Historical Figures with Mental Illness

Project

1. Choose a historical figure/celebrity that has dealt with a mental health issue or psychological disorder. Have a second choice person so that we do not have any duplicates in the class.

2. In one and a half to two typed pages (375-500 words), describe what this person accomplished and/or what he/she is famous for. The **first half page** should discuss this person’s accomplishments and what he/she is known for. The **next page to page and a half** should discuss the **mental health issues this person dealt with, the obstacles/struggles he/she faced, and how he/she grew from the experience and/or overcame the challenges**. In some cases, the end result may not have been a positive one. If this is the case then you should discuss *why things did not turn out well*. Be sure to identify your sources of info. throughout the body of this page (see #4 below)

3. Create a fact sheet about the **issue** that your figure dealt with. Your fact sheet should have at least **20 facts** and must include *all* of the following information about the problem/disorder (clearly labeled on your sheet). **Do not attach your fact sheet to your poster. It needs to be handed in separately.**

**- description/definition of the disorder or problem**

**- symptoms - treatment**

**- causes - typical outcomes/prognosis**

You may include additional facts as well, however, *no more than* 5 of your facts should be statistics. **You need to choose a *different topic/disorder* than your last project**.

4. You must use at least 2 different sources/websites for each of the two written parts of this project (total of 4 sources). These sources *should be listed at the bottom of your biography page as well as at the bottom of your fact sheet* . (If you do not have room then you can include a separate sheet that includes your sources)

Sources should be numbered and each fact should have a number after it that aligns with the source that it came from.

You are welcome to use whatever legitimate websites that you’d like, however, I have listed several good websites on the reverse of this page that you may want to utilize. Google and Yahoo are not considered sources! Individuals’ blogs cannot be used as they are not authentically documented. See me if you don’t know how to correctly cite your sources or if you are choosing someone who is not on the suggested list.

Suggested Sources

NIMH.org (National Institute of Mental Health)

Mentalhealth.com NAMI.org

Mentalhelp.net insidemh.com

5. Lastly, you will create a poster/visual about the person you wrote about. The visual should include information about your historical figure and his/her disorder. You should include some of your facts, but don’t just attach your fact sheet to the poster. *Be creative and make it colorful*. A traditional posterboard or tri-fold poster is ideal, but don’t feel like you have to go out and buy anything special. If you choose to visually represent your person in some other way then you must run your idea by me for approval first.

We will be having a “Psychology Fair” during which you will be informally presenting your posters to a couple of other classes who will be invited down to look at your posters and learn about your historical figures. *Be prepared to answer questions and provide information about your person to our visitors*.

The project will be graded based on the rubric below. This project is being used to evaluate the schoolwide expectation of *speaking effectively*. If you choose not to present your poster then this will negatively affect your evaluation. You will also automatically lose 30 points on this project. If you are out on the day of the Psychology Fair then you will need to present it to the class when you return.

Grading Rubric:

Historical Figure selected *On time* 10 pts.

*Late* 5 pts.

Biography page 35 pts.

Fact Sheet 20 pts.

Poster/Visual 25 pts.

Sources cited properly 10 pts.

Due Dates:

Historical Figure Chosen: Thursday, October 4th

Paper & Fact Sheet: Thursday, October 18th

Poster Presentations: Monday, October 22nd