

Example of Comments Embedded in Text

Essay #1

Laws define what has to be done and how to follow those rules but many people won't follow the rules because of certain beliefs they hold at a higher standard. Some laws contradict people's beliefs; therefore, this leads people to create controversy when citizens try and break those laws. The United States Government creates laws to reduce the prejudices in the country but laws can only go so far, we as a people need to take laws and put them into action. **[Is this your thesis statement? A well-defined thesis statement lets us know what the point of your essay is, the why of the paper. If this is indeed your thesis, then every paragraph after has to add to this idea. You are trying to prove, or show, how/why "...we as a people need to take laws and put them into action."]**

The morality of the United States has dropped dramatically **[This should be the topic sentence. You should end it here and then use the rest of the paragraph to state your evidence or support.]** with teenage pregnancy being at an all time high and divorce rates doubling since 1960. Also the number of abortions has risen drastically since the 1960s (since they are legal now) and the violent crimes that take place on the streets and how violent crimes have gotten into the school system.

Although this case doesn't deal with abortion it does deal with violent crimes. **[As a reader, I was confused by this because the rest of the paragraph is about another topic. Remember that it's best to address one topic per paragraph, and to start with a topic sentence.]** In Baton Rouge, Louisiana a seventeen year old student, Leslie-Claire Spillman, the center piece for "High School Controversial" written by Marc Peyser and Donatella Lorch. Spillman, an openly bisexual student at McKinley High School who is cochairman of the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), also shares her duties with friend Martin Pfeiffer. They both started the GSA in their school to for gay and straight students to learn about laws and each other. However, living in the Bible Belt and being homosexual or bisexual and starting a group for Gay and Straight people to integrate was just not something the parents, locals, or school board wanted. Spillman and Pfeiffer fought for recognition of the GSA, and brought it to the school board but when the school board turned it down, Spillman and Pfeiffer went to the courts, where by law McKinley High School and their school board could not discriminate against gay and straight students creating a group to teach about diversity. **[You give a good summary of the essay, but watch your sentences lengths. You start to lose me as a reader when they get too long, usually because you are trying to give too much information at once.]** When However many administration in the public school system say they follow rules about allowing any group to form under their administration, but it takes more than just students protesting about how their groups are being shunned because of what they believe in. Usually it takes the United States

Constitution and bringing that **[I can't tell what "that" is referring to here. Can you clarify this more?]** to state and local courts.