

PEER REVIEW TASK

INTRODUCTION

The current task required students to review another peers previous writing assessment. I reviewed the work of XXXX. His chosen topic was on the political changes in gay rights from the 1990's to 2019. His original analysis on the two articles was then transformed into a Facebook post. This was cleverly executed through the vibrant use of tone, structure and rhetorical questioning. His post was well written to portray a character but could be strengthened to be a more insightful post rather than an expression of one's feelings. However, the overall the read was very intriguing and interesting point of view on the latest political changes on gay rights.

Student XXXX REVISED PARAGRAPHS INTO FACEBOOK POST:

“Hi Facebook Friends,

I've tried my best to contain my views, but can't hold it in anymore... so for anyone scrolling through their feed who doesn't share my view, kindly remove yourself as a friend... I won't mind.

First of all, congratulations Gladys! I'm so happy the Liberal party is here to stay.

But the reason for this post is aimed less at the re-election of Gladys, and rather the ridiculous war on Facebook that occurred in the weeks leading up to voting for state.

A few weeks ago, my news feed was inundated with negative media towards the liberal party, even bringing up articles from 20 years ago! I mean come on, absolutely pathetic.

Anyways, one of these left wing lunatics who tried to portray the Liberal Government as homophobic (even though they were the ones who brought in gay marriage – unappreciative pricks), re-posted an article by Alicia Larriera from the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) commenting on John Howards' opinion on having gay children, saying he'd be 'disappointed' and 'upset'. Well honestly, who wouldn't be?

It's all great that it's 2019 and we're progressive and don't care if you're LGBTLMNOP... but who really wants gay kids?

Sure, I don't really think I'd care (that much) if they were gay, cause I know they'll be able to get married and probably more likely to get a job #reversediscrimination... but would I really WANT that for my children?... NO!

I agree with Howard (bring him back).... it is 'abnormal' and not something I would wish upon anyone. The article even goes to the extent of comparing Howard's approach to Pauline Hanson's racism, come on.

The only part of the article that actually made sense was 'if you're straight you have a life, if you're gay you have a lifestyle'... I mean have you driven past Oxford St on a Sunday morning?... People are still leaving the clubs at 6am in nothing but a G-string, what a lifestyle! Definitely not something I'd want for my kids.

Well then I got roped into a chain of similar articles, leading to a more recent one written by Nicholas Stewart also in the SMH... This one made my blood boil. Obviously the readers of the SMH have become way too sensitive and left wing.

Not only did he tell a weeping story about being bullied at school (like we all were), but he then opens the can of worms on religious schools and their policies with being gay. Well you know what I think on the matter?

Good.

It's time that private institutions took control of their policies... Westpac workers wear suits, construction workers wear high-vis vests, new employees undertake police checks, school kids wear a uniform, WHAT is the problem in having policies on being gay?

In the article, Stewart reprimands Scott Morrison's comment of teachers and social workers helping transgender children at school as 'gender whisperers' but I applaud him! If you're male you're male if you're female you're female. I just can't handle all this washy nonsense

on protecting everyone's feelings all the time, and I know it might seem a little extreme, but I needed to get it off my chest because I've had enough"

PEER REVIEW ON PARAGRAPHS - XXXX

The Claim:

The claim mainly takes on the opinion of the articles rather than the rhetorical effectiveness of the argument itself. However, the writer places a considerable amount of rhetorical questions throughout to get readers to doublethink about the situation at hand, as quoted, "WHAT is the problem in having policies on being gay?". This illuminates the effectiveness of rhetorical questions displayed throughout the piece.

The Facebook post brings significant interests to readers as talks about a recent political event. As quoted by XXXX "First of all, congratulations Gladys! I'm so happy the Liberal party is here to stay." Good work on selecting a thought-provoking topic.

The claim incorporates relationships between various rhetorical components, for example the style and tone found throughout the piece. Alongside with the effective use of rhetorical questions as discussed above. However, additional inclusion on the effectiveness ethos, pathos and logos may improve writing style. The claim displays serious criticism throughout as it addresses opinions and views on current political issues surrounding the LGBTQ community.

Evidence for the Claim:

The piece provided evidence for the claim as it uses persons of authority such John Howards opinion on the subject. Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) commenting on John Howards' opinion on having gay children, saying he'd be 'disappointed' and 'upset'. Well honestly, who wouldn't be? Another example/instance where John Howard was shamming the LGBTQ community would be effective to supporting the claim here.

The text displays more of a subjective opinion rather than an analysis. He proclaims the claim rather than a break down of what John Howard is saying. Further discussion on John's

notions around the gay community is needed to strengthen the text. The evidence throughout the text is well sourced from scholarly articles such as the Sydney Morning Herald and quotes from high authorities, which provides respectable evidence.

