

CJA 680: Sex Offender Legislation/Policy Write-Up Final Assignment

Scenario: You have a meeting with the primary staff of the Chair of the State's Senate Judiciary Committee. They are looking for legislation to propose for the upcoming legislative session regarding sex offenders; some of their constituents have contacted them telling them it's an issue that needs to be addressed, and in recent months the local media has covered a couple of high-profile stories (extreme cases) that have put it on the public's agenda as a 'hot topic'. Based on your knowledge and experience in the field, they have called you in to get your take on legislation that may be viable to propose. They are looking to you for a 'quick and dirty' proposal that they can talk with their colleagues with to see if it is something that may get traction. If so, they will then ask you to work with them on a more extensive write-up of the bill. In the meantime, they want a 'fly-by' idea; something that provides an overview of an idea and some brief insight behind it. So, your assignment is to provide a brief to them.

Since they will be looking at things very quickly, you will want to make your write-up very concise and easy to read. In this regard, for the numbered section below, have these be separate sections of your write-up (bold and underline each section) and then provide the paragraph(s) or bullet points below the header. In this regard, your paper will NOT be a traditional paper format; it will be very cut n' dried cordoned off into these sections and direct and concise information under each heading. This format will allow them to sift through the information most efficiently.

Legislation/Policy Brief Write-Up

Consists of:

- (1) Short statement about what your topic is and briefly what you are proposing in general terms (2-3 sentences at the most)
- (2) Introduction to issue/topic (1 paragraph)
- (3) Short history/background of current legislation/policy (1-2 paragraphs)
- (4) Bullet point list of main current reasons why current legislation/policy needs to be changed (4-6 main bullet points)
- (5) Proposed legislation/policy change (1-2 paragraphs or bullet point list; be succinct)
- (6) How/why revised legislation/policy will make things better? (1-2 paragraphs or bullet point list)
- (7) Overview of individuals, groups, and agencies that you suspect will actively resist your proposal through testimony, memoranda, etc. Briefly describe why you believe they will oppose your proposal and a short statement(s) of how you will respond to these arguments if/when they present themselves. (list of agencies/individuals and 1 paragraph on general reasons for resistance and 1 paragraph of general responses to overcome this resistance)
- (8) Concluding remarks – Here, reemphasize why this change is needed, why things will not get better without the change being instituted, and what the overall benefits will be. (1-2 paragraphs)
- (9) References (a list of 2-3 sources that a person can look at if they want to research more on the topic on their own)

The final document is due on Monday the 16th by 11:59p. Upload the document to dropbox in eCollege.

Technical: Single-spaced, 1" margins for all margins. No set format, but make it something that is readable and succinct, conveys information in an efficient manner, and is concise but yet evidenced enough so that the reader feels like s/he has enough material to make an well-informed decision.