

First and Last Name

ENG 050

Formal Assignment #2: Op-Ed, Draft # \_

Due Date: 6.11.19

**Formal Assignment #2: Op-Ed**

**Prompt:** Please watch [Miss Representation](#) and [The Mask You Live In](#). Then select source materials from one or both films to compose an op-ed argument that answers one of these research questions (**circle one**):

- What are the most dangerous male/female archetypes in American media?
- How can American parents redefine masculinity for their sons?
- Does America's traditional definition of masculinity oppress young boys?
- Is American masculinity organic?
- What are the benefits of America's traditional definition of masculinity?
- Does media bias prevent young girls from achieving positions of power in American society?
- Does American media promote violence toward men/women?
- Can parents raise children in a gender-neutral environment?
- How does social media animate toxic behaviors in teenage girls/boys?
- What emotions can best counter the emotions of anger?
- What masks do I live in?
- How will a one-week social-media detox impact my emotional well-being?
- Insert own question: \_\_\_\_\_?

**Sources (circle one or both):** *Miss Representation* | *The Mask You Live In*. Your paper must reference one of these films as a primary source. You do not need to reference both films in the paper. You decide if the paper needs additional outside sources.

**Additional Sources:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Rhetorical Purpose:** Persuade.

**Rhetorical Mode:** Argumentation.

**Genre:** Op-Ed.

**Citation Style:** Informal.

**Audience:** Your primary audience is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Focus (circle one):** Personal experiences | Global experiences | Hybrid (Global with some personal experiences).

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

- American parents can redefine masculinity for their sons by promoting empathy, reducing access to violent media, and modeling how to engage in healthy dialogue.

**Counter-Argument/Rebuttal:** In your text, imagine and address a naysayer's argument against your position.

**Notes:**

**Process:** First, watch both films. Second, *Think On Paper* about the issues surrounding the research topic: freewrite, list, cluster, discuss, and read research papers authored by previous students. Third, research additional resource materials that will inform your argument.

**Product:** This paper should be around 500 words and formatted as follows: one-inch margins, 12-point font, and double-spaced. Please include an original title centered at the top of the essay. This doesn't count as an original title: *Op-Ed*. We will use these criteria to evaluate how your op-ed:

- \_\_\_\_\_ answers the research question using clear, source-based supporting points;
- \_\_\_\_\_ uses in-text citations to reference at least one of the films;
- \_\_\_\_\_ communicates a consistent rhetorical purpose to persuade;
- \_\_\_\_\_ provides a clear thesis statement;
- \_\_\_\_\_ articulates a rebuttal to a naysayer's counter-argument;
- \_\_\_\_\_ incorporates language that is appropriate and compelling for the audience (tone, style, diction);
- \_\_\_\_\_ shows signs of careful proofreading, with minimal grammatical or spelling errors;
- \_\_\_\_\_ reaches 500 words.

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