

Assignment: Evaluating a Local Political Issue

Objective: Find a reliable source on a local political issue and evaluate its credibility using the provided checklist.

Instructions:

1. Choose a Local Political Issue:

- Identify a political issue currently affecting your community. This could be related to local government decisions, policies, public services, or community events.

2. Find a Source:

- Locate a source that provides information about the chosen issue. This could be a news article, government report, website, or any other relevant source.

3. Evaluate the Source:

- Use the checklist below to assess the credibility and reliability of your chosen source.

Review the 'Evaluating Sources' Checklist

4. Write a Report:

- Summarize the local political issue you chose.
- Describe the source you found, including the title, author, and publication.
- Use the checklist to evaluate the credibility of the source, providing specific examples for each criterion.
- Conclude with your overall assessment of the source's reliability.

Submission:

- Submit a 1-page report including the summary, source description, evaluation, and conclusion. Make sure your report is clear, well-organized, and free of spelling and grammar errors.

Example:

- 5. Local Political Issue:** A new proposal for a city-wide recycling program.

6. **Source:** "City Council Discusses New Recycling Initiative," Local News Online, by Jane Smith, published on March 10, 2024.

7. **Evaluation:**

- **Authority:** The article is written by a local journalist known for covering city council meetings. The news website is well-regarded in the community.
- **Accuracy:** The article includes quotes from city officials and references a government report on waste management.
- **Bias:** The article presents views from both supporters and critics of the proposal, using neutral language.
- **Currency:** The article was published recently and includes the date of the latest city council meeting.
- **Relevance:** The article directly addresses the recycling proposal and provides detailed information relevant to the local community.

8. **Conclusion:** The source is reliable and credible, offering a balanced and well-researched overview of the proposed recycling program.