Alternate Assignment

Lydia Harner

**Abortion**

**Position 1:** Abortion should be illegal.

**Position 2:** Abortion should be legal only in certain cases or scenarios.

**Reason for position 1:** Abortion should be illegal because it involves the killing of an unborn child. The fetus is considered to be a separate being from the time of conception, making abortion equivalent to murder. Families are always trying to adopt, which still allows the mother to give up the baby without taking its life.

**Reason for position 2:** Abortion should be legal in certain cases such as rape, disability, or finical status of the mother. If the mother is raped, she should not be forced to keep the baby. If the baby will be born with a disability and the mother feels that she is not equipped or ready to take care of the baby, she should have the choice of abortion. Finally, if the mother is not going to be financially able to take care of the baby, should be able to have an abortion.

**Death Penalty**

**Position 1:** The death penalty should be legal in all states

**Position 2:** The death penalty should be illegal, no matter what the crime is

**Reason for position 1:** Having the death penalty in place in prisons across the country discourages criminals from committing certain crimes. Knowing that if they kill someone, they could also die could potentially keep murder numbers down. The death penalty today has evolved into a generally quick, painless process for the prisoner. It is also much cheaper than supporting the prisoner in jail for the rest of his life.

**Reason for position 2:** Giving a murderer the death penalty does nothing except continue the cycle of violence. Everyone is human and makes mistakes, including the justice system. If they are wrong about the execution, it can never be undone. It also can be considered taking the “easy way out”. A life in prison would be much harder to bear than a quick, painless way to end your life.