

Discussion Question 1

- **Due Date:** Day 2 [Main forum]
- **Post your response to the following:** Where do you normally find information for topics that interest you? How do you know when sources are reliable? Explain your answers.

I usually find topics that interest me in my local library, University's library, credible news web sites, or maybe in books or magazines that I have purchased or read. The source is credible when the author has authority in the field that's being discussed. The author has to have some kind of connection or qualifications that make him or her expert on the subject. The author needs to have some type of ties as far as institutions or organizations related to the topic. The author has to have peer reviewed (scholarly and professional) publications. The author must be unbiased in relaying information to his audience. The information presented must be current or in an up to date manner. If the information has a complete list of works cited, that are credible, then the source may be credible.

Discussion Question 2

- **Due Date:** Day 4 [Main forum]
- **Post your response to the following:** Review the following Internet and University Library

sources. Then, determine which sources are reliable and which are not. Explain your

John Nichols "The Beat" contains bias, which is not allowed in any form of writing. The blog was about almost five years old also which is another reason I would lean toward it being an unreliable or credible source. John has an impressive background; he is a contributing writer in other newspapers and his articles have been in world-renowned newspapers like the New York times and Chicago Tribune. I believe since the author presents a form on bias in his work, his reliability and credibility takes a turn for the worst.

The second article, which was well written, lacks an author, which causes me to believe that this is not a credible source. The cited works, listings and references, were very impressive, but because of no author, it leaves a huge question of just how credible this source is. Also on wiki information can be changed or altered so this isn't reliable or credible in my eyes.

The third of the web source articles was the most credible because of the manner in which the information was presented. The works cited were credible, which helps with the reliability of the source. As seen in my previous readings about source credibility an .edu based website, which means its government and educationally influenced, is a good sign.

The University website was the best of all of the sites in general because it came from the University. This is reliable to me due to the fact it had School of Law publications copyrighted, and a full and detailed list of the author's credentials and affiliations. Many school related articles are going to be credible because they have to set the example for students. I am very confident in saying that this source is reliable and credible.

All of the articles and blog were interesting and informative it was just that some of the factors in each made me lean toward the decisions I have made.