

Name: Katelyn Trevino

WEEK # 1

Date submitted: 10/3/15

Today, I researched:

I looked up the recent Oregon shooting that took place on October 1 at Umpqua Community College.

-I read these articles (link them):

- <http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/oregon-college-shooting/multiple-casualties-after-shooting-umpqua-community-college-n437051>
- <http://www.cnn.com/2015/10/02/us/oregon-umpqua-community-college-shooting/>
- <http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-oregon-shooting-20151002-story.html>
- http://www.cnn.com/2015/10/02/us/oregon-school-shooting-hero/index.html?eref=rss_topstories

-I read these because:

These articles looked interesting and seemed to be up-to-date on what is going on. They all came from reliable news programs, such as NBC News, CNN, LA Times, and ABC News. They had captivating headlines that grabbed my attention, which caused me to click on them and read them. Also, they were under the “top stories” section, which made them seem more reliable. I decided to research this topic in general because it is a major event that recently occurred, and I wanted to learn more about it, and why it happened in the first place.

-I learned:

I learned that the shooter was identified as Chris Mercer, a 26 year old man, and that he most likely carried out these acts for religious reasons (though they still haven't confirmed the motivation). Supposedly, he lined people up and asked if they were Christian or not; if they answered yes, he shot them in the head. If they answered no or refused to answer, they were shot somewhere else, most commonly in the leg. All in all, this culminated in 9 deaths and 9 injuries. I also learned that Barack Obama is very anti-gun, saying that “thoughts and prayers are not enough.” Also, I learned that there was a hero during this event; Chris Mintz, a veteran, rushed in to help and save lives.

-This information supported/changed/pushed/contradicted my thinking in this way:

This information contradicted my thinking, because originally, I didn't think Mercer was a student at the college, but after an updated article, I realized that he was in fact a student there, and he went after the English class he was a member of. This pushed my thinking, because it has me wondering “Why would someone commit such a horrible act? What could possibly lead to that?” It supported the fact that multiple deaths and injuries resulted because of this event.

-After reading these articles, I want to know more about:

I want to know what in this man's past possibly caused him to commit this tragedy (his motivation). Was it actually for religious reasons, or for something else? Basically, I want to know about Chris Mercer and his whole background story. I also want to know if taking away guns would really stop these acts from occurring.

Name: Katelyn Trevino

WEEK # 2

Date submitted: 10/11/15

Today, I researched:

 The Oklahoma City Bombing on April 19, 1995.

I read these articles (link them):

<http://www.history.com/topics/oklahoma-city-bombing>

<https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/history/famous-cases/oklahoma-city-bombing>

<http://www.cnn.com/2015/04/17/opinions/lauter-pitcavage-oklahoma-bombing/>

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/oklahoma-city-bombing-remembered-20-years-later-n344306>

soil¹

I read these because:

 The websites seemed to be reliable sources; the websites were major news sources, as well as the FBI, which seem to have some of the better, up-to-date information. Also, they had interesting headlines that drew my attention. I researched this topic as a whole because I didn't know much about it. It seems like the attacks of 9/11 overshadow this event, somewhat.

I learned:

 I learned that this event was committed by Timothy McVeigh, who parked his car in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City. His car was actually a bomb, made up of fertilizer, diesel fuel, and other toxic chemicals. As he got into his getaway car, he detonated the bomb at approximately 9:00 A.M. The bomb was devastating, killing 168 people (19 kids), and injuring hundreds more. I learned that it was the worst homegrown act of terrorism in our country's history. I also learned that police had found a vehicle identification number that led to a body shop. They soon found out that McVeigh had been the one to rent the van. It did not take long to find him; he had been arrested 90 minutes after the attack for driving without a license plate and carrying a concealed weapon. The evidence quickly added up, police found chemicals on his clothes, suspicious notes, and soon realized that another man-

They seemed to have reliable, up-to-date information; most of them were major news sources, so they seemed like a good option. Also, they did not seem to be biased in anyway, by either promoting or disapproving of the change in tests; they merely told the facts. I looked up this topic in general because I was interested as to what caused the sudden change, what the state's motivation was.

