

Charitable Reading Assignment - Part I: Relevance

Charitable Reading Assignment – Part I: Relevance - Instructions

1. Find a reading (or video) with which you disagree strongly on most (or at least the main) points. It does not have to be a scholarly work, but it should attempt to make an argument for some point of view. It is generally best to choose something controversial that you have strong feelings about. The more strongly you disagree, the better!
2. Do a first reading to determine relevance. Here, you are only concerned about relevance for this assignment, which will have three parts, one for each reading, and a corresponding essay, one charitable and another critical. Your choice does not have to be peer-reviewed or scholarly research. It can be an opinion piece from the Internet, if you like, so long as you strongly disagree with it and so long as it makes an attempt at actual argument (even if it fails). Pure rants, that do not even attempt to argue, are not appropriate.
3. Write a paragraph explaining briefly the nature of the chosen piece, and explaining why you chose it, and summarizing why you disagree (detailed argument is not required). Submit this as Part I of this exercise. Parts II and III will follow in subsequent weeks.