Essay 4: The Research Paper

Rough Draft Due Date: __________________ Final Draft Due Date: __________________

Readings: When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir Book by Asha Bandele and Patrisse Cullors

Format

- Your essay should have an original title, use 12 pt Times New Roman Font, and be double spaced.
- This essay will be approximately 7-10 pages, and any essays that do not meet the word requirement will lose points.
- This essay will require you find 6-10 outside sources, including:
  - One academic journal article
  - One books/ebook
  - One credible online website, and a credible video OR credible magazine article.

Writing Task

Throughout the course, we have discussed the American Dream and its relation to education, economics, immigration, and more. Patrisse Cullors makes many arguments in her memoir about race, class, gender, social justice, and sexuality. In this essay, you will analyze one issue made by the author, and in a thesis-driven, argumentative research paper, create your own argument about this issue.

Consider the following questions:

1. What is Cullors’s argument, and how does she make this argument?
2. Is her argument effective? Why or why not?
3. What is YOUR argument about the issue in question?

Sample Issues

- The Black Lives Matter Movement
- America’s prison industrial complex
- Racism in the U.S. justice system
- Discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals

Tips

★ You are expected to discuss Cullors’s rhetorical strategies, as we have covered in class.
★ Your argument DOES NOT have to agree with Cullors, though you are welcome to build on her argument and extend it with your own research.
★ Your argument MUST be based on reliable evidence.
**Suggested Outline**

I. Intro/thesis
II. Body 1: Analyzing Cullors’s argument
III. Body 2: Extend analysis of Cullors’s argument
IV. Body 3: Evaluate Cullors’s argument
V. Body 4: Support your argument with point #1
VI. Body 5: Support your argument with point #2
VII. Body 6: Counterargument and rebuttal
VIII. Conclusion