

English II: Confederate Flag Essay



Prompt

Following the attack on a black church in Charleston, South Carolina, debate about the use of the Confederate flag has flared up in the United States once again. Some argue that it is an emblem of hatred and bigotry, while others maintain that the flag is merely an expression of Southern culture and honor. Still others argue that the debate over the flag is meaningless.

In a well-developed essay, argue whether the Confederate flag should be flown.

Requirements

- Please submit a typed response that uses a legible 12-point font, 1" margins, a double spaced body, and a simple single spaced header. Your essay needs to be shared with me at dpogreba@gmail.com by **noon on Sunday, March 25.**
- The response should be between 600-800 words long.
- Your response should include both an introduction and conclusion, both of which should be short and direct.
- The essay needs to include **at least four and no more than seven** quotes from the articles provided and your own research I would suggest using the **Opposing Viewpoints database** we used for the death penalty essay. For the sources I provide, I will post a Google Docs document that contains the works cited information for each.
- Make sure to follow all MLA formatting and rules for citation.
- Do not plagiarize!

Tips

- Have a well-developed thesis that you stick with. Organization is paramount.
- Remember the paragraph structure we discussed for the death penalty essay. If **each body paragraph has two main ideas**, it will be much easier to write the piece.
- Focus on a few things in this essay:
 - An engaging introduction.
 - A strong thesis statement that suggests a concession.
 - Incorporating specific details into your paragraphs to give them power and interest.
 - A strong conclusion.

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Sample Outline for Confederate Flag Essay

I. Introduction Paragraph

A. HOOK

B. BRIDGE

C. THESIS: Although the Confederate flag does have important historical value, it should not be permitted because it is a racist symbol that encourages hate.

II. BODY PARAGRAPH 1

A. The Confederacy is a part of American history

B. Not all those who celebrate the flag have hostile intent

III. BODY PARAGRAPH 2

A. The flag is a racist symbol

B. Government buildings should not celebrate racism

IV. BODY PARAGRAPH 3

A. The flag encourages hostility between people.

B. The flag was used to oppress people of color from the time of the Civil War until today

V. CONCLUSION

A. RESTATE THESIS

B. RETURN TO HOOK