**COLUMNIST PROJECT**

Your first project this year is one that should help you become more adept at analyzing an author’s use of rhetoric and their purpose. You task will be to follow four columnists this semester and analyze his / her rhetoric. You will find your notes from class useful in this exercise.

This assignment has three parts:

1. Choose four columnists from the list I have provided for you. **MAKE SURE THESE COLUMNISTS WRITE REGULARLY AND HAVE PUBLISHED WITHIN THE LAST MONTH!!** Do not fall behind. This is a task that, with practice, becomes easier. **Copy (or print) each article into a clean word document with no advertisements and be sure the copy includes the date and the author’s name.**
2. Each column must be fully annotated for the following: (**50 points**)
3. Speaker’s tone, including shifts in tone, if evident
4. Appeals (how does the author use logic, emotion, credibility, humor, etc. to convince you)
   * It may help to start by marking places that evoke a reaction from *you* (laughter, anger, confusion, etc.)
5. Organizational shifts (chunk the text!)
6. Patterns of repetition
7. Rhetorical strategies

**Annotations are more than highlighting, underlining, or labeling!! Make sure your summaries, reactions, definitions, etc. are included.**

1. PASTA (**25 points**)
   1. Must be thorough and specific!
   2. Both the framework and the synthesis sentences are required

As a summative assessment, you will have to take one of the columns you have annotated for and write an essay identifying the rhetoric and analyzing its effectiveness.

**Due Dates:**

We will be collecting a column and response from you every other Friday. It is your responsibility to get this column in on time and not our responsibility to remind you. **Your column must have been written within the last month.**

**SOME SUGGESTIONS:**

* If you are struggling, come in to see me WITH you article AND your attempt at annotation. I am more than happy to help you, but it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to seek help if you need it.
* Pay attention to how he/ she uses syntax, especially subordination, coordination, various parallel structures, and punctuation to develop her style, to make a point, to build tension, etc.
* Understand how the author uses basic rhetorical moves such as juxtaposition, repetition, rhetorical questions, vacillation of tone, metaphorical techniques, allusions, irony, and satire to reinforce her argument.

\*adapted from McDonald and others via AP list-serv