Research Topic Background:

The purpose of a research proposal is to present the need to study a research topic and to present the way in which your research will be conducted and shared. Research proposals offer convincing support that a need exists for the research on a particular topic or social problem. In addition to providing a justification, a proposal describes the current state of affairs, What’s other research has been and/or is being conducted, highlights statistics and interesting facts and figures, and the overall usefulness of your research. Generally, a proposal will include the following:

Worth up to 25pts; 2.5-3 pages due 03/20/22

Background of the Topic/Problem – provide a background of the problem or topic that will be studied. Here you’ll want to provide the current state of affairs, statistics, facts and figures. You can pull from news sources, magazines, some social media and other areas where your topic surfaces in conversations/news. Bring the reader into the know and get them excited about your topic!

Problem Statement – Here you’ll discuss the social problem or the major area of concern with your topic of interest. You’ll want to capture the gist of your problem in a statement and elaborate on your concerns. For example:

American criminal justice system was designed to keep neighborhoods and communities safe and free of violence. However, American criminal justice system is not without flaw in that American prisons are beyond capacity, and mass incarceration has negatively impacted lower income neighborhoods and men of color disproportionately.

Once your statement has been established, then discuss and provide further evidence to illustrate your point.

Purpose Statement – In this section of your assignment you’ll want to discuss your purpose for your research. What are your intentions and what will you explore? Is this for self knowledge, to educate others, policy change, social justice, etc. You can keep this section brief (one to two paragraphs).

Research Questions – You may have specific questions in mind while doing your research. Your research questions should be guided by theory. You do not have to go into detail with theory at this point, but you should be able to ask critical question guided by theory of choice. Keep your guiding questions to 3-4 question max. This section does not need to be in paragraph format but simply numbered:

How has mass incarceration negatively impacted families of color in the United States?

What public policies have added to the problem of mass incarceration over the last 20 years?

Key Terms – Key terms is simply a glossary of terms that the reader may not be familiar with and assume the reader is not the professor. List out in alphabetical order and provide a working definition for each term you list out and elaborate with some details if the definition is not evident. Again, here these terms will be specific to your topic. For example:

Mass Incarceration – The over filling/populated State and Federal Prisons within the United States (Perez, 2019).

Thirteen Amendment – provide your working definition and a citation of where the definition was derived (source, date).

References:

Here is a list of appropriate resources for background and data. You can use the internet but only for very specific inquiries. No popular website, youtube, Wikipedia, and/or blogs. All resources must come from reputable institutions such as .edu, .gov, and .org that are well known and established such as the ACLU or The World Health Organization. We are looking for solid data collection and references that are reputable, respected, well established and verifiable.

All references must be APA formatted and saved. You will be building on to this reference page throughout the semester and your references will be turned in with each assignment. For APA guidance click here Perdue Owl (Links to an external site.)

RCC Library (use ProQuest for news articles)

https://library.rcc.edu/az.php?q= (Links to an external site.)

Domestic Violence:

https://ncadv.org/STATISTICS (Links to an external site.)

National Incident-Base Reporting System (NIBS)

https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/nibrs (Links to an external site.)

Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/publications (Links to an external site.)?

Bureau of Justice Statistics

https://bjs.ojp.gov (Links to an external site.)

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation ?Reports and Statistics

https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/reports/ (Links to an external site.)

Center for Diseases Control and Prevention

https://www.cdc.gov (Links to an external site.)

Federal Bureau of Prisons

https://www.bop.gov/about/statistics/ (Links to an external site.)

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/statistics#DataAnalysisTools (Links to an external site.)

California Attorney General: Rob Bonta (Latest Reports and Statistics)

https://oag.ca.gov/cjsc/pubs (Links to an external site.)

US Census

https://data.census.gov/cedsci/ (Links to an external site.)

https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045221