

Assignment Two

In "Preface" and "The New Civil Rights," Kenji Yoshino writes that he is "troubled that Americans seem increasingly to turn toward the law to do the work of civil rights precisely when they should be turning away from it" (194). How, then, can we as a nation move towards a civil rights that accounts for the increasing diversity of our citizens?

Using Yoshino's ideas, as well as those of Mary Louise Pratt in "Arts of the Contact Zone," write a paper in which you argue for the best methods we can use to create a new civil rights.

In your paper you will want to lay out the challenges for civil rights in a diverse nation and then work with the ideas of both authors to suggest a solution to the problems of rights for a diverse citizenry.

Steps for Success

1. This is a hard assignment, I know, because it's not as simple as supporting one author or the other. Instead, you need to begin by thinking about both of their ideas and the relations you see between them. Make a list of terms from Pratt and Yoshino to start.
2. Think about the connections between these terms next; consider how certain terms are similar but also consider how they are different. Think about how using them together provides a fuller picture of the situation.
3. As always, find passages from both texts for those terms.
4. Then you will want to spend some time forming an argument. This argument should be a single sentence that summarizes the point you want to make in your paper, the conclusion you want your reader to reach with you, the goal you hope to accomplish.
5. Each of your body paragraphs should clearly help you prove your argument or support your project. Use quotations to define terms and concepts and to offer examples of those ideas that support your argument. You will probably want to start by defining the problem of civil rights and then suggest what tools can be used to solve it.

Requirements

- Rough drafts must be at least 3 pages; final drafts should be 4-5 pages.
- Bring 3 copies of your draft to class on May 23.
- Use MLA citation for all quotations. Refer to the Wadsworth guide for help on MLA format.
- All drafts should be double spaced, printed, and proofread for error. Your name should appear on the first page and in the header of every page along with the page number.