

## Mass Media Homework Questions

1. Why is public opinion important to study in Government?
2. Do we have any choice in our political views, or are we controlled by the socialization process? Defend your position.
3. Why is it so difficult to construct an accurate and useful opinion poll?
4. Why are polls so often misused?
5. Are polls effective for any purpose? Why?
6. Is the mass media a tool of Corporate America? Why or why not?
7. Does the mass media control what we know? Why or why not?
8. Is propaganda a good idea? Why or why not?
9. How does the media select what to include and when to include it?
10. Does the media drive public opinion or does public opinion drive the media? Defend your response.
11. Why don't interest groups run candidates for office?
12. "Special interests" seem to be despised by everyone, so why do they exist?
13. Are lobbyists ruining our political system? Why or why not?
14. What does it take to be a good lobbyist?
15. How are lobbyists regulated? What improvements could be made?
16. Why would a politician listen to handful of lobbyists rather than thousands of voters?
17. Do you agree with the recent Supreme Court ruling that corporations are people with full First Amendment rights? Why or why not?
18. Does the ability of PAC's to give tens of millions of dollars to political candidates subvert the democratic process? Why or why not?