Name _____ **Period** _____ **Due** _____

Rhetorical Argument Exercise

Now that you've had a chance to read multiple examples of rhetoric, you will be writing your own. Here's the fun part: in order to help you focus on using the elements we talked about, you will be taking a stance on an issue that you do not agree with.

The Task: Write an argument (in the form of an op. ed., blog post, or scholarly article) about a current issue with a stance that **directly opposes what you believe**. You may choose any of the six topics for which you received articles or the marriage equality issue. In this exercise, you must try to present a well-reasoned argument that includes **ALL** of the following:

- **Ethos** – at least **two** quotes, statistics, or references that make your information and argument appear valid.
- **Pathos** – at least **one** emotionally-based appeal.
- **Logos** – at least **one** clear logical appeal that introduces one or more acceptable premise(s) and explains how that/those will lead the audience to a conclusion.
- **Hook** – something that will grab your audience's attention in the first paragraph.
- **Claim** – at least **one** explicit or implicit claim which you defend.
- **Call to Action** – **one** explicit or implicit thing that you want your audience to do after reading your argument.

**Unlike the *Romeo and Juliet* analysis, it must not be obvious that you don't like or agree with your subject or stance. For the purposes of this exercise, leave your opinion out of the paper. If you would be too frustrated with presenting this kind of a viewpoint on one of the issues, choose a different one.

The Challenge: Use more than the required number of each of the rhetorical appeals. AND/OR feature a counter-argument that you refute.

You will be graded on **ALL** of the directions in **The Task**, and on general effort, fluency/readability, and the following conventions: typed, 12pt, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins, between 300 and 600 words. (Papers of less than 200 words will be returned, marked as incomplete, and recorded as a 0 in the gradebook until a rewrite is turned in.)