

Essay Assignment #3 Persuasion and Argument

- **WHAT WE'RE DOING** Many times we find ourselves writing a piece of argumentation without even realizing it. If you arouse sympathy, stimulate interest or seek to win agreement with your thesis statement, you are persuading to some degree. When you support a cause, refute a theory or viewpoint or urge your reader to take some action, you are writing an argumentative piece.

You may appeal to your readers' sense of fair play or ethics, you may present a logical argument, or you may make an emotional appeal. Often, you combine these kinds of argumentation.

Always consider your audience. How much do they know about your topic/thesis? You will want to answer questions raised and consider other viewpoints so you can present a balanced argument.

- **THE CHOICE** Select one (1) item from pp.568-570 in our textbook. Be certain you choose a topic which interests you. This should not be the easiest topic. You may feel more satisfaction in choosing a topic which may present some difficulty but is somehow attractive or intriguing.

For Essay #2, you have six (6) choices, which are detailed on pp. 568-570 in the text. Use one or more forms of persuasive appeal: to reason, to emotion, to integrity/character. The pieces by King and Liu, et al, in your text employ a combination of these appeals.

Be sure to state your claim or main point (thesis) early and back it up with specific details and evidence.

Length 1 ½ to 2 ½ pages. Due: April 23

*Please have 1 – 2 photocopies available for peer evaluation.