English-2 Research Project: Human Rights Issues

The First Step—Exploration: You will be spending nearly a quarter with this topic. For this reason, I want you to be sure you are researching something you are interested in. In addition, there are many topics that would allow for interesting research; however, you may be unfamiliar with them.

For this reason I am asking you to complete a Topic Exploration assignment. During this assignment, you will find general information about a minimum of four different topics and then select your top three choices. This way, when your name is called in the topic selection lottery you may have a chance to sign-up for one of your top three choices. Topic Selection Lottery will take place on Monday, April 30th.

Topics of Study

NOTE: THE BOLD WORD IS A RESEARCH AREA. YOU WILL NEED TO SELECT A FOCUS TOPIC IN THAT AREA.

I. Genocide
   1) Darfur, Sudan
   2) Rwanda
   3) Cambodia
   4) Armenia
   5) Iraq
   6) Bosnia
   7) Sierra Leone
   8) Syria
   9) Burma—the Rohingya

II. Women’s Rights
   1) Pick a country of your choice
   or
   Some Countries Students Have Had Success Researching in the Past Include:
   2) Afghanistan—Before and After the Taliban
   3) Iran
   4) Iraq
   5) Saudi Arabia
   6) India
   7) China

III. Child Labor
   1) Pick a Country of Your Choice
   or
   Pick One of These Other Child Labor Issues:
   2) Blood Diamonds (Sierra Leone)
   3) Child Soldiers (Sierra Leone, Sudan, or Uganda)
   or
   4) Examine Child Labor Worldwide in a Specific Industry
      Example: the clothing industry or agriculture

IV. Human Trafficking
   1) Provide a general overview of Human Trafficking
   or
   2) Pick a country of your choice

Some that students have had success with in the past include:
   • Nepal
   • Thailand
• The USA
• China

V. **Terrorists and “Freedom Fighters”**
1) Sri Lanka-Tamil Tigers
2) Al-Qaeda
3) Syrian Rebels
4) Libyan Rebels
5) Hamas and Hezbollah

VI. **Access to Basic Needs (Food, Water, Shelter, Medical Care, etc.)**

Option #1: Pick a Country
For Example: Haiti, many countries in Africa, Asia, South and Central America

Then Pick a Need or Two:
- access to health care
- access to clean water
- access to food or shelter
- access to education

*NOTE: This research area is often overlooked, but lends itself to interesting research and strong research papers.

Option #2 Pick a need that affects a large part of the world and explore it on the global level
For Example: Access to Clean Water, Affordable Recycling Programs, Access to Food

VII. **Propose Your Own Topic:**

Some topics students have proposed and explored in the past include:

-Gay Marriage
-Poverty in the US
-Education Funding in NH
-The Opioid Crisis
-LGBT Treatment in the Military
-Access to Organic vs. Factory Farmed Food
-Treatment of Transgender Students
-German Teenagers Who Rebelled Against the Holocaust
-Girls’ Access to Education in Africa
-The treatment of illegal immigrants in the US
-Child Brides

If you are thinking about proposing your own topic, chat with me prior to completing your explorations.