Our next (and last formal) assignment will be a persuasive research paper in which you present an argument. Whenever we speak or write, we are, at least in a casual sense, making an argument. We are trying to influence our audience or reader. But true argumentation requires a strong command of an issue, an ability to conduct research, a willingness to consider a topic openly and from multiple perspectives, a commitment to writing clearly, close attention to tone and style, and a genuine interest in influencing others.

For this assignment, you will choose a topic, research it, and then write a 6 page paper using MLA format. This is a chance to research a topic you are sincerely interested in seeing improve. Some suggestions are:

- Price gouging and medicine
- Any refugee crisis (or another area of the world)
- Genocide (Syria, Darfur, Sudan or another country)
- Defunding Planned Parenthood
- Women in combat
- Euthanasia
- Legalizing marijuana
- Gender equality
- Gun control
- Ways of combating terrorism
- Climate change or other environmental issues
- Mandating renewable energy use
- Child labor in other countries
- Genetic engineering (medical and agricultural)
- Immigration reform
- Racial profiling
- Combating poverty
- Social media and its impacts
- Violence in schools
- Domestic violence
- Drug abuse
- Sweatshops
- Illiteracy rates in the United States
- Obesity rates in the United States
- Limiting tv viewing for young kids
- Mandatory world language (or other course) requirement in high school
- Mandatory drug testing for employment/ high school sports/ college sports/ etc
- School-monitored social media
- Cloning
- Stem cell research (or other medical issue)
Mandatory after school activity participation
Introducing (not introducing) tech in early grades
Later start time for high school
Longer school days/years
Online high school diplomas
Four day school/work weeks
Repeal of net neutrality
Target marketing to kids
Political term limitations
Eating meat
Vaccines
Tax funded college for all
Medicare revamp
The Green New Deal
Animal testing
Violent video games

Any other topic as long as you discuss it with me first.