Objections are lightly addressed but could further incorporate objection on the topic.

Quotations are effectively merged into his own sentences, which aids in proper expression of his character throughout his paper.

Organisation and Style:

The argument is well organised as it expresses his somewhat biased opinion on raising gay children. This is then supported by quotes from authorities and further expression of his feelings towards this issue. He includes the character's personal experience and negative opinion of the LGBTQ community. The post expressed his strong ire towards the community, justified by the concluding quote "I just can't handle all this washy nonsense on protecting everyone's feelings all the time, and I know it might seem a little extreme, but I needed to get it off my chest because I've had enough". The structure worked well however the overall structure could incorporate more evidence and less biased comments on his hate for 'gay people'.

The readers can see a correlation between the original text and the claims that have been gathered. This was effectively done but could incorporate more notions of the original text rather than just a personal rant about the subject.

The transitions and links from each argument and point are concise and effective. Well done on smoothly integrating the transitions throughout the post.

The style in the post can be seen as too casual as the writer repetitively uses the word "anyways" and expresses harsh language throughout the piece. The post displays a lot of sarcasm and also insults others rather than respectfully expressing his views.

The post begins with "Hi Facebook Friends" which can be seen as quite general introduction. The use of a hook line to grab reader's attention could be implemented here to grab the attention of other Liberal supporters.

In the third line of the piece finally grabs the reader's attention is as he writes: "First of all, congratulations Gladys! I'm so happy the Liberal party is here to stay." (Inbari, 2019) Here he excellently establishes the character's political perspective and what the post has to offer. This would be more effective if used as the hook, rather than in the third paragraph.

Overall the paragraph structure works effortlessly as the writer expresses his opinion on political changes over the recent years. The post was written in mostly short sentences and paragraphs, which kept the reader alert and interested in what he had to say via different social media platforms. The post breaks up the analysis by expressing his personal feelings towards the political changes, which is what is best suited for a Facebook post.

The miss spelling the LGBTQ community can be seen as inappropriate as it disrespects a community, thus showing less integrity to his writing. As displayed in "It's all great that it's 2019 and we're progressive and don't care if you're LGBTLMNOP... but who really wants gay kids?" (Inbari, 2019). This line can be expressed without aggressively insulting another community by appropriately addressing them as a community with a right. By mentioning that these individuals have a right to individuality, perhaps here you can express you're concerns and you're stand against this right in a respectful manner.

Spelling, punctuation, mechanics, documentation and format:

The paper correctly address the spelling of authors names and institutions involves expect for LGQBT community.

Despite the intentional miss spelling of LGQBT, the paper follows correct spelling and grammar through out. The post appropriately incorporates capitalisation in the text to display the writer's strong opinion on subject. Additionally, punctuation including question marks and explanation marks are significantly found throughout to engage in rhetorical questions as well as to thought provoke the readers. As displayed in the following line "would I really WANT that for my children?... NO!"

The assignment does need to follow a specific format for a Facebook post, such as short sentences, catchy hook sentences and hash tags; perhaps even a link to the articles could be helpful here. Pictures and memes are also popular in social media posting which may draw

more attention towards the post. In conclusion, the post effectively captures the attention of readers and smoothly incorporated the change in political party views over time. Well done, very impressed in your ability to express a different point of view.

YYYY– ORIGINAL PARAGRAPHS INTO FACEBOOK POST:

“Two articles by Karyn Scherer in 1995 and Jamie Doward in 2019 highlight the changes in the age laws over time. Reviewing the two articles from approximately 23 years apart display similar hopes for significant changes in tobacco laws. Scherer wrote an article on how “Tobacco Laws Changes Upset” and Doward likewise spoke up about “MPs call for legal smoking age to be raised to 21” both the articles bring up current and past health issues and concerns around tobacco smoking laws particularly in youth demographics. We begin to question whether or not tobacco laws are appropriately impacting youths use of tobacco.”

“In Scherer’s article, she enlightens us that during 1995 the legal age for individuals to buy tobacco products was raised from the young age of 16 to 18 years of age. She also mentions the numerous issues that surrounded the hope to reduce tobacco users across the country. She also mentions the lack of health warnings on packaging the future plan to ban to advertise cigarettes. In the article, the use of is pathos is found throughout to evoke emotions and ethos appeals to make her argument persuasive. Surprisingly, Doward’s report published on March 3rd, 2019, also provides insights on the current health concerns raised by the government which lead to a parliamentary decision to increase the minimum required age for tobacco purchase. Here we can see that Doward successfully implements the use of logos appeal by using statistics. Ethos appeals around displayed throughout with the use of quotes from high authorities such as parliamentary groups and officials. Alongside with, pathos appeals that placed throughout the paper as Doward explains the negative health impacts of smoking. This post will investigate the effective use of appeals and style throughout Scherer (1995) and Doward’s (2019) articles.”

