

Government Essay #1, Fascism in the US, 2017-2018 School Year

Due: 13 October 2017

When fascism comes to America, it will be wrapped in the flag and carrying the cross. — Sinclair Lewis, *It Can't Happen Here*. (1935) Are we a Fascist country? US history lauds the intervention of the US into WWII as a defining moment of history, the fight of free people against the tyranny of Fascism. Anything dealing with Nazi Germany and Adolf Hitler is demonized and used as an object lesson on bad people and how governments can go bad. But what about the US in the year 2017? Have we become the thing we abhor? Have we become a Fascist Nation? How can we know, and what can we do about it?

- I. Introduction
 - a. Opening (Anecdote, Quote, Statistics, something that grabs the reader.)
 - b. Main Arguments
 - c. Thesis
- II. Main Body
 - a. What is Fascism?
 - b. History of Fascism
 - c. Defining Characteristics of Fascism, and how the US relates to these characteristics (by Dr. Lawrence Brit) (Pick two or three themes for your paper)
 - i. Powerful and Continuing Nationalism
 - ii. Disdain for the Recognition of Human Rights
 - iii. Identification of Enemies/Scapegoats as a Unifying Cause
 - iv. Supremacy of the Military
 - v. Rampant Sexism
 - vi. Controlled Mass Media
 - vii. Obsession with National Security
 - viii. Religion and Government are Intertwined
 - ix. Corporate Power is Protected
 - x. Labor Power is Suppressed
 - xi. Disdain for Intellectuals and the Arts
 - xii. Obsession with Crime and Punishment
 - xiii. Rampant Cronyism and Corruption
 - xiv. Fraudulent Elections
 - d. Fascism as a left wing or right wing political issue?
 - i. Republicans say Fascism is a left wing problem
 - ii. Democrats say Fascism is a right wing problem
- III. Conclusion
 - a. Restate thesis
 - b. Tie in Arguments
 - c. Project into the future.

1. Make sure to include citations *every time you use a statement or an idea from the readings that I have provided, or that you found in your own independent research*. Use APA citation notation (found on website). Using others work without providing proper citation is plagiarism and grounds for immediate failure on this essay.

2. Papers should be 2400-3000 words and 8-10 pages in length in Times New Roman or Ariel 12 point font, double spaced, pages numbered, cover page optional, references on last page (as per APA notation), 1 inch borders on top/bottom and left/right, stapled (no covers or binders). Be sure to include name and period.

3. Underline your Thesis.

4. Please type all work on a computer.

5. Please provide 2 copies of the essay, one that I will keep, and one that will be returned to you. I will not return any papers that are turned in with only one copy.