

More info about Opposing Viewpoints, for those of you who need some help...

Dear students,

I've had a few students with questions about which kinds of articles are acceptable for Essay #1, and a few students who are concerned that the article they chose did not have an author. For example, one student chose to click on "School Violence" from the "Society and Culture" link, and then clicked on "More Info" from that first page when he or she got to the "School Violence" page--but there was no author.

That student had chosen a piece that is written by the Gale library (which runs the Opposing VP website), and it's an overview of the topic... It's like a Wikipedia-type article (not in that anyone can add to it, but that it is only an overview, not expressing an opinion or making an argument, but giving background information and historical context like an encyclopedia entry or textbook page would do). *So this is not an acceptable article for the Essay #1 assignment since it's not making an argument.*

Instead, the student (and you, if you're having this problem) should keep scrolling down that first page to where you see boxes that say **"FEATURED VIEWPOINTS,"** and **"VIEWPOINTS,"** and start exploring there.

For instance, there's an article there title **"Cyberbullying Among Students Is Serious, but It Is Not an Epidemic,"** written by **Larry Magid** (if you click on the title and scroll ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE, you'll see "Source Citation" which gives the author info, and the info you will use for your Reference page (*except, this citation is NOT in APA format, so you'll need to use the info to reformat it for APA, according to your handbook in your textbook*).

You may choose any article you wish, as long as it makes an argument, since the whole point of Essay #1 Assignment is to analyze and evaluate whether or not the argument was successful, i.e., whether or not, for instance, Larry made his case about Cyberbullying...

The point is not to make your own argument about Cyberbullying... that'll come in the next essays. Your only job here is to tell us if the author has made appeals to ethos, pathos, logos, and if so, how, and were they successful; did the author have holes in the argument (fallacies); and was the overall case made (i.e., what was the main point of the argument? and was it successful?)?

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

All best,

Mrs. G