

**Point/Counterpoint
Fall 2007
Roundtable Discussion**

You and 2-3 other class members (3-4 total) are required to further **research and develop a roundtable discussion** on a controversial issue related to one of the three in-depth topics of the class: reproductive rights, work or family values.

Your group will be responsible for a (roughly) **20 minute presentation** in which you critically explore the multiple sides to the issue. You will also be responsible for **posing several thought-provoking questions** to the class and then **leading a 20 minute discussion**.

In addition to your oral presentation + discussion, each group member is required to submit a **1 page summary of your particular position**. This summary could be in the form of a brief essay or an outline of your key points. All of your individual summaries should be stapled together and accompanied by an introductory page in which you identify your group and your chosen topic.

20 minute Presentation:

I would encourage you to present your material to the class in one of three ways:

1. A less formal conversation in the style of *To the Contrary*. In this format, you will appoint a moderator who introduces the topic, contributes to the overall discussion and makes sure all of the participants have a chance to present their ideas. The other presenters will participate in the conversation from their particular perspectives (perspectives that are informed by careful research and an in-depth understanding of the key issues).
2. A slightly more formal presentation of the issue under debate. In this format, after introducing the topic as a group, each presenter will give a brief prepared statement on the issue from their perspective. Then, the group will engage collectively in a critical conversation about the issues that each of them have raised.
3. A formal presentation. In this format, after introducing the topic as a group, each presenter will read a paper (3-4 pages long) in which they offer their own clear and unique perspective on the issue.

Regardless of which format you choose, you and your group (individually and collectively) must demonstrate that you have carefully researched and prepared the presentation of your chosen topic. Your presentation must not be one-sided, that is clearly favoring one particular perspective on the issue, but must present multiple viewpoints. Both your performance individually and as a group will be factored into your grade.