

Article Summary

Each week students will search reliable news publications (Detroit News, New York Times, Time, Newsweek, etc.) on-line to find an article that related to the reading assignment for that week. Students will write a one-page summation. With the following criteria: summary of the article, relation to the class (minimum of one full paragraph) and student's thoughts on the article. Students will also need to provide documentation on the article it self. Source/Publication, Title, Author and Date. Students will up-load this assignment to their student folder and submit for grading. Students will submit a total of eight article summaries, for 25 points each. Below is what the summary should look like

Source

<http://www.detnews.com/2005/specialreport/0502/06/A01-80870.htm>

The Values Agenda

Moral issues spark push to alter society

Since Bush's re-election, more people have become vocal about their positions.

By Lisa Zagaroli / Detroit News Washington Bureau

February 6, 2005

Article Summary

Religious conservatives, who voted their values in the last election and discovered their power, aren't planning to stop with re-electing a devout Christian in the White House and passing nearly a dozen same-sex marriage bans across the states. "People say you can't legislate morality," says the Rev. Marvin Winans, the Pentecostal pastor of the 3,000-member Perfecting Church in Detroit. "Our nation's laws must be rooted in constitutional values and reasoned analysis, not someone's personal take on scripture," says the Rev. Barry W. Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The concept of the "values voter" first emerged in an exit poll after the election, when more people -- 22 percent -- selected "moral values" as the one issue that mattered most in deciding how they voted for president. Eighty percent of the voters who picked moral values chose Bush. "The religious conservative groups feel especially emboldened, not only about their religiosity in the public square, but also they're not reluctant to push more strongly on their policy views," says Mark Rozell, a public policy professor at George Mason University.

Relation to the Class

The article relates to the class under two main topic headings, religion and politics. In reality it pulls at sociology as a topic overall with issues of socialization, deviance, norms and homosexuality. The separation of church and state is fundamental to the law of this country. Yet the encroachment of religion into the functioning of society and the laws that govern it are prolific. Socialization is process of teaching fundamentals of behavior, but it also serves as a basis for teaching moral behavior. While many morals have foundations in religious doctrine, many do not. There is even considerable debate among the religious communities on what is and is not moral behavior. Those morals that are not of religious values also strike at the very foundation of equality. In addition, looking to politicians to set the moral example and lead the country in a "Christian" manner it only continues to promote religious equality and ethnocentrism.

Students Thoughts