**Human Rights Seminar/Discussion/Debate?**

**“No List”**

-What part of NO don’t you understand?-

1. Holocaust (Germany)
2. King Leopold’s Congo (Congo-Belgium)
3. Darfur Crisis (Sudan)

**“Suggestions List”**

-Not required!-

1. Cambodian Killing Fields
2. Spanish Inquisition
3. Catholic Counter-Reformation
4. Mao ze Dong’s 5-year plans (China)
5. Nanjing Massacre (China)
6. Japanese Internment Camps (USA)
7. Guatemalan Genocide
8. Srebenica Genocide (Serbia vs. Bosnia)
9. Holodomor (USSR- Ukraine)
10. Child Soldiers (LRA)- (Africa)
11. Kidnappings (EVERYWHERE)- Pick a specific country to focus on
12. Haitian Massacre (1804)
13. Exploration/ Conquest by Spanish (1492)
14. The “Terror” (France)
15. Apartheid (South Africa)
16. Civil Rights Movement in the USA
17. Partition of India and Removal of Muslims and Hindus
18. Tamil Tigers – Sri Lankan Civil War

**Description of Seminar:** **(Due 5/22 and 5/23)**

During the last week of classes, we will conduct a discussion/seminar/ debate regarding events of your choosing. You will need to be prepared to discuss what you have learned and whether or not someone or some country should be held responsible for violating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**Introduction:**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (**UDHR**) is a declaration that was adopted by the United Nations in 1948 after the events of the Second World War. The declaration represents the first global expression of rights to which all human beings are inherently entitled. Human Rights are a universal concept that must be respected among all cultures. According to historian, Jack Donnelly, everyone is entitled to certain rights, including the rights of life, liberty, and protection against slavery and torture. **Your task** is to research an event from history and prove or disprove that it violated the articles listed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**Task:**

You must write up a report for your research to be brought to class on the first day of the seminars. Any research that you conduct must be organized based on your answers to the following questions. The research must be cited using standard Chicago or APA formatting and you may not copy and paste information (duh). The format for the second half of this piece should be a written opening statement to a court trial. You are playing the prosecution for the crime that was committed, trying to find them guilty! If you succeed, you WIN! If you don’t succeed in convincing the class that your event displays crimes against humanity, then you will lose 2 points from the overall assignment. You will not only be presenting your topic, but you will also present the counter-argument (or defense) of another’s’ case. If you happen to win the counter-argument, you will get an extra two points added on to your overall score. Consider this an informal writing (formal assessment) assignment where complete sentences are required but paragraph format is not. Your product needs to be a **minimum of 2 page single-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman.** *You will also turn in ½ page of written notes taken in class as a response to others statements.*

**Questions:**

For your topic, answer each question in your research paper that was outlined above. Make sure that you know the information so that you can fully discuss it in class the day of the seminars. The questions that you will need to answer are:

1. **What does the Universal Declaration of Human Rights say about the right that every person is entitled to**?
2. Explain the history that may have caused the events in your country. What were the causes of the crisis that occurred?
3. Who is to blame for the deaths in your country? Can we blame a specific person or a group of people? Or an entire nation?
4. What was the intention of the person or group that committed the “crimes against humanity”?
5. Was a specific group targeted in the country or incident? How many people were killed compared to how many were in the country?- statistics are needed as valid evidence and support of your claim
6. What were the short-term/ long-term results of the event?
7. Do you think this was Genocide? If not, do you think someone or some country should be held responsible and if so, what punishments should they receive? (aka should they be found guilty of crimes against humanity?)
8. For the purpose of discussion/ debate, could someone consider this incident to not be Genocide? Why or Why not.

**\* Describe any additional information that may be pertinent to the topic.**