you will search for a contemporary morality politics issue which is being addressed by a specific state or locality. The associated enacted policy or proposed legislation can either be moving the status quo in a more orthodox direction (more restrictive and consistent with our understanding of “sin politics” – typically viewed as “conservative”) or a more progressive direction (less restrictive and consistent with our understanding of policies in unconventional jurisdictions – typically viewed as “liberal”).

Some topic ideas which can you search for:

TOPIC: SEX

EXAMPLE SEX WORK: COMPARE NEVADA WITH ANOTHER STATE LIKE UTAH.

* **Sex**
* Prostitution – sex work
* Topless equality - Nudity
* Strip/Gentleman’s clubs
* Adultery, fornication, cohabitation
* Same-sex Marriage

**Timeframe**

You will want to find a policy which has been enacted or a piece of legislation which has been proposed in **2019** or **2020**.

**How to Research a Morality policy being advanced/addressed by a state/locality:**

1) Use Google News (https://news.google.com/) to search for current stories on surrounding the topic • A good search string is: “new state [topic idea] law”

2) Search through the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) blog -

http://www.ncsl.org/blog.aspx  
3) Search through Governing: The States and Localities (http://www.governing.com/) 4) Use Lexis Nexis, and restrict your search to Newspapers

**Requirements**

*Written Component*

You will prepare a 4 page (12 point, Times New Roman, 1” margins, double spaced, stapled) investigation and analysis of your specific policy in which you will examine the policy and the politics surrounding it (arguments being made) within the scope of the frameworks provided by Meier and Sharp, and offer your own critique of the policy. In this written assignment you will want to consider the following questions:

Background

1. 1)  What is the policy (enacted or proposed) and what is it meant to do?
2. 2)  Who are the target population?
3. 3)  What is the direction of the policy change (e.g. moving in a more orthodox or progressive direction)?
4. 4)  What is the history and politics surrounding the issue?

Using the framework provided by Meier (“Drugs, Sex, and Rock and Roll: A Theory of Morality Politics” – January 28 course reading)

1. 1)  What are the arguments being made to advance the policy?
2. 2)  How can these arguments be reframed?

Using the framework provided by Sharp (Chapter 2 – January 16 course reading)

1. 1)  How do each of the 4 areas apply to this policy?
2. 2)  Is your state/locality conventional or unconventional?

Critique

1) Provide a personal critique of the policy (does it make sense [to you, for the state/locality, and in the context of the frameworks], do you agree/disagree with it, which arguments are most credible, etc)