



CRITICAL THINKING & INFORMATION LITERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Process Assignment: Evaluating Web Sources

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Carefully examine the two websites linked below, which you are thinking about using in a research paper about bullying. *Using the criteria that follows*, determine whether or not each website is a *reliable* source to use for an academic paper. Once you have made your decision, post your answer in the appropriate discussion link below and discuss any discrepancies/disagreements with your group members.

<http://www.metrokc.gov/health/datawatch/bullying.pdf>

http://www.vachss.com/av_dispatches/disp_8100_a.html

Criteria:

1. Is the author identified?
2. Does it appear in an online journal or magazine that is peer-reviewed? In other words, is there any indication that every article submitted must be reviewed by other scholars in the field before it is accepted for publication?
3. Is the document from a government source?
4. Does the document appear in an online publication affiliated with a reputable educational institution or organization?
5. Is the author affiliated with a reputable educational institution or organization (like a large university or a national non-profit organization)?
6. If the author isn't clearly affiliated with a reputable institution, does he or she offer any credentials that help establish his or her

- expertise to write on the topic (for example, an advanced degree in the relevant discipline)?
7. Has the author published elsewhere on the topic in reputable journals or other publications? Check this through the BCC library by searching under the author's name in the periodical databases.
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