

## **Defense/Offense**

- 1.) Identify something that you believe needs to be addressed in our society or that you think is unjust. This could be related to pay inequities for people of different genders, policies that favor one group over another, voting rights issues, or a number of other issues.
- 2.) Next, write down your feelings and observations connected to this topic. What do you see as the problem and why? What historical forces have caused this to occur, and what impact do you think this has had on our world? You may find as part of this section that you want to do some research to inform your writing.
- 3.) Then, write down why you think it's important for this to be resolved. What would society gain from this issue being addressed and thus having things in our world change?

This is your defense – you are explaining the value of this change occurring and may also find yourself defending those most impacted by the issue or inequity. This may also include your vision of a future where change around this topic has occurred. What does the world look like, and what positive gains have been achieved?

- 4.) Now, write down any proposals you have for how to make this change. This could include ideas about the ways in which people could behave differently, ideas about laws and policies, and thoughts about educational strategies and approaches.
- 5.) Using your defense and proposals as your source material, write an essay, a poem, a short story, create a chart, craft a song, or even make a video.
- 6.) Lastly, make a list of steps you could take to help achieve the change you wish to see. This list might include things that involve one-on-one interactions, letter writing, collective actions such as protests, or another action, such as volunteering for an organization that is taking action in line with your proposals.
- 7.) If you'd like, share your work with others.