“Scherer (1995) begins by stating that “Health groups are upset that the Government has bent to industry pressure over proposed changes to tobacco laws”. She supports her claim with Health Minister Jenny Shipley’s approval to push through the changes to tobacco laws in the next month. She also mentions the banning of single sale cigarettes and the toughening up on tobacco advertising. She later mentions that tobacco advertising was banned for the

upcoming year, however tobacco companies were still allowed to advertise pricing. She ends her article, using ethos appeals by referencing medical authorities that are upset by the changes such as the Cancer Society and the Asthma Foundation.”

“Doward’s (2019) article, opens with “Smokers will be banned from buying cigarettes until they are 21 as part of measures to improve public health being considered by the government”. This belief is then supported by the influential cross-party of MP’s proposal to increase the minimum tobacco smoking age. Alongside, with the hope for leaders of tobacco companies to implement funds to encourage people to quit smoking and reduce the number of young adults taking up the bad habit. This is further supported with a quote by Tory MP Bob Blackman, who argues that smoking is the leading cause of premature ‘death and health inequalities’. The quote displays the government’s vision to prevent underage smoking and to ‘increase healthy life expectancy’. The proposal for change is further supported evidence and statistics from the health secretary, Matt Hancock revealing the government's desire to increase health expectancy by 5 years by 2035. With the hope to reduce the percentage of 15-year-olds currently smoking from 8% - 3% or less and adults smoking from 15.5 % to 12 % or less by the end of 2022.”

“So what do you think, will changing tobacco laws positively impact our youth?”

PEER REVIEW ON PARAGRAPHS YYYY

The Claim:

In paragraph one I found the claim unclear, you mention Scherer’s point of view throughout the text however lack an argument of your own. However, you successfully make a claim on her ‘ethos appeals by referencing medical authorities such as the Cancer Society and Asthma

Foundation' (Adolphe, 2019) which supports the argument made by providing credibility to the author's writing. Paragraph three lacks any claims to rhetorical effectiveness despite quoting various rhetorical scenarios. The paragraph could have been enhanced through mentioning the writer's choice of quotations to appeal to the ethos of the reader such as the reference to Bob Blackman's argument that 'smoking is the leading cause of premature 'death and health inequalities' Adolphe (2019). Your argument throughout this paragraph is unclear as it seems to explain what was mentioned in Doward's (2019) article (Adolphe, 2019) but fails to develop a claim on the rhetorical context.

Evidence for the Claim:

Overall there was a large amount of evidence provided for the claim, including numerous quotations and references to statistics to support your argument which 'merged smoothly' (Markovina, 2019) into your sentences. This was done well, however the evidence arguably is 'announced' without 'appropriate analysis' (Markovina, 2019) appealing to the ethos of the reader of your own piece of work, without analysing why this evidence needed to be included in the original articles in the first place.

Organisation and Style:

This was the largest area of opportunity. Beginning with the structure, I did not realise it was a Facebook post until I read your reflection. The language was too sophisticated for social media and there was no indication of who the author was or what the point of the article was. As well as this, a typical Facebook post would not include in-text citations. I believe that simplifying the paragraphs language, using the first-person and excluding the in-text citations will add authenticity to the Facebook post.

Both paragraph's one and three begin with a quote that is not explained until subsequent lines within the paragraphs, and as a result I believe both of your paragraphs lack a topic sentence, thesis and sense of direction. The reader should have a general idea of where your paragraph is heading from the first line, and an argument should be formed in this topic sentence which would further enhance the 'claim' mentioned earlier.

Paragraph one lacks flow. The topic sentence is a quote, and every subsequent sentence two, three, four and five begins with the word 'she'. This becomes repetitive and should be avoided as it can cause the reader to lose interest. A more effective method could be referring to Scherer as 'the writer' or mention her by her last name... or consider changing the sentence structure to not always begin by referencing the author to add interest to the paragraph.

As it is a Facebook post the writing style is too formal with words like 'alongside', 'supported' and 'revealing' which could be replaced with simple words like 'with', 'shown' or 'showing' respectively to adopt a casual approach. Paragraph three uses the word 'supported' three times within a relatively small paragraph, which could be enhanced by the use of synonyms to add interest and prevent the paragraph from sounding repetitive.

