

Special Interest Group Assignment

Objective = To familiarize yourself with some of the many interest groups that are trying to influence the political agenda.

As we have discussed in class, there are a number of interest groups who try to influence the political agenda. Some have a very narrow interest. Others have a much wider focus. All of them use lobbyists and media outlets to try and influence the policy makers to side with them.

For this assignment, you will need to use the internet and look up information on ten of the following groups. You select which ten you want to research. For each interest group, answer the following questions on your own sheet of paper:

- A. Who are they? (What group are they trying to represent?)**
- B. What issues do they care about?**
- C. How would you get in touch with them?**

Interest groups:

- American Civil Liberties Union
- AFL/CIO - American Federation of Labor/Congress of Industrial Organizations
- American Israel Public Affairs Committee
- Americans for Prosperity
- AARP - American Association for Retired Persons
- Americans United for the Separation of Church and State
- Amnesty International USA
- The Christian Coalition
- Common Cause
- The Concord Coalition
- Democratic Leadership Council
- Democrats.com
- Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee
- Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee
- The Electronic Policy Network
- Families USA
- Family Research Council
- The Federalist Society
- The Feminist Majority

(Turn Over)

- Free-Market.net
- Greenpeace USA
- Human Rights Campaign
- The Interfaith Alliance
- The John Birch Society
- Voto Latino
- Moveon.org

- National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League
- NAACP - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- National Committee for an Effective Congress
- National Organization for Women
- National Republican Congressional Committee
- National Republican Senatorial Committee
- National Rifle Association
- National Right to Life Committee
- People for the American Way
- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
- Planned Parenthood Federation of America
- The Right Side of the Web
- The Sierra Club
- Southern Poverty Law Center
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce