



US/AZ Government Interest Groups Project

Purpose:

You will construct a chart of interest groups and their purpose. Once the chart is completed, you will evaluate the groups based on the information in the chart and determine which best fits your values.

Materials:

Internet

Telephone

Word processing program

Vocabulary:

Interest Group

Agenda

Plank

Examples

PETA-People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

NRA-National Rifle Association

AARP-American Association of Retired Persons

Procedure:

Select five interest groups. The groups may be from the example above or search the Internet for other parties using a search engine such as www.google.com.

Once you have selected the five interest groups, visit the groups web sites.

At the groups web site, search the site for the following information: date of origin, purpose of group, numbers of members, membership requirements, how do they communicate with members, and does the group offer any benefits to members. If there is no information available on the web site, contact the group by phone and ask them to explain their stance on the plank you could not find.

Product:

The final product will include the chart that is shown on the other page. The chart needs to be completed fully to receive credit. The project needs to include an opinion section of what group best suits you and why. Give examples of why that group fits you and give examples of why the other groups do not fit.



US/AZ Government Interest Groups Project-Chart

Group	Date of Origin	Founder of Group	Purpose of Group	Number of Members	Membership Requirements	Membership Benefits
AARP	When was the group founded?				What must you do to become a member?	
NRA		Who or whom founded the group?				All of the chart needs to be completed for full credit.
PETA			Here is where you explain the purpose of the group			
Greenpeace				There are more than the five groups, you can only use two that are listed here.		
Common Cause	If unable to find information on web, call party office.					What do they offer their members? Is it a discount at a store?