel we will be reading, *To Kill a Mockingbird.* You will select from one of the topics listed at the bottom of this page. If you select option #2, you must sign up with Mrs. Allen. Only one person may select a person in each class. The majority of this project will be completed OUTSIDE of the classroom; however there are days we will spend in the library lab provided everyone is using their time wisely.

**Due Date**: Friday, May 9, 2014

**Requirements**: 3-5 pages in length typed; MLA format; in-text citations with work cited; introduction with a thesis; summative conclusion; 3-5 different sources used.

**Skills**: Skills developed throughout this process will be summarizing, paraphrasing, plagiarism prevention, developing a thesis, gathering information, and organizing a paper.

**Sources**: Books and magazines are acceptable. Electronic sources should come from NetTrecker, Gale, and United Streaming.

**Topics**:

#1 Investigate a Supreme Court decision that deals with segregation, such as Plessy v. Ferguson or Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas. Answer the following questions about the case you choose.

* Why did the case come to trial?
* In what region of the United States did the case originate?
* What was the Supreme Court’s decision?
* What was the Supreme Court’s justification for the ruling?
* What were some of the statements given by any justice who disagreed with the verdict?
* How did the ruling impact society?

#2 Prepare a report on a person who has taken a stand. Explain the issue, the person’s reasons for taking a stand, the personal consequences of taking a stand, and the societal consequences for taking a stand. You may consider any of the following people or find one of your own (must be approved).

* Mahatma Gandhi
* Susan B. Anthony
* Sojourner Truth
* Rosa Parks
* Harriet Tubman
* Upton Sinclair
* Cesar Chavez
* Alice Paul
* Martin Luther King Jr.
* Malcolm X
* Nelson Mandela
* Betty Friedan
* Harvey Milk
* Ryan White
* Salvador Castro
* the first person to integrate a school or profession