First and Last Name
ENG 100
Assignment #3: Film-Based Argument
Due: Draft #1 posted to your blog by 11:59 pm on 3/23 / Draft #2 posted to your blog by final portfolio deadline (if you choose to revise this assignment and not assignment #2)

Assignment #3: *Film-Based Argument*

Prompt: Please watch and annotate the film *Survivor* so you can write an argument that answers ONE of these student-generated questions:

- o What major obligations informed/inspired Kate Abbott's actions?
- o Which criteria could have Kate used to determine which people she could trust?
- o What are the most effective strategies to prevent terrorist attacks in America?
- o Can the 9/11 attacks justify American citizens being more suspicious toward Muslims?
- o Can recent terroristic attacks across the world justify an American governmental ban on Muslims from specific countries?
- o Should America allow immigrants into the country?
- o How can the impact of writing compare to a main character's role in changing the world?
- o Can a person morally justify dying for a cause?
- o Can a person mortally justify killing another person?
- o In what ways could you defend/contextualize a specific character's actions in the film?

Genre: Research paper

Process Drafts: You will begin your first draft in class.

- • Draft #1: 750-word source-based paper that uses informal citation of the film (to be included in midterm portfolio)
- • Draft #2: 1,500-word source-based paper that uses formal citation (MLA or APA style) with at least four sources (if you choose to revise this piece and include in your final portfolio)

Purpose: To persuade.

Audience: Your primary audience is people who do not agree with your opinion/position. Your secondary audience is your teacher and other folks who visit your blog.

Style: A thesis-driven, source-based, argumentative text that uses a conversational and appropriate tone for your audience. Remember to use informal citations where you provide the titles and author names of reference materials. If you choose to write draft #2 for your final portfolio, please use either APA or MLA style to cite at least four separate sources.

Focus: Answer one of the questions provided in the prompt. Your argument can focus on one scene in the film, or one character's issues/worldviews, or one specific theme, or one specific definition—to give a few examples. In addition, you can choose to focus on a global issue that connects to a major theme in the film: this approach would reference the film in the beginning of the paper and then shift the focus away from the film and toward events in the real world.

Thesis: Your thesis statement must communicate the paper's central claim and use a topic, position, and support model (TPS). The thesis statement should be the last sentence in the introduction.

Counter-argument/Rebuttal: Please provide at least one counter-argument and rebuttal.

Product: This assignment should be around 750 words for the first draft and 1,500 words for the second draft. For the written text, please format as follows: 12-point font, double-spacing. Please include an original title centered at the top of the project. We will use these criteria to evaluate your project:

- _____ Your argument is directed to a clear audience.
- _____ Your argument cites source materials—with the film serving as your primary source.
- _____ Your argument has a clear purpose: persuade.
- _____ Your argument provides a clear TPS thesis statement.
- _____ Your argument provides at least one counterargument and rebuttal.
- _____ Your argument shows signs of careful proofreading with minimal grammatical, spelling errors.