**Opinion Analysis 2: Argument of Definition**

**PAGE LENGTH: 1.5 - 2 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman)**

*Directions:* For this op-ed analysis, find a written argument of definition to analyze. This can be an op-ed column, an editorial, a news article, a blog entry, or a piece of literature. This is a good chance to try out one of the databases or blog aggregators that we learned about on library day. You might want to consider an op-ed or piece of writing that you will be able to respond to as the basis of your own argument of definition (essay 2). I recommend avoiding satirical pieces.

Picking an article that actually IS an argument of definition is key. You may email me the link ahead of time if you would like to double check that the article you’ve found is okay to use.

Please staple at least the first page of the article to the back of your analysis (if you use an article from Blackboard, you can skip this step).

*Analysis Questions:* For this analysis, you should include the following content:

1**) Summary**

* Make sure it is detailed but concise
* Make sure to include author, editorial title, date, and newspaper/blog/poem/novel name in the first paragraph
* Use quotations (cite everything)

2) **Clearly explain how this is an argument of definition:**

* What word or phrase is being defined?
* What are some of the definitions or meanings discussed?
* How does this definition support or add to the author’s main claim?

**3) Defining Strategies**

* What kind of definition is developed in this article?
  + See Formal/Operational/Definitions by Example on p.256-259 in EAR
* What methods of defining do you notice the writer using to build the argument? Give examples.
  + Historical (how the term has changed over time)
  + Dictionary definitions
  + Definition by negation (what it is not)
  + Analogy (what it is like)
  + Compare & contrast
  + Cultural (different definitions for different cultures)

**4) Response/Analysis**

* What do you think about the meaning or definition being argued? Is it clear, strong, engaging? How effective is this definition and claim? What would strengthen the author’s argument?

**4**) **Works cited**

* Include works cited information at the bottom of your essay. (It does not need to be on a separate page.)
* *EAR* help: Chapter 20