

Within these Units, I have learned more about myself, my writing styles, and the approaches I normally default to try to get my points across within papers and other literary work I do in other classes. These units help me understand Pathos, Ethos, and Logo, and within these concepts learn what they mean and how I can properly use them to make my work show big pictures and appeal to readers and/or a certain audience. Meaningful insights that I took away from this class are different approaches to writing rhetorical essays' such as the warrant, which I learned is an underlying bias or assumption people need to share to believe your reasonings and the claim being supported by reasonings, which are supported by evidence. In our course objectives, I feel I have improved with recognizing and analyzing arguments being made, teas out bias, and employing rhetorical strategies while constructing my arguments in different modes and genres. This course has helped me better recognize language, attitudes, and rhetorics within others' writing. While going over peer review exercises, I have enhanced drafting, editing, and self-assessment with my work and for my peers. I've been improving my integration of anecdotes and quotes, but I also have, throughout these three units, been working hard on strengthening my paraphrasing quotes and my body paragraphs within our papers, making sure they all flow while trying to hold to my thesis/ arguments. I feel that I am getting better at engaging my audience that I want to reach in ways that will not get bored or feel as if I am a broken record by keeping it factual, creditable, and relevant to the cause I am trying to shed light upon. Throughout the course been using the resources, we have at our disposal by practicing using our library database to retrieve articles to use as evidence for papers or assignments. Within the time we have left in this class, I hope to see improvement within me in formulating my stance and articulating that all throughout my papers and assignments effectively without coming off as knowledgeable and just spewing words upon a page.

Domestic violence in New York: Affecting the city one case at a time!

What is domestic violence in Brooklyn? How can this affect our community? How is this problem taking its toll on society? Domestic violence is a joint event in New York. In Brooklyn, there is a lot of stress from different issues dating back to a century ago. A cause for domestic violence can be anger issues, alcohol abuse, and violence in countries like Bangladesh. This can be a cause because some people can't contain themselves with how they feel and can take it out on their loved ones. The explanation would be that instead of people talking about how angry they are, they can pose a more physical approach.

Anger issues can create problems in families and destroy communities. Evidence that helps support my thesis is "Evidence shows that abusive men who complete anger management programs do not stop abusing. They merely choose another tool to reach the same end."(Kholly); what this is saying is how people who abuse others out of anger don't help them, it can make them just use another way to control their victim. Another piece of evidence that shows how anger and mental illness can lead to domestic violence is "Abusers may feel this need to control their partner because of low self-esteem, extreme jealousy, difficulties in regulating anger and other strong emotions, or when they feel inferior to the other partner in education and socioeconomic background"(Kholly). This quote is trying to say that, in some cases, people believe it is okay to hurt someone in such a way. They feel it is right to always be in control, and also they were taught that this type of behavior is acceptable. Another piece of evidence is that domestic violence is connected to anger issues, "Some people with very traditional beliefs may think they have the right to control their partner, and that women aren't equal to men. Others may have an undiagnosed personality disorder or psychological disorder." This quote is saying that people who might be the abuser in the situation could be dealing with issues other than anger. In my neighborhood, there are a lot of incidents, and I constantly see men, women, and children being affected by this every day. If you do the math, more than a quarter of New Yorkers are in domestic violence situations.

How domestic violence affects a community such as Brooklyn, New York, is it can affect things like it significantly impeding economic growth and development, etc. But it also affects people in the community, such as children and teens. This affects the younger people in our community because we are more vulnerable to things we see and experience in our day-to-day lives.

Domestic violence can affect our economy; this claim can be proven is stated in the following quote, “A 2003 study by the CDC estimated that domestic violence cost the US economy more than \$ 5.8 million in a single year, other studies have estimated the annual cost of domestic violence in the united states to be as high as \$ 12.6m.” This tells us that over five million dollars were spent on domestic violence cases. This cost is barely effective because the government uses all this money, but are they using it properly? In this world, it’s not only about money. It is what you do with the money that counts as well. The question is whether the government can give however much to a cause but will it be used in the best way possible? Lastly, to support my claim, having all this money does not mean a thing. It's about whether they are using what they have in the right way to decrease statistics.

How domestic violence affects kids, infants, teens/young adults in my community is we will think that this type of behavior is ok, and it will become a learned trait that they will carry with them later in life. This can cause numerous problems for them later in life; for example, instead of using their words to solve a problem. They will go to physical altercations because they were taught when they were young that physically hurting someone was ok. For example, “ studies show that children who have witnessed domestic violence are most likely to: show aggressive behavior, develop phobias and insomnia, experience anxiety, show symptoms of depression, have diminished self esteem, demonstrate poor academic performance and problem solving skills”(NIH). This tells the reader that young citizens in this community affect us in school and on the streets. It creates aggressive behavior patterns, and they can even experience things such as anxiety. My point is that if we let things like this happen in our streets and homes, how will this help prepare the next generation? How will they be able to manage themselves?

