Where Do You Stand?

**Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Use this sheet as an outline to help you write a short persuasive essay expressing your opinion.

**State your opinion on the topic before reading the article?** Please include three reasons to support your current opinion. [You may use factual data or Ethical/Religious/Cultural Beliefs, Family values, etc.]

**Introduce Problem** (What is the debatable topic or the problem you are addressing?)

**State your opinion after reading the article.** [If your opinion changed include the reason for your change of mind.]

**State your opinion after discussing with an adult in your family**. What info did your family member add that supported or changed your opinion. Research this point to see if it can be documented as factual.

**Support your opinion.** [Provide at least three convincing reasons that support your opinion. Use facts that you learned from the article or other reliable sources. You must provide/list the additional sources.]

**Mention the other Side** [Pick one of the strongest points from the other side of the argument. Then think of a way to make that idea seem wrong or flawed.]

Begin Writing- Use the information you gathered above to write an Essay to Persuade others to support your opinion. Include an introduction that summarizes the issue and a conclusion that restates your main points, but don’t add any new ideas during the conclusion! Remember, the conclusion is the last thing your readers will see, so make sure to remind them why your argument is correct!