I learned:

I learned that the state awarded a three year, 17.1 million dollar contract to establish the SAT as the standardized test in the state of Michigan, and that the class of 2017 will be the first ones to take it. I learned that Michigan is among 40 states who now use the SAT, and the reason Michigan switched was primarily because of money, and because the test was "respectable." I learned that the state saves 15.1 million dollars over these next three years by contracting with the SAT instead of the ACT, which according to MDE director "Was a better deal for the State of Michigan." I learned that there are a lot of mixed responses to this announcement, because since the ACT has been used in the state since 2007, many schools have already put in place programs designed specifically for that test. Now, with the SAT, these programs are no longer beneficial. I also learned that the switch probably won't have much of an impact on student's admission.

This information supported/changed/pushed/contradicted my thinking in this way:

This supported my thoughts that the change might have had something to do with money, but it contradicted it in that I thought the whole United States was switching over to the SAT. It caused me to wonder how this change will impact college admission for the class of 2017- will colleges be more lenient in admissions since it is the first year students will be taking the SAT, or will it still be the same? I also did not know that the state had to pay these companies for using their test, I thought it was just a granted.

After reading these articles, I want to know more about:

I want to know what is considered a "good score" on the SAT. Will that score be defined after this first round of testing, or do colleges already know what that number will be? I also want to know what the major differences between the two tests are, if there are any? Though the governor denied the change was due to the quality of the tests, was there any factor that contradicts that, or was it purely because of money, since all decisions seem to boil down to that? Also, why did standardized testing even become a thing?

Name: _____ Katelyn Trevino _____

WEEK # ___ 4 _____

Date submitted: ___ 11/6/15 _____

Today, I researched:

I researched the Alabama boy who was found 13 years after going missing.

I read these articles (link them):

- <http://abcnews.go.com/US/missing-alabama-boy-found-safe-ohio-13-years/story?id=34992408>
- <http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/04/us/missing-boy-found-alabama-ohio/>
- <http://nypost.com/2015/11/05/alabama-child-missing-for-13-years-found-in-ohio/>
- <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2015/11/05/alabama-boy-missing-for-13-years-found-safe-in-northeastern-ohio-father/>

I read these because:

They all seemed to be reliable news sources; they are all major news stations/networks that would most likely have up-to-date information. Also, the information did not appear to be biased in anyway, they just gave straight up facts that the other sources could confirm. I looked up this topic as a whole because I saw it on the news, and it seemed very interesting.

I learned:

I learned that the boy's name who was abducted was Julian Hernandez. He was just 5 years old when he was abducted on August 28, 2002 in Alabama. He was taken by his father in a parental custody case, and was found in Ohio on Sunday, November 1. He had been trying to apply to college, but was having trouble doing so because his Social Security number did not match his name. (Him and his father had been living under false names of deceased people) He went to the counselor for help, and it was then that they discovered he was on the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children database. His father, Bobby Hernandez, was arrested on Monday, November 2, and is being held at \$250,000 bond. Julian, who is now 18 years old, has been reunited with his mom, and is asking for privacy.

This information supported/changed/pushed/contradicted my thinking in this way:

This supported what I heard on the news report; that a boy had been found 13 years later after going missing, and that he was found because his Social Security number did not match up. It contradicted what I thought, because on the news report, it said he was only 2 years old when he disappeared, but all of the news sources other than that say he was 5. It

changed my thinking, because I now know that he was taken by his father in a custody-dispute battle, and they were living under false names. I did not know that prior to research. It pushed my thinking, because it has me wondering how they had gone 13 years without a problem occurring; it seems like they would have needed a Social Security number at least once prior to this year.

After reading these articles, I want to know more about:

Like I said, I want to know how the father managed to keep it a secret for so long. It seems like the son would have needed to put down a Social Security number prior to applying for college. Maybe when he enrolled in high school, or signed up for the ACT or SAT? It seems weird that it just now, after 13 years, became a problem. Did he put down his Social Security number, and it was just never confirmed or checked? That seems like quite a flaw. Also, I want to know how they managed to live under false names for 13 years. If they really were living under the names of deceased people, it seems as if the father would have gotten caught already. I also want to know more about the background history of the father, and of the custody case. He must have been pretty desperate to abduct his child. Overall, I'm just curious as to how this is just now coming out, after 13 years. It seems like they would have been discovered prior to this.

Name: ___Katelyn Trevino_____

WEEK # ___5_____

Date submitted: ___11/13/15_____

Today, I researched:

The attacks, on November 13, 2015, that are occurring in Paris, France as I am working on this.

