Paper 2: Analysis Paper

Prompt
Choose a reading from the attached list, and write an essay in which you analyze the argument presented by the reading you have selected. Your essay should identify the author's thesis, identify the evidence he or she uses to support that thesis, and explain why you think the author's argument is effective (or ineffective).

Important Dates
- Typed draft due Monday, February 10.
- Final draft due Friday, February 14. Bring in a typed copy. Submit an electronic copy to TRACS drop box by the beginning of class.

Requirements
- 3 – 4 pages
- Type your paper: double-spaced, 12-point, Times New Roman font, with 1" margins. Consult pg. 2 of the syllabus for header and heading formatting. For MLA paper formatting, consult pgs. 583 - 588 of The Bedford Handbook.

You may choose to focus on any combination of the following:
- The credibility of the author (ethos).
- The effectiveness of the author's appeals to readers' emotions and values (pathos).
- The validity of the evidence presented (logos).
- The author's tone. (Respectful? Dismissive? Comical?)
- The author's approach to (any) opposing views. (Does the author effectively refute any opposing views?)
- Author's use of hyperbole, metaphor, understatement, or irony.
- Author's word choice, word images, repetition, sentence structure, visuals, or organization.

Tips for Success
- Although you are analyzing someone else's argument rather than developing your own, your paper will need a thesis to give it unity and direction. In class, we will discuss how to develop a thesis for an analysis paper.
- When evaluating the effectiveness of the author's argument, give specific evidence to support your evaluation. Do not simply state that the author's argument is weak; explain why you find it unconvincing.
- Quote from the author when necessary. In class, we will discuss how to use quotations in a paper like this.
- Organize the paper into unified paragraphs, just as you would organize any other essay. For example, you may write one paragraph on the author's credibility, another on appeals to readers' values, etc.