Domestic violence can damage their behavior if they resort to violence, thinking it's ok to solve all of their problems. Since domestic violence creates stress in young people because they see their parents fighting verbally and physically, this leads to health issues in their bodies. There is even research that proves domestic violence affects stress. According to Harvard University, they state, “ The future of any society depends on its ability to foster the healthy development of the next generation. Extensive research on the biology of stress now shows that healthy development can be

derailed by excessive or prolonged activation of stress response systems in the body and brain. Such toxic stress can have damaging effects on learning, behaviour, and health across the lifespan” (Harvard, Web). I can prove this to be true whenever I'm in school, and I feel stressed out, I feel sick, or just that I'm not good enough for the position I'm in and I feel like giving up. Another way this is proven to be true is my best friend Samantha Singleton; whenever she feels stressed, she can have anxiety attacks. Also she can become frustrated and snappy, but most importantly, depressed. This quote is trying to tell anyone reading this that young people in this community are greatly affected, and our community can be affected by this. In addition to this information, another way young people's health can be at risk is “When a young child’s stress response systems are activated within an environment of supportive relationships with adults, these physiological effects are buffered and brought back down to baseline. The result is the development of healthy stress response systems. However, if the stress response is extreme and long-lasting, and buffering relationships are unavailable to the child, the result can be damaged, weakened systems and brain architecture, with lifelong repercussions”. Why this quote is important because it talks about how stress can affect the brain and the lifespan of a young person, and also this can hurt their livelihood in the long run. Environment affects the way children are affected. Good supporting relationships make them feel safe and secure in their environment, which will be at home. A good environment affects how people behave because they can carry the stress and behavior they see in their homes to places they go to, which negatively affects their lives.

The above states how stress can affect our communities violently, but stress is not the only factor in how domestic violence occurs. How Alcohol abuse relates to my issue is because people in my community are being affected by alcohol abuse because it's so easy to just go to the store that is just a block away, making it easier for people to get addicted and when in some cases people become addicted they lose control of their emotions and what they physically and this is a dangerous thing for their loved ones if they are put into a certain position where they need to defend and protect. : “ In 2012, there were 42,946 alcohol-related hospitalizations in NYC. Males made up the majority at 29,932. The dominating age group was 45 to 54, followed by 55 to 64. The majority of these

hospitalised patients were black (32 percent), followed by Hispanic (25 percent), white (22 percent), and another (21 percent). These statistics show the amount of alcohol related hospitalizations in Brooklyn, New York in 2012. This relates to the quote because people under the influence can hurt others and even more themselves.

One can argue that domestic violence is not a major issue in New York because “Those excuses are lies. Domestic violence is not caused by alcohol or drugs, plenty of adults who grew up witnessing domestic abuse as children didn’t turn into batterers” according to a study by Andrew Klein, Ph.D., for the Battered Women’s Justice Project, abusive partners are no more likely to be mentally ill than the general population”. This quote is trying to tell us that abuse can’t be caused by mental illness and that people use it as an excuse to cover their lies. That is all just a lie to be in a certain spot/space they want to be in. In addition to this, people can also argue that mental illness/ anger issues cannot be a cause of domestic violence because again, it is a learned behavior a point that supports this is made in the following quote “Many experts believe psychopathology, developed by growing up in a violent and abusive household causes domestic violence to continue as a generational legacy. Witnessing abuse as the norm, or being abused, destroys the child's ability to trust others and undermines his or her ability to control emotions. This produces hostile, dependant, and emotionally insecure people with a deeply impaired”. This quote tells the reader that some people who beat their partner don't always have a mental illness.

This opposing argument is wrong due to how the effects of Violence affects people in our communities. Domestic violence is leaving single mothers to be led into poverty and discriminated against. Domestic violence leaves people out of work because of stress and bad job performance and sometimes gets them fired. Can domestic violence affect us at work? The answer is yes, it can, and it's real. It is another problem that people who experience abuse go through. The following states, “domestic violence is a main cause of homelessness for women and families, either when women are forced to flee a relationship or when they are evicted from their homes because of the abuse perpetrated against them. This is even for poor women due to a lack of safe and affordable housing options and housing assistance as well as discrimination against survivor”(Lecia Imbery) This is

trying to tell us the issues women go through when they are being abused and how it leads them to poverty or to be homeless.

Another problem is that women and their families can even receive less help than they do now with cuts to domestic violence acts. Therefore they are being treated poorly even though they are dealing with major problematic issues for everyone in their families. How I can support my claim is by the following quote“. Poor women and their families are facing a superstorm of grim outcomes. Not only will the severe cuts to critical domestic violence, sexual- assault, and human needs services devastate low-income victims and the providers that serve them and their families, but the reauthorization of the violence against women act also remains held up in congress after it’s expiration a year ago. How would you feel if you reported abuse and were later fired from your position would you think it's fair judgment? Or would you fight for your job? In my community, I feel like domestic violence victims don't receive much help, and with the cuts that are happening now, their chances of success are going to be at an all-time low. In recent reports, people have stated that they have lost their jobs because the abuse has interfered with their lives, but in my opinion, I feel like they don't deserve to lose their jobs if it is reported. Should domestic violence victims be fired from their jobs if it interferes with their work ethic? “victims of domestic violence have reported that the abuse interfered with their job performance and undermined their livelihoods. A significant fraction- as high as around 50 percent in some studies- reported having lost their jobs or being forced to quit at least partly as a result of the situation”. What this quote is saying is people do get discriminated against by being fired from their position, or being pressured to quit. This is significant because people are discriminated against because of their personal lives. That's like being told you can't do a job because of how you live.

Due to the high statistics and reports, domestic violence is an issue in New York. Women are being discriminated against. Kids are being affected because of bad environments. Brooklyn is being affected because this raises numbers in crime rates, poverty rates, etc. Domestic violence is an issue because more than a quarter of its residents are hospitalized due to assault injuries from unknown sources. Domestic violence can destroy families and communities. The overall idea I want the reader to walk away with after reading my essay is that people like me who live in this community and have

gone through domestic violence situations are being affected. Causes for domestic violence are anger issues, alcohol abuse, and issues in other countries such as Bangladesh. These issues have affected my community, Brooklyn. I have seen men who are intoxicated abusing women in front of children affecting not only the mother but also the children watching. Bangladesh is taking away people's human rights and violating them as people. In this world, people think it is ok that controlling a person is a normal life to live.

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