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WRT 205

April 17, 2013

Project Proposal

My topic for this research project is police brutality in New Orleans. I aim to prove that the violence involving the New Orleans police department following Hurricane Katrina was not just due to the chaos after the storm, but it was instead a systemic problem that had yet to be addressed in New Orleans.

Idea #1

I would like to present my project, my ideas and research in the form of a police report. Within the police report I will describe the injustices of the New Orleans police in great detail, and in a similar fashion as to how a standard police report is read. I will give a report on the evidence, witnesses, confessions, statements and all other details of the documented brutalities and missteps of the New Orleans police. I will also provide a slide show to accompany my report in order to give my audience the images and information that will be crucial to supporting my research.

Idea #2

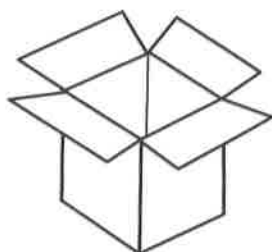
My second idea for my project is to give my information in the form of a story. I will narrate the stories of all the victims, perpetrators and witnesses in each case, and I will embody each specific person as if I am truly them. For example, if I were to use the case of Trayvon Martin, I would present my information in this fashion, "Hello, my name is Trayvon Martin and I was shot and killed by a police officer on the night of February 26, 2012". I would then tell the story of what happened through Trayvon's eyes, and later tell the other side of the case through the voice of George Zimmerman, his assailant. Later I would include witness accounts, the information inquired by specific investigators and etc. I will include all details of every case I have come across in my research and also include any outside, supporting information. A slide show will also be utilized in order to accompany my story and provide visual aid.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

1. The first idea I have in mind is I will be making an art book on several drawings that will symbolize prisoners' unjust treatments during Hurricane Katrina. To illustrate my argument, I will take what I learned from my research and draw out what I believe prisoners' are being judged as in this world. My purpose of producing this art book is to show what the prisoners have suffered and as a result how did it reflect the U.S constitution and human rights. My audience will generally be for people who are interested/concerned about prisoners who were affected by the hurricane and want to evaluate deeper on their tragic situations. For this book, I will have ~6-10 pages of drawings that each signifies a meaning to my argument.
2. Another idea is to produce a short film (5-10mins). There will be a character who will act as a prisoner from New Orleans. The scene will be about an inmate who was arrested for a small crime and due to the Hurricane; his hearing date was delayed for months. He suffered through lost families and starvation from the lack of assistance for prisoners. The character will be having a flashback as he tells his story today about what happened during the Hurricane. Many people are unaware that New Orleans citizens weren't the only ones who were affected by this hurricane. The prisoners' situations were far worse than some of the stories heard in the news. This serves to spread awareness on what happened to people in prison cells, and to reveal that many stories were left untold because no one cared about them. For this project I will need a camera set which I can get from Newhouse, an actor, pictures and scenes from the actual hurricane, and a movie editing software to compile my videos. The main audience here is for people who haven't heard of any stories about these prisoners, and to educate them on conflicts pertained to prisoners.
3. My third idea is to create some sort of object that shows how many people were locked in their cells and couldn't be rescued. I may make something that represents the prisoners, and then place it inside a locked box or closed container. This idea will emphasize how people were left behind, without any evacuation plans carried out specifically for the OPP. Many prisoners had to fight their way through the flooded building and crack open cells to save themselves. By creating an object that shows how there were a vast amount of people left in the building, abandoned, it will reflect on the failure to provide assistance during emergencies. The audience can be kids and adults since the object will be represented in an easy to understand concept. I am thinking of perhaps making paper cranes or paper stars that represents prisoners, and place them in a closed jar. The colors, shape, etc may vary but each will have a significant meaning.

- My topic is being prepared for a natural disaster.
- My main focusing question for research will be: What essential items should every homeowner have in case of a natural disaster?