The length of the paragraphs are appropriate in conveying your message without the reader losing interest, well done on this. You successfully used language easy enough to understand, which can be challenging when discussing political issues within the health industry. I also like the rhetorical question at the end of your paragraph 'So what do you think, will changing tobacco laws positively impact our youth?' which is more suitable to a Facebook post, perhaps more of these could be used in your revised piece.

Spelling, punctuation, mechanics, documentation and format:

The grammar and punctuation used has inconsistencies in style... you use sophisticated language in 'supports her claim' in one sentence but then you use the phrase 'toughening up' in the subsequent sentence which is confusing. In paragraph three, you begin with 'Doward's (2019) article, opens...' (Adolphe, 2019) and here a comma is not necessary as you do not need to pause at this point in the sentence. You make this error again later in the paragraph in sentence three beginning with 'alongside, with....' (Adolphe, 2019) where the comma is not needed. It is also recommended that you do not use the statement 'the quote' (Adolphe, 2019) but rather incorporate 'the quote' into your work.

General Feedback and Recommendations:

Overall, I really enjoyed the topic and think that there is potential for these paragraphs to be transformed into an engaging Facebook post. This can be done through the use of simple language, a more clearly defined argument and the use of more rhetorical questions and other techniques to improve the authenticity of your post. Diversify the use of connecting words and methods of referencing the author, and be creative in making the post easier to read and more appealing. I look forward to reading your revised version of the post!

REVISED PARAGRAPHS – YYYY

ABOUT TIME THEY'VE DECIDED TO INCREASE THE LEGAL SMOKING AGE TO 21!

Has anyone read the Jamie Doward's 2019 article on The MP call for legal smoking age to be raised to 21?

I was scrolling through my phone reading the news this morning, when this gem pooped up. If you ask me, I think they should get rid of cigarettes all together. How many TV ads do we need to show people that cigarettes cause cancer and other medical issues!!! Teenage kids get addicted to smoking at such a young age because they think its cool. All I have to say is raising the legal age of 21 rather than 18 years is MUCH better. There's a few reasons for this but let me tell you why.

I remember when I was 18, all my friends were smoking and drinking at parties. Because you know? That was the 'cool' thing to do. As I got a little older, I realised that drinking and smoking just to 'fit in' was not a good excuse to ruin my health. Fitting in to the social 'norm' is not okay. I am 26-year-old who battles with tuberculosis all because I decided to share a 'social' cigarette when I was 18. I basically got addicted because I went to parties so much, I found myself wanting to buy a pack when I got stressed out at uni or work.

For those of you who don't know what tuberculosis is, it's an infectious bacterial disease that can basically kill you. I basically can't go to work and do what I love because I am coughing to the point I'm nearly vomiting all the damn time.

Look, Jamie Doward and I are not the only ones who agree that raising legal tobacco age can have a positive effect on young adult's health. Even the health professional and political parties agree that raising the smoking age will positively impact future generations. Funnily enough in 1995, Karyn Scherer wrote an article on changes in tobacco laws to raise the legal smoking age from 16 to 18 years of age. Back in 1995, the Health Minister Jenny Shipley was defiantly concerned with our communities well being. Not to mention the increased numbers of cancer and asthma caused to the younger generation at the time.

Here's another reason not to join the smoking culture. In Jamie Doward's article, Tory MP Bob Blackman argues that smoking is a leading cause of premature 'death and health inequalities'. He latter comments on how there's a much needed venue for prevention. After all our aim here on earth is to increase our overall life health expectancy not decrease it. The government is FOR us not against us. They're hoping to increase life expectancy by 5 years

in 2035. As well as decrease the amount of 15 year olds smoking from 8% to 3% or even less. Not to mention the amount of adults currently smoking from 15.5% to 12 % or less by the end of 2022.

So dear 18-year-old friends and family, do yourself a favour and turn down your next social cigarette invite.

WHO'S IN WITH ME TO REDUCE THESE NUMBERS FOR THE BETTER OF OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY?

I'd love to hear people's past experiences on 'social smoking and their current obsession with cigarettes.

Please comment Below!

SHORT REFLECTION

The paragraph review task was a challenging but rewarding task. It really allowed me to think about another what area's another students work could improve on, to make it a great piece. It was also interesting to see how you can transform an analysis into a Facebook post. XXXX's review on my post really aided me to create a stronger more engaging post which incorporated rhetorical style and questioning. The task overall aided in my ability to successfully produce a more casual style of writing to express my views on a current political subject. I enjoyed the task and hope to incorporate the learnings of this assignment into my future writing.