**Social Action Research Guide**

**Questions to consider:**

1. What is the situation you’d like to do something about?
2. Where is the problem occurring?
3. Who is affected?
4. Why is the situation happening?
5. Why does something need to be done?
6. What are the short- and long- term effects of the problem?
7. What do people in the affected community want to make happen?
8. What is already being done to address the problem?
9. What groups are involved in the effort to make a change?
10. What can you do?

**Requirements**: 2- page research paper not including the works cited page; MLA format; minimum of 3 sources

**MLA Tips**

**Formatting:**

* **1” margins** on all sides
* **double space** throughout, including quotations, notes and lists in works cited
* **no** title page
* **first page** should include the following, left justified and double-spaced, in this order:
  + your name
  + your instructor’s name
  + course number
  + date
* Also include, centered title *(do not underline or use quotation marks or all capital letters, unless the words would be written that way in the text)*
* **.5 ” header**—include **last name** and **page number** right justified in the header on *each page*
* **Works Cited** (list of works used)

**Numbers:**

* spell out numbers written in one or two words – *two*, *ninety-nine*, *two thousand*, *four million*
* use numerals for numbers written in more than two words – *2½* , *350*, *12,543*
* use numerals for numbers that precede technical units of measurement – *2 inches*, *3 amperes*
* be consistent in number use – *Were 12 of the 127 in attendance?; He sold 3 shoes, 75 slacks, and 123 aprons.*
* spell out any number that starts a sentence – *Three hundred forty-two students took the exam.*
* use numerals for page numbers (*page 7*), percentages (*7%*), money (*$3.82*), and addresses (*301 State St.*)

**Titles:**

* **Italicize** titles of **independently published** works which included books, plays, pamphlets, films, CDs, periodicals (newspapers, magazines, journals), and paintings.
* **Quotation Marks** are used for titles of works published **within** larger works such as articles, essays, *chapters* of books, and short stories or poems *inside* independently published works, *episodes* of television and radio programs, songs *on* an album, and *scenes* in films

**In-text parenthetical citations:**

* *Print sources:* Author’s last name and page number—(Smith 3); if author’s name appears in the sentence, just the page number is needed—Tannen has argued this point (178-85).
* Source with *no author listed*: Substitute a shortened form of the title for the author—(*Report* 34)
* Citing a source with no paginatation: Author’s last name and chapter number or similar designation—(Douglas ch. 1)
* Online sources *with paragraphs numbered in original*: Author’s last name and paragraph number—(Smith par. 3)
* Online sources *with****out*** *paragraphs numbered in original*: Author’s last name only—(Smith)

**Indirect source:** If you are using a quotation that appeared in a source you are using; in other words, not the original quotation, but a quotation of a quotation.

* For a source mentioned in your text, use the abbreviation *qtd. in* – According to Dewey, “...”(qtd. in Smith and Jones 318).
* For a source not mentioned in your text, use original source’s name and *qtd. in* – “...” (Dewey qtd in Smith and Jones 318).

**Sample Works Cited Entries**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Online News** | Quade, Alex. “Elite Team Rescues Troops behind Enemy Lines.” *CNN.com*. Cable News  Network, 19 Mar. 2007. Web. 15 May 2008. |
| **Online News/Magazine Article** | Tyre, Peg. “Standardized Tests in College?” *Newsweek*. Newsweek, 16 Nov. 2007. Web. 15  May 2008. |
| **Online News/Magazine Article with No Author Listed** | “The Scientist Speak.” Editorial. *New York Times*. New York Times, 20 Nov. 2007. Web. 15  May 2008. |