

Bonus assignment: **ADVOCACY GROUP WORKSHOP**

Step one: Write a letter.

Choose an advocacy group – one you already researched, or any other legitimate group – and write a letter requesting information. This must be an actual, old-fashioned letter, mailed in an envelope. It may be typed, but it may not be an e-mail.

Bring me a copy of this letter when you're ready to send it for **10 bonus points**.

Step two: Get literature.

The group will almost surely send you informational pamphlets and a form letter thanking you for your interest. Take a close look at these materials: Do they do a good job getting the group's information across?

Do they appeal to your emotions? Your intellect? Guilt? Pride? Patriotism? Fear?

Break down the tactics, and write a one-page essay reflecting on the advocacy group's literature for an additional **15 bonus points**.

Step three: Connect.

The process of step three is up to you, but the result is worth another **20 bonus points**: get a written, personal response from someone in the advocacy group. *Form letters do not count.*

The best way to elicit a personal response is with a second letter, ideally one asking specific questions about the group's purpose or activities. Be honest in your letter – a serious query is most likely to get a serious response.