Human Rights Classroom Blog

**What:** *A blog designed for outside of the classroom activity that encourages students to seek out learning beyond what we are able to cover in class. The blog is a space for respectful opinions and active engagement in our world.*

**How:** *You will respond to a variety of posts on each Monday and Thursday during the unit by 10pm. The blog posts will be organized in a way that insight you to respond using critical thinking skills and well though out responses. In addition to responding to blog posts, you are also encouraged to post to the blog any information or activity you find relevant or educational.*

*I will model each blog beforehand to show you an example of what I am expecting; however, I encourage you to use your creativity to research new information or ways of thinking and share those responses as well.*

**Why:** *We are working on a blog because it teaches us to work together as a team, to effectively appreciate others' contribution, and most importantly teaches us how to effectively use and respond to media, thus improving our media literacy.*

**Grading:** *There will be 6 total blog responses assigned. 15 points each totaling 90 points*

*You will also be graded on "good sportsmanship" for a total of 30 points*

*This makes the entire blog assignment worth 120 points*

**Blog Responses:**

1. Today's response will be to summarize their responses to the scavenger hunt pinpointing at least 3 new concepts or ideas that you learned from the hunt. Feel free to use statistics, upload images or links, or raise pertinent questions in your response. Also, ask one broad question that you hope to have answered or develop over the course of this unit.

2. After watching the episode of world of Jenks think about some of the misconceptions you have about people. List 5 things that you frequently judge about people. Then Google a picture, and write a brief storyline about that person different from the supposed stereotypes you would traditionally use.

3. http://filipspagnoli.wordpress.com/

Visit this blog (or if you find another that is similar in content, you may use that) and "re-tweet" or repost one of their blog posts that you find interesting. Do not repeat a post that someone else in class has already reposted. After that, describe the dilemma within the post and describe why it captured your attention.

4. Watch this video on Human Rights: http://chab.samhsa.gov/(S(0ofvdy45a3f2gwa10quauubk))/Resource/View.aspx?id=48079&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1

Then read each of the 30 human rights found @ http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml

Your blog response should be to list your top 5 human rights and explain why. They can be new Rights or a variety picked from the universal rights. Explanations should state why this is a human right, and why it is within the top 5 and thus more important than other rights.

5. Reflect on the initial stage of working on your life project. Each one of you has a different scenario of life and challenges. List the top 2 things you are currently struggling to overcome in assembling your project: do you need more money? More time? A better car? Describe the hardest struggle you have had. Be specific.

6. Read this article: http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/05/11/california-foster-children-homeless-adults

Then you have three options:

1. Design a solution for foster kids being without a home: Try to think long term and in

depth. Think about costs, resources, and support.

2. Write a "letter to the editor" in response to this piece.

3. Find a series of photos or design your own that describe this situation.