Approach #1



Create a small replica of a box filled with the items that everyone should have in a safe place in case of a natural disaster. The target audience would be homeowners who want to be prepared. The box would include essential things like a food supply and personal items such as family photos. Because I would not be able to fit everything into a small box, I would also include a checklist of items that should be in a real emergency kit. This would achieve my goal of educating people about what things they need in order to be prepared for an emergency.

Approach #2

Create a booklet with information a person would need to be prepared for a natural disaster. The main focus would be a checklist of items that the reader should have in an emergency kit. A booklet would also allow me to include additional information from my research, such as long term weather trends that show that there have been an increasing number of natural disasters in the United States.



Approach #3



Create an instructional video that shows someone putting together a natural disaster emergency kit. This would be similar to the first approach, but it would allow me to use a full size box and put all of the necessary items in it.

WRT 205

15 April 2013

Topic: How global warming will affect the future of natural disasters in coastal regions.

Idea #1: Newscast from the Future

I will be creating a newscast from the year 2050. I will follow the normal format of a newscast with news stories and a weather segment but most of the stories will be weather related. I will describe events that are happening in the year 2050 demonstrating how the weather has changed. I picture the newscast only being five to ten minutes long. The newscast will begin with news stories that have to deal with repercussions from weather. Examples of what these stories will be include: financial burdens from natural disasters, rebuilding coastal regions, reinforcing and preparing for future sea level rises and floods and what politicians are doing to help support the country. I will finish with a weather segment, in this segment I will show graphs of how natural disaster frequency has increased and the weather forecast itself will showcase these changes. I will need to get all the video and audio equipment, which I can get through Newhouse and I can also edit the video there. I will be the main anchor and the format will mimic that of NBC's Nightly News.

Idea #2: "60 Minutes:" Extreme Weather

I will be creating a segment similar to the format of "60 Minutes." It will be a special on extreme weather and its effects on the coastal regions. I would ideally want to interview a professor or expert in climate change and would the interview with have him/her on the show to follow the same format as the show. I will be able to delve into more detail on how coastal regions will be affected by increases in extreme weather with this format rather than the newscast. I will need video and audio equipment, which I can get through Newhouse as well as edit video there. I will be the host of the show and my guest will be a climatologist or expert in global warming and climate change.

Idea #3: Diagram of Current State and Future State

I will be creating a physical representation of how weather will be changing and altering coastal regions. I would ideally like to make a 3D model of what ocean levels, glacier thickness etc. look like now and then have a second model showing what will change. To go along with the model I want to make an animated video showing what these changes will be, including numbers and statistics. I will need to use some video editing software for the video and need physical materials for the models. I can find these supplies at Hobby Lobby or Michaels.

4/12/13

WRT 205: Project Proposal

Aiding Pregnant Women

As we know, pregnant/lactating women and infants are at risk of many health issues and are in need of basic necessities. What can a specialized organization do to aid them during disaster situations?

Mommy Needs Help Too!

Mission: Mommy Needs Help Too! is an organization that is designed to aid pregnant and lactating women immediately after disaster effects subside. The mobile stations will come in, like other relief groups such as FEMA or Red Cross, and begin to aid pregnant women and infants.

There will be mobile stations that go to many different sites, but larger units will go to shelters and areas with concentrated amounts of people (like the superdome in the case of Katrina).

Each station will have specialized nurses and volunteers that have been trained to work specifically with pregnant/lactating women and infants. There will also be an Ob/Gyn on site for deliveries and other serious medical issues.

Tangible items distributed:

- diapers
- ready to eat formula(no water needed)
- water/snacks
- hand sanitizer
- fact sheets
- face masks
- contraceptives
- urine pregnancy tests

Ob/Gyn: provide vaccinations, medications, pre natal vitamins. – Do check ups and perform deliveries when needed.

(FUNDING: Become a Government agency or new sector of the Red Cross)

Project presentation:

- Video: Introduce the organization as a commercial and talk about the details.
- PowerPoint: Slideshow of the layout oh the carts and the services it will provide.

