

Argument readings



In “ Who Are You Animal Rights Activists Anyway? ” by Tom Regan, he was telling the general public about the views of animal rights activists. Regan has written several essays on animal rights and is recognized as a key intellectual leader of the animal rights movement and has also written several books on the subject which makes him very credible in his writings. Regan’s argument is one of change, he’s trying to get us to change our views and persuade us that not all animal right activists are extremists.

He starts his essay by telling us that “ the world will have to change once we learn to treat animals with respect”, he goes on to tell us that “ being kind to animals is not enough, avoiding cruelty is not enough and that the truth of animal rights requires empty cages, not larger cages. ” I found his essay hard to keep my attention by the way he jumped around. In “ Get a Knife, Get a Dog, but Get Rid of Guns” by Molly Ivins, she was telling the reader her thoughts on getting rid of guns. Ivans is a nationally syndicated political writer.

Ivans argument is one of position. She gives us her views that she supports the Second Amendment and it stating clearly that “ guns are for those who form part of a well-regulated militia” means the armed forces, including the National Guard not fourteen year old boys or wacky religious cults and unregulated citizens. Ivans goes on to state her argument by stating that “ a well regulated militia implies both long training and long discipline and that should be required of those who are permitted to have guns, because a gum is literally the power to kill”.

This essay kept my attention because it is something that I agree with. In “The Last Word on the Last Breath” by Jan Hoffman, she was telling us her views on the right on who should determine when an ill patient should die. Her argument is one on both change and persuasion. She starts her essay by telling us about a 35 year old patient that had been in a vegetative state for 15 years (about half their life). This patient was dying but yet the family insisted that efforts be made to revive him.

After 15 minutes the doctors called the time of death. Hoffman’s argument is “who has the final say over whether CPR should be attempted on a gravely ill patient?” She goes on to tell us how the “misunderstanding of CPR itself can make a family’s agony worse.” This essay kept my interest is something that I just had to deal with. I believe that the word should be with the ill patient and if that patient was not able to make a decision it should be left to the medical professionals. DNR is a game plan for the last 15 minutes of your life”, “Instead of talking about futility; we should be discussing what has utility, like pain management, comfort and closure.” That is what needs to be thought about. In “The Return of the Happy Housewife” by Charlotte Allen, she was showing us the argument of persuasion. Her writings have appeared in the Washington Post and Los Angeles times. She argues that stay-at-home wives are happier then the ones that go to work.

She backs her argument by several statistics “52% of wives who didn’t work outside the home reported they were very happy with their marriages compared with 41% of wives in the workforce. I also found this essay to hold my attention. I unfortunately do not have the option of staying at home with

my children since I am a single mother. All of these authors use outside sources to support their arguments which is important to their credibility.