Capstone Topic Ideation Exercise:

Venn Diagram Examples

- 1. Look at the Topics list (and/or create your own), and identify five different potential topic directions for your capstone.
- 2. Make lists for each possible topic, investigating and researching multiple perspectices on the topic and what would be relevant for each.
- 3. Create a venn diagram that represents the perspectives you are considering, and what opportunities you think may be "common ground" between then.

See reference examples provided below and on the following pages.

INCARCERATION

Advocates for Rehabilitation

Focus:

Incarceration should prioritize preparing individuals for reintegration into society.

Key Beliefs:

Education, job training, and mental health support are essential to reducing recidivism. Addressing underlying causes of crime (poverty, addiction) can prevent future offenses. Investing in people during incarceration leads to long-term public safety.

Common Ground

Shared Goals:

Both aim to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism. Both recognize the need for justice to address crime's impact on victims and society.

Potential Areas of Agreement:

Non-violent offenders might benefit from education or job training programs. Both sides could support improved mental health care within the prison system leads to long-term public safety.

Supporters of Punitive Measures

Focus:

Incarceration should act as a deterrent to crime through strict punishment.

Key Beliefs:

Longer, harsher sentences discourage criminal behavior. Justice for victims is achieved by ensuring offenders face serious consequences. Societal safety should take precedence over individual rehabilitation.

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GUN CONTROL

Advocates for Stricter Gun Control

Focus:

Emphasizes implementing stricter regulations to reduce gun violence.

Key Beliefs:

Background checks and waiting periods are essential to prevent firearms from reaching dangerous individuals. High-capacity magazines and military-grade weapons should be restricted. Gun control laws save lives by reducing mass shootings and accidental deaths.

Common Ground

Shared Goals:

Both sides aim to reduce gun violence and ensure public safety. Agreement that firearms should not be in the hands of dangerous individuals.

Potential Areas of Agreement:

Support for improved background checks and mental health screenings. Advocacy for firearm safety education to prevent accidents.

Advocates for Gun Rights

Focus:

Prioritizes protecting the constitutional right to bear arms for self-defense and liberty.

Key Beliefs:

Law-abiding citizens should have easy access to firearms for personal protection. Restrictions or guns do not deter criminals but infringe on individual freedoms. Gun ownership is a fundamental right enshrined in the Second Amendment.

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Venn Diagram Examples

ABORTION

Pro-Choice

Key Beliefs:

Individuals have the right to decide about their own pregnancies. Access to safe, legal abortion is essential for personal and public health.

Pro-Life

Key Beliefs:

Life begins at conception, and abortion is morally unacceptable. Emphasis on adoption and resources for pregnant individuals.

Common Ground

Shared Goals:

Reducing unintended pregnancies through education and resources. Supporting maternal health and well-being. Seeking compassionate approaches to a complex issue.

Advocates for Socioeconomic Solutions

Key Beliefs:

Reducing unintended pregnancies through education and resources. Supporting maternal health and well-being. Seeking compassionate approaches to a complex issue.