

Informative Speech - Social Justice Sample Topic Ideas

"Social Justice Work" is work that we do in the interest of securing human rights, an equitable distribution of resources, a healthy planet, democracy, and a space for the human spirit to thrive (read: arts/culture/entertainment). We do the work to achieve these goals on both a local and a global scale. - Innosanto Nagara, co-founder [DesignAction Collective](#)

Quote from: <http://www.reachandteach.com/content/index.php?topic=socialjustice>

Organizations

Salvation Army: International Development UK
Green Peace
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
Oxfam
Farm Aid
Lance Armstrong Cancer Research Foundation
Sevenfund
Habitat for Humanity
It Gets Better
KIVA.org (microcredit)
Water.org
Frank Water
Global Seesaw *see expanded list
Fair Trade Furniture Company *see expanded list
Livability *see expanded list
For 29 other great organizations committed to social justice, visit: www.greatnonprofits.org/issues/social-justice

Religious Organizations

Redeemer Presbyterian Church (church organization)
Cherith Brooke *see expanded list
Jacob's Well Church (Christian church organization)
Imago Dei Community (Christian church organization)
Synagogue3000 (Jewish organization) *see expanded list
Emergent Village (Christian network) *see expanded list
Traidcraft
Gateway *see expanded list

Health

Genetically modified food
Over-abundance of fast food sources
Unhealthy school menus/options
Electronic waste disposal
Vertical farming in urban areas
HIV/AIDS epidemic
Issues with FDA nutrition labeling practices
Lack of quality grocery stores in inner city core areas

Low survival rate of newborn babies in third world countries

Domestic Issues & Current Events

Human Trafficking
Workplace rights for fathers (ex: maternity leave for working fathers)
City curfew for minors
Workplace benefits for domestic partners/gay married couples
Public assistance fraud
Bullying in schools and in the workplace
Anti-bullying legislation
Age discrimination
Gender discrimination in the workplace
Approving funding for unprocessed rape kits
Alcohol in upper classman dorms for students over age 21
Welfare
Identity theft
TSA safety regulations
Prison reform
Designated smoking area city ordinances
Assisting the homeless
Religion in schools/prayer rooms
Native American Sovereignty/trials of crimes committed outside sovereign areas

International Issues

Sweatshop labor/child labor/free trade
Microfinance/microloans to the poor
Tying citizenship to military service
Diplomatic immunity
Media censorship/movie ratings process becoming more lenient
Proliferating access to pornography/need for increase in child-safe software
Nuclear weapons possession
Arab "Spring"
The current food crisis in East Africa
Caste discrimination of Dalit peoples
Israeli Apartheid

Movements

Civil rights (historical)

RED Campaign
 Emergent Judaism, emphasizing social justice
 Emerging Church, emphasizing social justice
 Slow Food movement, for more local and fresh options
 Woman's Liberation/Feminist movement
 Student protest movements of the 1960s (historical)
 Gay rights/integrated marriage movement

Arts (*pick a specific piece of art, an artist, or a movement and show its contribution to a social justice issue*)

Films (*e.g., Hotel Rwanda, Born into Brothels, Taken, Starkiss: Circus Girls Of India, Osama, The Beauty Academy of Kabul, The Woodsman, Harlan County U.S.A., Crash, Slumdog Millionaire, etc.*)
 Music (*e.g., albums by Bob Marley, Agents of Change, etc.*)
 Plays (*e.g., [imagination.org](http://www.imagination.org), www.thejusticetheatreproject.org, www.socialjusticejournal.org*)
 The murals of Diego Rivera
 Picasso : Guernica

Expanded Ideas:

Urban Food Deserts - big article about this in the KC Star recently - huge impact in finding fresh, affordable food in urban core areas

Immigrant status and immigrants effect on economy

KCMO School District - access to education and impact on people of color or the disenfranchised

Cherith Brook, a residential Catholic Christian community committed to social justice, among other things.

*local, in Kansas City

Berrett-Koehler is an independent publisher dedicated to an ambitious mission: Creating a World that Works for All.

The Wild Goose Festival, see www.wildgoosefestival.org, annual Christian festival devoted to social justice and storytelling, among other things.

The Greenbelt Festival, see <http://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>, annual, devoted to faith, social justice, and art.

Youthfront, Something to Eat Program: www.youthfront.com/somethingtoeat

Church Urban Fund, "tackling poverty in England": <http://www.cuf.org.uk/>

Christian Aid, "fighting for a world free of injustice": www.christianaid.org.uk/

Emergent Village, "network of Christians very concerned with social justice"

<http://www.emergentvillage.com/about-information/values-and-practices>

Global Seesaw, company devoted to selling fairtrade products to combat human trafficking and prostitution.

The Fair Trade Furniture Company: <http://www.fairtradefurniture.co.uk/>

- Livability, helping the disabled make choices: <http://www.livability.co.uk>
- City Gateway, a Christian charity dedicated to bringing hope to the borough of Tower Hamlets in London, helping those in society who are poor, excluded and in need.