Social Justice 12 – Mrs. Stead

Self-Assessment of Beliefs

Essay Assignment

Using the guiding questions below, write a 1000 (approx.) word essay about your beliefs, biases and values and their impact on the world around you. Dig deep and be brutally honest!

Intro:

Identify your biases and beliefs

Where do you think these come from…use the brainstorming exercise we did in class

End intro with the impact your biases and beliefs might have on the people around you.

Body:

1. What is my culture, language ancestry, ethnicity, nationality?

What impact might that have on my biases and beliefs

1. Am I oppressed or marginalized in anyway? How?

Or am I privileged because of who I am? Does that give me a sense of entitlement?

1. Personal experiences. Can you think of personal experiences that have shaped the way you think about a certain group of society?
2. Current Actions.

How do you perpetuate or challenge the status quo? E.g. say nothing or speak up.

How do you respond when someone disagrees with you? How do you treat people who have different beliefs than you?

To what extent do you understand the concept of Social Justice so far? What do you do at present to promote SJ ideals?

Conclusion:

How willing are you to take personal risks in sharing your views about and advocating for social justice issues? How willing are you to correct your personal biases or do you think you might be open to dissecting those biases as we progress through this course?