INFOMERCIAL

Mission: To provide the TV audience with information about the health effects and risks of pregnant/lactating women and infants during disasters. This will not only bring awareness to the situation, but will also provide additional information on

what to do in these situations and how to prevent being stuck in a vulnerable position.

- Dramatize the problem
- Tell audience the risks
- Expand on info provided on fact sheets from CDC and OTIS
- Provide phone numbers to people that can provide assistance

Project Presentation:

- Interactive video: video footage, slideshow clips with pictures and words

OTHER IDEAS

- Prep kit: contains information (phone numbers) and fact sheets and items listed above in the tangible items for "Mommy Needs Help Too!"
- Website: Written format of information provided in infomercial.

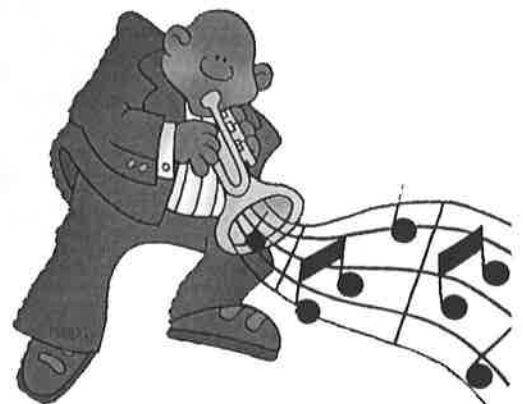
PROJECT PROPOSAL

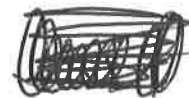
FIRST IDEA: is to create a festival in New Orleans that would incorporate key aspects of Carnival (Mardi Gras), The Second Line Parade, and the Jazz and Heritage Festival. The Traditional festivals will still continue separately in consideration of their individual cultural importance.

This festival however, will tour nationally promoting the ongoing festivities that are generally performed at these three celebrations.

The festival serves more as an 'intro' festival seeing as it is a reenactment of a combination of cultural celebratory traditions.

All proceeds created will go toward benefitting the relief efforts of the victims of Hurricane Katrina. This festival will be created in attempts to achieve full support and revival of the sufferers from Katrina as well as increase the appreciation of these New Orleans traditions that originated from Carnival, The Second Line Parade, and the Jazz and Heritage Festival. To present this information, I will create a brochure describing this new festival in full detail. I will explain the variety of entertainment and how it identifies with a specific festival. In addition I will provide a brief history of each of these three major festivals and the organizations this festival would be benefitting.





IDEA 1 = Album of Songs by artists who helped shape the musical culture of New Orleans to uplift Sprits

I would be creating an album cover (and maybe a cd) with songs written by artists such as Fats Domino and Louis Armstrong and other influential musicians who had an impact before Hurricane Katrina. These artists wrote and performed songs about how rich and alive the city of New Orleans was before the Hurricane and this album would be a way for people to feel uplifted by music and remember the city in a cathartic way.

The materials and resources I would need would be primary sources (musicians and songs). Also, information and background about the artists and also information on what music used to be like, lyrics of songs or compositions from encyclopedias and websites. In addition, information about what the public thought would be key to saving the sense of community.

This album would be used to make remember the classic music that may have been lost or forgotten in the hurricane. Because it would be something that everyone could listen to, relate to and enjoy I can see the album being played at gatherings or shows or personal use. My target audience would be musicians from New Orleans, New Orleans residents who survived the hurricane and those who have deep roots in New Orleans culture. I would design this information in a way that's accessible and logical by selling the album in stores. However some listeners may be older or poorer and may not have ability to purchase so I would offer a free streaming version online, on a website for the album, that way everyone has the ability to listen. Other information and features I would include would be pictures of these musicians with a small paragraph about them and their style of music. In addition, I would include pictures of the city and put an option on the album to donate to an organization that helps struggling musicians or helps with relief. That way it would be giving back to the community and the city equally.

