FINDING JUICY EVIDENCE:
Online Research Do's and Don't's

Introduction: The most important consideration when researching is finding **CREDIBLE**, **ACCURATE**, **RELIABLE**, and **SPECIFIC** information that relates to your speech topic (CARS). In order to do that, you need to understand what makes a source of information reliable and what doesn't (it's just like sourcing/SOAP in history class!).

Reliable Online Sources are…	Unreliable Online Sources are…
· Scholarly or academic in nature *(these websites just want to inform people with as little bias as possible)* · Well researched *(e.g. respected newspapers/magazines, and nonfiction books)* · Articles from specialized non-profit organizations *(e.g. Greenpeace)*	· Websites that anyone can contribute to *(e.g. personal websites, Wikipedia)* · Websites with no date, author, or organization · Articles from for-profit companies *(these companies are motivated by money, so that may prevent them from telling the truth)* · Articles or "posts" that do not contain scholarly research

Read on to figure out how to start researching for your speech topic!

PART 1: Types of online sources to use & avoid

DO use these types of sources :)	DO NOT use these types of sources :(
· Google Books · Websites that end in .edu, .gov, or .org · Websites of print publications (*The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Time Magazine, Upfront, etc.*) · Articles from databases *(JSTOR, Lexis-Nexis)* · Nonfiction books and periodicals · Articles from colleges & professors · Articles from non-profit 501c3 organizations *(is usually stated at the top or bottom of the webpage)*	· Wikipedia · Other user-created wikis · Personal web sites or blogs (Facebook, Tumblr, Wordpress) · Articles on websites with NO author or source information · Websites that end in ".com" *(except for websites of print publications)* · Websites from for-profit companies *(e.g. Nike, Apple, etc.)* · Really long articles (10+ pages)

Part 2: Excellent general websites to get you started

These websites may or may not have the evidence you are looking for, but they are great websites to learn more about your topic, get articles, and start your research process.

A) ProCon.org: http://www.procon.org/
B) Wikipedia: http://www.wikipedia.org **(You CANNOT use this as a source, but you can click on the citations for more information)**
C) New York Times: http://www.nytimes.com
D) CNN: http://www.cnn.com
E) Upfront (NYT for kids): http://upfront.scholastic.com/
F) Annenberg Classroom: http://www.annenbergclassroom.org/page/all-issues
G) Fact Check: http://www.factcheck.org/
H) NPR: http://www.npr.org/
I) Pew Research Center: http://www.pewresearch.org/
J) Houghton Mifflin: http://hmcurrentevents.com/
K) Times for Kids: http://www.timeforkids.com/

Part 3: How to start researching online

There is so much out there that it can be overwhelming to research online! Use these steps to help you get started:

· **STEP #1:** Start with going to the general websites listed in Part 2 of this document. *(You should be able to annotate at least one article just by completing this step)*

· **STEP #2:** Use "Google Scholar" to search for articles related to your topic. This will help you get only educational articles from trusted sources. Remember to consult **"Google Search Tips"** in the Google Drive.

· **STEP #3:** Go to specific newspapers or magazines and search their websites *(e.g. New York Times, Wall Street Journal, CNN, Times, etc.).*

· **STEP #4:** Find out what non-profit organizations support your topic/argument, and go their website. *(e.g. If your topic is about saving the environment, then Greenpeace is a great non-profit organization that is dedicated to saving the environment. So, they would be a good source to consult for facts and statistics.)*

· **STEP #5:** Make sure you have a variety of sources and types of evidence. Depending on your topic, you will probably want to have facts/statistics, stories/case studies, and actual quotes.

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS THINK ABOUT WHETHER YOUR SOURCE IS RELIABLE OR NOT!!