

## Evaluating Web Sites

Imagine that you have to write a report on one of the controversial topics listed below. You need to find **background information and facts** to illustrate your points. (Note: you may choose your own topic, but you must get approval for it)

Conduct a web search on your topic. Select a web site to critique that:

- 1) meets the **evaluation criteria** we discussed in class (authority, accuracy, balanced treatment, absence of persuasion techniques)

-- OR --

- 2) is an **advocacy site** you could use to understand a specific perspective on the topic

### Topics (may be narrowed down):

Requiring Internet filters in school and public libraries  
Cyberbullying and schools (using Facebook, IM, etc. to bully or harass peers)  
Native American mascots in college or professional sports  
Educating girls in Pakistan (or Afghanistan or...)  
Wikileaks controversy  
Unemployment of college graduates  
The 1% (and/or the 99%) controversy  
Rebuilding in Haiti  
Bee colony collapse disorder  
Affordable Health Care Act  
The Arab spring  
Health care reform legislation  
Teaching intelligent design in public school science classes  
Facebook, teenagers, and privacy  
China and pirated software  
China and Internet censorship  
Same-sex marriage  
Cell phones and driving  
Assault weapons ban  
Teenagers texting while driving  
Cell phones (or iPods or mp3 players) in schools  
Women in the military (in combat situations)  
North Korea and nuclear power development  
Iran and nuclear power development  
Violence in team sports (optional: use a specific instance, athlete, or team)  
Use of performance enhancing drugs by athletes  
Immigration reform  
Prospects for Mideast peace  
High stakes testing in schools

Your own topic (with approval):