IDEA 2= a guide to New Orleans musical culture: before and after Hurricane Katrina

I would arrange the information in this design to convey a book and musical collection of all the musical greats before and after the hurricane. It would serve as a written and musical history for those who either did not get to experience the rich musical culture or who just want to reminded and understand what it has turned into. It would also serve as a timeline of music in New Orleans.

The specific material and resources I would use would include primary sources of musicians, encyclopedias for general information, and articles of the history of music in New Orleans and articles that explain the progression of music in New Orleans. The specific context for this I would imagine would be as a gift for those who enjoy music as well as for those who wish to learn more about the musical

culture. Also, I imagine that musicians would find a book and musical collection like this very interesting and could find musical styles from the past to inspire them. The target audience would include, teachers, musicians and those who want to learn more about New Orleans musical culture. Also, this may also target those who are just generally interested in music. I would design information that would be accessible and logical by selling the book and musical collection together. The musical collection would accompany the book and it would go into great detail about each artist and how their musical style played a role in the musical culture overall. This book would be more of a tribute than an informational book and it be available for purchase at not only the big name stores and online but also smaller book and music stores as well. Other information and features I might include in this design include an mp3 version of the musical collection that way it can be easily put on an iphone or ipod. In addition I would include a visual history that can be viewed electronically so that one would be able to keep pictures and audio backed up that way if a hurricane were to hit and destroy everything again, this would be preserved and backed up and is easily accessible with a computer.

IDEA 3= collection of music from artists that was either lost after the hurricane, underground artists and musicians that were displaced after the hurricane

Materials and resources I would need to present this idea/ argument would be music from primary sources including underground artists and very local musicians in New Orleans. Also, I would need articles on what musicians did as a way to keep practicing and performing after the hurricane. The specific context I would imagine this item being used in would be for those who are very interested and invested into the raw musical culture of New Orleans that still exists today. Also, it could be used as way to uplift spirits in communities of musicians that were destroyed by the hurricane. The target audience would be those very invested to the musical culture, the younger generation of those who survived the hurricane (18-25, now maybe 30-35) other underground musicians, it would also target musicians who may not be able to afford much music. I would design information that would be accessible and logical for them by selling this album/CD for free and profits would come from donations to benefit displaced musicians (New Orleans Habitat Musicians Village). Other information or other features I might include in the design would be bios from musicians who survived the hurricane and their thoughts on the music culture now. In addition, it would include lyrics and explanations of the lyrics from artists who would want to put their music on the collection for the purpose of showing how musicians are still able to make music even after the hurricane and how they are keeping the music alive. This album would be a way for those to support artists who are still in need after the hurricane and to help bring back a sense of community through the musical culture.

Government's role for Institutionalized Racism and Zeitoun

Thesis:

The United States government's legal and political decisions, especially after the tragedy of September 11, 2001, had created systematic racism and stereotype towards Muslim population in the United States. The story of Zeitoun is the evidence of such racism. Drawing from my research, I think government is ignoring the rights of Muslim population by continuously passing laws such as The Patriot Act that consequently discriminate Muslim population with a reason of protecting US citizen from

General Goal:

To inform and educate people about the government's impact on creating racism and stereotypes against the Muslim population through passing racially discriminatory bills in general by studying Zeitoun's experience.

Possible Methods:

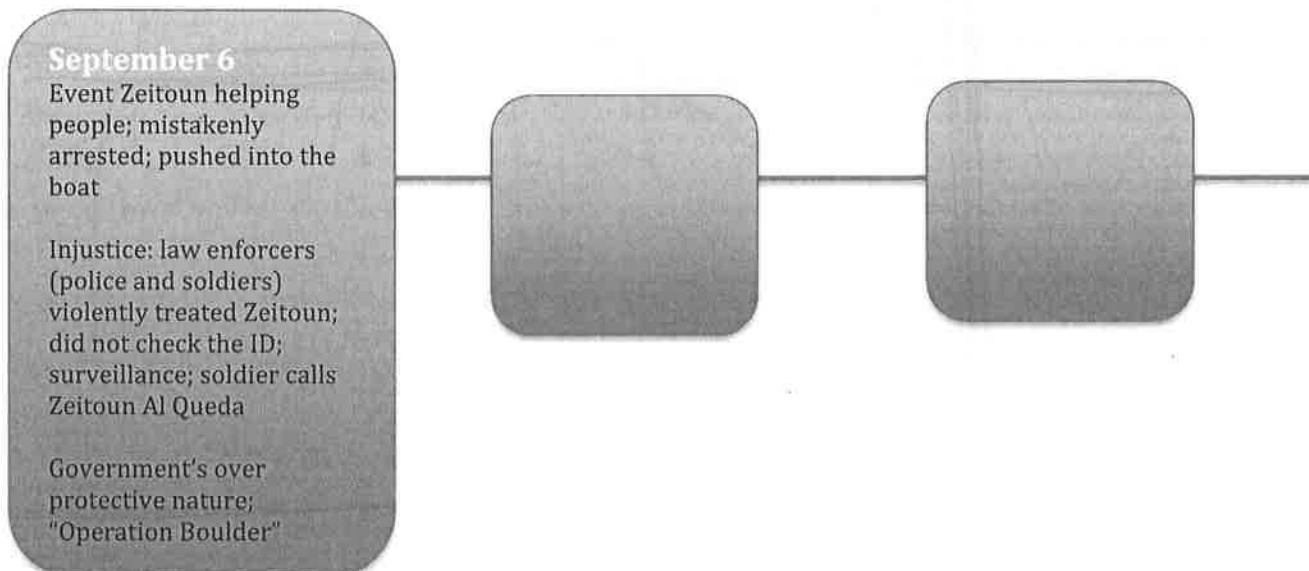
1) Timeline

I am thinking of chronologically listing racially discriminatory experiences of Zeitoun during and after the arrest and confinement after hurricane Katrina in parallel to the bills, such as *The Patriot Act*, and government reactions that stimulated the experience of Zeitoun.

I am planning to organize it by following:

- 1) Event (fact)
- 2) Injustices found in the event
- 3) Past government decision case or government principle that is related to the injustice shown in the event

Example:



Topic Proposal

Newspaper

One of the ideas that I believe would showcase my topic in a creative and informative light would be to create a newspaper. During my research process so far I realized that many of the most informative articles I came across were from various newspapers. These articles talked about individuals difficult journeys to find consistent work and live without fear of being deported. In addition, other articles looked at the corporate sphere and sought to incriminate companies that were partaking in illegal hiring practices. By hiring a staff of illegal workers saves the company money and allows them to carry less insurance.



I feel that often a newspaper is responsible for highlighting the prominent issues that are plaguing this country. By creating a series of article and accompanying pictures and graphs would serve to highlight the importance and gravity of the illegal employment issue. In addition, by having both personal stories and expert accounts interwoven will only add to a complete coverage of the entire issue. My target audience is everyday average citizens who are looking to gain more information illegal immigration and illegal employment.

Social Media Analysis

Another Idea would be to generate a social media compilation and analysis of illegal immigrant lifestyles, working conditions, and employment procedures. This means I will look at twitter and see how conversation progresses and people views regarding this issue of illegal immigrant employment. I will look at which newspapers or media outlets post frequently on twitter regarding these issues. In addition, I will scan social media networks like Pinterest and Tumblr for posts or images that tag illegal immigration. Today social media networks are at critical tools that can be harnessed to gauge the pulse of a population regarding an issue. By examining public posts by individuals I will be able to examine how various target markets feel regarding illegal immigration and illegal employment. In addition, I will look at memes on different discussion boards and analyze the sentiment



discoverable. I am seeking to change their perception by uncovering real insight.

WHAT'S YOUR STANCE ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IN THE U.S.?



of them. Memes often are offensive and exhibit raw humor but by looking at this form of discrimination I will be able to draw conclusions about illegal immigrant perceptions on social media. My target audience is young high tech people are fascinated with social media. This is a useful target audience because many people who scan social media everyday don't realize that there are important trends that are