I read these articles (link them):

- <http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/13/world/paris-shooting/>
- http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/14/world/europe/paris-shooting-attacks.html?_r=0
- <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2015/11/13/french-police-report-shootout-and-explosion-in-paris/>
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/11995277/Watch-live-Scenes-from-Paris-shootings.html>

I read these because:

They seem to be reliable news sources; all of them are major news stations/networks that would most likely have up-to-date information. There seems to be no bias in any of the

sources; they give just straight facts. I researched this topic as a whole, because it is major news- history in the making- on the world's war on terrorism.

I learned:

Some 40-60 people in France are dead after multiple attacks in Paris. The news is currently developing, because while I am working on this, the situation is still occurring. The attacks seem to be coordinated terrorist attacks, with the suspects being either Al Qaeda or ISIS (ISIS seems to have applauded the attacks on Twitter). These attacks occur just one day after the U.S. killed ISIS leader, Jihadi John. France has closed their borders, and issued a state of emergency; there seems to be no immediate threat to the United States' homefront, report officials. At least 6 shootings occurred, as well as 3 explosions Stade de France, some attacks occurred at various restaurants. There were also 60-100 people being held hostage inside a concert hall, and French police stormed the venue just minutes ago, attacking and killing two men.

This information supported/changed/pushed/contradicted my thinking in this way:

Since this is just now occurring, there is really nothing that could support my thinking; if anything, it supported the fact that terrorism is a real and scary thing. This in turn changed my thinking- I, and I'm sure much of the U.S., are kind of oblivious to the terrorism that occurs all of the time- only major events like this catch our attention and cause us worry. This pushes my thinking, because it has me wondering what this means for the future of the war on terrorism. It contradicted my thinking, because, as I said, I didn't know just how serious terrorism was. This event really has awakened me.

After reading these articles, I want to know more about:

I want to know how nations will respond to these terrorist attacks, especially if they were the works of ISIS or Al Qaeda. I want to know what this means for the United States' foreign policy, will this mean further war. This event seems like a major trigger/turning point on the war on terrorism, and I must admit I'm anxious of what the future holds. It is bad enough that so many people are dead in France; I feel for them deeply. I can't even imagine if something like this occurred in the United States. I also want to know how all of these attacks occurred in the first place, it would seem like a major city such as Paris would have more security to prevent these kind of attacks. I want to know what causes people to perform these atrocious attacks in the first place; it saddens and sickens me that people can be so evil. Overall, I want to know who is responsible for these attacks, how nations will respond, and what this means for our immediate future.

Name: __Katelyn Trevino_____

WEEK # 6 _____

Date submitted: 11/21/15 _____

Today, I researched:

The new threats ISIS is posing on various nations of the world after last week's terrorist attacks.

I read these articles (link them):

- <http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/18/us/new-york-isis-video-threat/>
- <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3324658/ISIS-threatens-attack-New-York-City-new-slick-video-showing-suicide-bombers-walking-Times-Square.html>
- <http://5newsonline.com/2015/11/16/cia-director-anticipates-more-isis-attacks-in-the-pipeline-isis-threatens-us-next/>
- <https://www.thewrap.com/5-key-developments-after-paris-attacks-isis-threatens-u-s-obama-declares-isis-face-of-evil/>
- <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2015/05/06/purported-isis-warning-claims-terror-cells-in-place-in-15-states/>

I read these because:

They all seemed like reliable sources with reliable information; most of the sites are major news corporations that are used to get unbiased, accurate information. I researched this topic as a whole because on the news, I have heard about the threats ISIS has now been aiming toward the U.S.

I learned:

8 months ago, ISIS made a claim that they had 71 trained soldiers located in 15 states. These soldiers were ready to carry out missions prompted by ISIS. They named 5 of the states that were under threat- Virginia, Maryland, Illinois, California, and Michigan. This claim is just now coming out, and being taken seriously, after the attacks on Paris last week. Also since last week, ISIS has made propaganda videos threatening Italy (Rome), France, and the United States (New York). ISIS also recently released a propaganda video threatening an attack on Washington D.C. In response, these cities have stepped up security and are on more alert for suspicious activity. Also, several states have refused to accept Syrian refugees, including Michigan, Alabama, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Indiana. President Obama says he refuses to deploy ground troops to Syria, although a majority of Americans want a tougher

response. Overall, the United States is taking last week's attacks seriously, and are stepping up security, although they say there is no immediate threat.

