Part I: Brainstorming Media
What is the media? What media outlets are you familiar with? Which do you use?

Part II: Quick Write
Why does the media matter? How have these media outlets influenced you? How might they have influenced society in general? In other words, what are the implications of media in today’s society?

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Part III: Class Brainstorm
Media & Its Messages

Potential Area of Research
(How does ___ impact______?)
Part IV: Think-Pair-Share
Use the following space to first, think and write. Use the questions posted on the SmartBoard to guide your response. Then, turn to a partner and share your ideas. Help them in refining their topics by sharing personal experiences, suggesting further search terms, asking probing questions, etc.

On the next page, write the topic that you want to begin researching.
Step One: Read about your topic. You are simply gathering information and ideas related to your topic. Complete the following table to keep track of some of your preliminary research. Remember, read as many as you can!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Name</th>
<th>Important &amp; Interesting Ideas from Source</th>
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Step Two: Narrowing your Research Focus. Review your preliminary research to answer the following questions in the space below.

a) What are your leads? In other words, given your preliminary research, what different focuses or areas of exploration are there within your broader research topic?

b) What is the lead that you are most interested in pursuing? In other words, which narrower focus is most interesting to you?

c) Is this lead researchable? How do you know?

d) What makes this lead compelling? Why do you care about researching this lead? Why should others care?

e) Rephrase your preferred lead as a research question. This will become your central research question.

You will need this paper with your preliminary research and your specific research question for tomorrow’s class, where we will use our peers to generate research topics!