

*Skills- Group norms, lenses*

**HAND APPROACH LENSES:**

***Cultural Social***

***Environmental***

***Scientific***

***Economic***

***Political***

***Historical***

***Artistic***

***Philosophical***

***Futuristic***

Let's consider a basic questions that can be seen through many lenses, and consider what lenses best to study it:

***Is it always best to tell the truth?***

Now it's your turn to apply this strategy to our coursework...

**APPLICATION ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS:**

Gathering into **groups of 3-4**, agree upon a research question/prompt from the list below to serve as the focus for your research. *No two teams can have the same prompt!*

- 1. 'People always respond to a crisis when it's too late.'**
- 2. 'History repeats itself.'**
- 3. 'No person is an island.'**
- 4. Can breaking the law ever be justified?**
- 5. In your society, how far can people look forward with confidence to growing old?**
- 6. Assess the advantages and problems of hosting major sporting events.**
- 7. 'Countries should be ashamed, not proud, of their history.'**

As a group, you will analyze this single question from multiple **lenses**. Each team member will be responsible for researching the question from ONE of the Hand Approach lenses listed at the beginning of this handout.

EXAMPLE

GROUP: Team of **4** students

GROUP PROMPT: *Is it always best to tell the truth?*

TEAM MEMBER 1: Science and Tech

TEAM MEMBER 2: Politics and Gov't

**TEAM MEMBER 3: Environment**

TEAM MEMBER 4: Social/Cultural

During individual research, each team member will be required to locate **evidence that either support or refutes the essay prompt**, and this evidence MUST relate exclusively to his/her own lens.

EXAMPLE

**TEAM MEMBER 3:** Must find evidence where telling the truth is the best policy when it comes to the environment, or he/she must also find evidence where withholding the truth may serve the environment better.

When locating research to serve as evidence in support and/or against the research question, each team member MUST pinpoint **specific, concrete examples** to prove or disprove/challenge it.

EXAMPLE

**TEAM MEMBER 3:**

Evidence in favor of truth-telling = *Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" (a documentary from 2006) discusses global warming.*

Evidence against truth-telling = *a country who is rich in resources might want to withhold this information or they may otherwise face resource exploitation much like The Democratic Republic of Congo did in the 1990s/2000s where their vast cache of diamonds were targeted/exploited.*

**First:** Consider your group norms, and write them on the back of the poster. (One poster per group...sorry...no extra paper).

Group Norms to Consider (which must be included on the back of the poster):

Deadlines within the block.

Selection process for choosing different lenses (no repeats).

Which members is responsible for poster design/scribing?

How will each member provide valuable input during the brief presentation at the end of the block?

**Second:** Team members will have one class period to locate research supporting or refuting the group research question, generate a poster on the information, and report it out to the class.

Teams will be assessed **as a whole**; each individual will include his/her research in the **group** response!

For the '**minor assignment**,' teams will create a **Hand Approach Poster** that showcases all the evidence from each lens both 'in favor' and 'against' the research question.

For every Finger or lens,  
Be CLEAR in your  
explanation of how the  
research relates to the  
lens and the question as  
a whole!

**I also want to see the ground rules you establish to complete this assignment. List on the back of the poster with your names and Seminar day what you determined to be your "group norms".**

## Environment

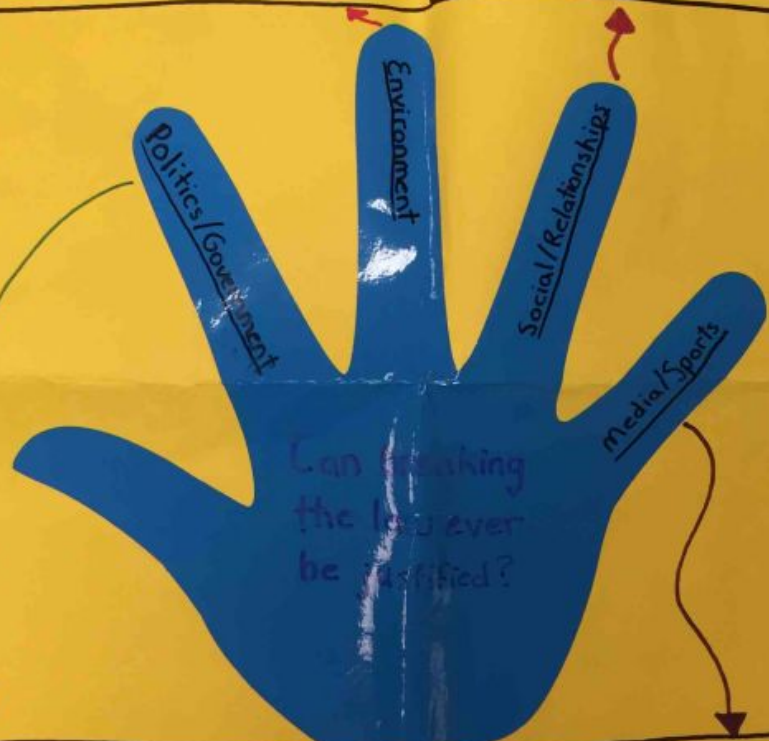
In an environmental standpoint breaking the law can be justified when someone is protesting a proven harmful act or substance.

However, it cannot be justified if, one, the people breaking the law with a harmful consequence. Two, the people breaking the law are disturbing others not involved.

## Social/relationships

Breaking the law is justified when it leads to a better human race. Such as civil disobedience. Sometimes it leads to the greater good. The legalization of same-sex ~~marriage~~ was legalized after many years of this.

No person is allowed to deliberately & arbitrarily remove the possibility for others to think, feel, act or express themselves as they choose. This is a law that should NEVER be broken. Democratizing a person is NEVER okay.



## Politics / Government

Breaking the law is justifiable when protecting others from harm in a dangerous situation. A person can cause harm to another when protecting others or himself. Breaking the law is not justifiable when used for malicious purposes or intentional wrongdoing. When someone purpose fully causes harm to another person to society for personal gain, it is not justifiable.

## Media/sports

Breaking the law by hacking into an account or computer is not justifiable, because serious harm or theft (identity, personal info, etc.) can result. Society widely accepts that, although advertisements are lawfully required to be honest, most tell white lies or partial