**SOCIAL REPRESENTATION RESEARCH PAPER**

**CONTEXT**

Throughout the year, we have encountered characters and groups that have been unfairly marginalized, oppressed, and abused. Now, you will explore this phenomenon in a group research paper, focusing on a marginalized demographic group of your group’s choosing.

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|  | In *Night*, Elie, his father, and millions of other Jews were targeted by Hitler and the Nazis. |  |
| “*In the afternoon, they made us line up. Three prisoners brought a table and some medical instruments. We were told to roll up our left sleeves and file past the table. The three "veteran" prisoners, needles in hand, tattooed numbers on our left arms. I became A-7713. From then on, I had no other name.*” |
|  | In *Purple Hibiscus*, Kambili is forced to abide by particular gender roles of contemporary Nigerian society. |  |
| *“Mama had greeted him the traditional way that women were supposed to, bending low and offering him her back so that he would pat it with his fan made of the soft, straw-colored tail of an animal.”* |
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In teams, we will compose a collaboratively written research report. This report will provide an in-depth exploration of your selected demographic group’s historical and contemporary situation in American society. To achieve this, your team will construct a research report consisting of the following subsections:

* Historical experience in the U.S.
* Experience in society today (as recent as possible)
* Portrayals in U.S. media (news, entertainment, literature, social media, etc.)
* Impacts of media portrayals
* Efforts to improve standing in society (by those within and beyond the group)

**Possible sub-groups** (non-exhaustive; students may choose a group not listed here, pending teacher approval)

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| * Women * African-Americans * Latinx * Homeless | * Low-income * Working class * Disabled * Native Americans / First Nation |

Multiple teams will not be permitted to research the same demographic group within the same English class. Each team should research a unique demographic group that no other teams are researching. Groups already explored in previous units are not eligible.

**Guidelines:** While each team’s research report will vary widely in topics, every research report should adhere to the following guidelines:

* Report subsections should include information from no fewer than 3 relevant, credible sources (at least two of which should be academic and peer-reviewed)
* Report subsections should be clearly labeled and separate from other sections. Teams may choose to use sub-headers as needed, though are not required to
* Reports should all be formatted using proper MLA or APA citation methods for in-text citations as well as reference pages
* Reports should include a logical, well-executed organizational structure
* Reports should include an original title and subtitle (see top of this sheet for an example)

**Team Collaboration:** In order to produce a successful research report, teams should focus on the collaborative process. This includes properly delegating sections to different team members; assisting in the search of sources and information; democratically making editing, formatting, and organizational decisions; and ensuring deadlines and requirements are properly met.

In order to ensure the collaborative process is going well, teams will engage in the following activities:

* *Team Meetings*: structured team discussions with approved agendas and submitted minutes
* *Meetings with the Boss:* routine meetings with Macomber to discuss team progress and results
* *Meeting Outside Consultants*: 1-2 sessions with an NHS volunteer to get feedback and input on major projects
* *Team Evaluations*: private reflections on team progress and performance