This information supported/changed/pushed/contradicted my thinking in this way:

This information supported my thinking because I knew that the United States had been threatened by recent ISIS videos. I also knew that the United States was/is taking these threats seriously by stepping up security. However, this also changed/contradicted my thinking because I did not know that ISIS had threatened the United States all the way back in May. Why is this just now coming into light 8 months later? Was it just the attacks on Paris that brought these threats to attention? It seems like a threat such as that- especially a threat to the state you live in- would catch people's attention before now.

After reading these articles, I want to know more about:

I want to know how immediate these threats are- whether states such as Michigan are really in danger. Is ISIS simply making these threats to scare us, or are they serious threats? It seems like a mixture of both. Why is ISIS predominantly targeting the United States? Also, I want to know if the United States and Barack Obama will stick to the idea of not deploying ground troops. If we don't deploy troops, what then will our tactic be in addressing ISIS? If we do reverse our ideology, what kind of problems will that bring? Another war? Overall, I want to know how this will play out in the future in the United States and abroad.

I am thinking about focusing my research project on... because... I want to figure out....

Like you suggested, I am thinking about writing a paper on how these historical events have shaped the United States and the world, mostly by focusing on our responses to them. I am considering this because all of these events have in some way impacted the United States, and it would be interesting to draw on all of these events and see how we have evolved as a nation because of them. I want to figure out how we have been impacted by these events, and what internal changes they brought about. I am also considering writing about the idea of good versus evil. I am considering this because it is a major debate that continues to this day, and it would be interesting to look further into the backgrounds of the culprits. I want to figure out whether these events were the result of pure evil, or whether the people responsible were influenced by their environment. Overall, I am not sure which topic I will use yet, but I am considering one of these two ideas.

Name: _____Katelyn_____

WEEK # _7_____

Date submitted: _____12/6/15_____

Today, I researched:

I researched the mass shootings that occurred in California this week.

I read these articles (link them):

- <http://abcnews.go.com/US/san-bernardino-shooting-investigation-ongoing/story?id=35573368>
- <http://www.usnews.com/news/us/articles/2015/12/03/14-dead-17-wounded-in-california-shooting-2-suspects-dead>
- <http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/san-bernardino-shooting/san-bernardino-shooting-suspects-left-baby-daughter-grandma-n473261>
- http://www.denverpost.com/ci_29197035/14-dead-more-than-dozen-wounded-california-shooting
- <http://www.nytimes.com/live/san-bernardino-shooting/>
- <http://www.wdrb.com/story/30651592/update-police-say-2-suspects-dead-1-person-in-custody-after-california-shooting>
- <https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2015/12/03/california-shooting-may-related-terrorism-obama-says/pxKIAOik4KqvziEdwzTmwJ/story.html>

I read these because:

I was interested in the topic because it just happened this week, and it goes along with my other topics. I used these sources specifically because they all were major news sources with reliable, unbiased information.

I learned:

A man and a woman were responsible for the shooting, which resulted in 14 deaths and 17 people wounded. It occurred in San Bernardino, California on December 2. The suspects were Syed Farook (28) and his wife, Tashfeen Malik (27). They opened fire at a work conference, in which Farook had attended, and then left, returning with his wife in full battle gear. According to officials, they had enough ammunition and firepower to kill hundreds of people. They died in a shootout four hours later, and in their rental car, police found 1600 rounds of ammunition. 3 pipe bombs were also found at the scene of the shootings. At their home, another 12 pipe bombs were found, along with 3000 more rounds of ammunition. It is unclear what the motive was, but terrorism has not been ruled out; the two may have been radicalized by online Islamists.

This information supported/changed/pushed/contradicted my thinking in this way:

This supported my thinking because I knew that a married couple were responsible for the shootings; I also knew that the man had been at a work meeting and had come back firing. (I saw this on the news). This changed/contradicted my thinking because I did not know that the couple was Islamic, or that there had been so much planning before hand. This pushes my

thinking because it has me wondering if this was an act of terrorism, or simply the result of a troubled work life.

After reading these articles, I want to know more about:

Like I said, I want to know if this was terrorism or was the result of something different. What was the motive? If this was the result of terrorism, how will the U.S. and the people respond? It seems like these kind of events are becoming more and more common- nowadays, it is not that shocking to hear of events such as these. How long will it take to determine if this is terrorism, if it is, how will it affect our foreign and domestic policies?