American Government Topic Paper #1

28th Amendment Due no later than January 31st (Tuesday)

The United States Constitution was written in 1787 and adopted in 1789. Since that time life as we know it has changed significantly. Consider this: at the time of the ratification of the Constitution our country had 37 less states than we do today. The only mode of transportation was by animal. Some people were legally owned by other people while others were not seen as equal based upon their gender or economic status. Perhaps most alarmingly, we hadn't been born yet. Can you imagine such a world? Needless to say, we cannot govern a nation in 2016 using 1789 standards. And yet, in spite of this massive time divide, we have only altered our Constitution 27 times to date, 10 of which came with the original document as the Bill of Rights and one of which was a change to undo a change (21st to undo 18th). Finally, consider this: In your lifetime there have been no changes to the Constitution. Have we not changed at all as a society since your birth?

Your mission – write a 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution. At the top of your paper where a "title" would normally go, I want you to write out EXACTLY how you want your amendment worded. Let us all learn our lesson from the confusion of the 2nd Amendment and word our amendment as specifically as possible to achieve your goal(s).

Finally, within your paper include references to at least two prominent individuals who would defend your 28th Amendment and one prominent individual who would definitely not support your idea.

- No bibliography is necessary so long as sources are cited contextually/internally.
- The expectation is 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 pages....if you are a "word counter" that would mean a paper of less than 500 words is not acceptable but a paper great than 750 words is probably unnecessary.