

Cover Sheet task 2: Sexual orientation in Ireland and media use

Learning aims:

- Be able to collect newspaper articles on the internet and do research on an issue.
- The students are able to list criteria to judge whether or not a source is reliable.
- Be able to inform others about issues that the queer community faces in Ireland today.
- Be able to do a presentation about a current social issue.

Description of the task:

In the beginning of the class, the teacher presents two newspaper articles, preferably from two mediums the students likely have knowledge of (e.g. 20 Minuten and NZZ). In a class discussion about the reliability of these sources, the teacher, together with the class, should work out a checklist of criteria that the students can use when doing research to decide whether or not a source is reliable (see sources for orientation in “Secondary sources”).

In a next step, the students will inform themselves in groups of two to four people (depending on class size) about problems that the queer community faces in Ireland. The teacher is free to decide whether the students should focus on the Republic of Ireland or could also include Northern Ireland, but it is important that this is clearly communicated in the beginning of the task.

As the students already know about the problems Roger Casement had to face due to his (alleged) homosexuality, the focus will be on Ireland and the problems the queer community still faces there today, to also show the differences between Casement’s times and today’s society. To investigate this, students will, in groups of two to four people, create a handout and/or a presentation. The teacher can decide if the task should be to just hand in a handout or if also a presentation of five to fifteen minutes (depending on class and group size) should be held by the group. Handouts and/or presentations include some general information and explanation on the problem that the queer community faces in Ireland of the topic the group chose. Also, they should present the sources they used for their information and indicate why they thought their sources were reliable. This can be done by using the checklist created in class.

Additionally, the teacher can decide to include in the task that the students should also give an example of a source that they identified as unreliable and give reasons for their decision.

It is the decision of the teacher whether the research should be a homework task or if the students are given time during the lessons.

Prerequisites:

- The core task should preferably be done first, due to the fact that it introduces the topic of homosexuality and gives information about Roger Casement.

Required material:

- Devices to do the research on.

Main type of student activity:

- Language production

Key skills involved:

- Speaking
- Writing

References:

Primary source:

Reurreya-Carroll, Lilith. "A State of Collapse: Trans Healthcare in Ireland is a National Emergency." *Gcn Magazine*, 21 Oct. 2021, <https://gcn.ie/trans-healthcare-ireland-national-emergency/>. Accessed 16 Nov 2021.

Secondary sources:

Sources for checklist of criteria: The following three sources should help the teacher to work out a checklist of source reliability with the class. The teacher is free to either use one of the checklists provided on these websites or create an own checklist and use the sources as inspiration or help.

Douglas College Library. "Fake News: Finding and Evaluating News Sources." *Douglas College Library and Learning Centre*, 19 Nov 2021, <https://guides.douglascollege.ca/FakeNews/evaluate>. Accessed 20 Nov 2021.

Calvin Christian School. "Website Credibility Checklist." *Ccshamilton.ca*, <https://ccshamilton.ca/photos/custom/Library/WebsiteEvaluationChecklist.pdf>. Accessed 16 Nov 2021.

MLA Style Center Teaching Resources. "Checklist: Evaluating Sources, Is This Source Reliable?." *Style.mla.org*, <https://style.mla.org/app/uploads/sites/3/2018/09/Checklist-for-Evaluating-Sources.pdf>. Accessed 16 Nov 2021.

Possible article to find a quote to start with topic of Fake News and find information on Swiss newspapers and Fake News. This might be helpful for the teachers to briefly inform themselves on this topic:

Basler Zeitung Online. "Fake News Made in Switzerland." *Bazonline.ch*, 27 Nov 2016, <https://www.bazonline.ch/news/standard/fakenews-made-in-switzerland/story/20233033>. Accessed 16 Nov 2021.

An example for an unreliable source for the teacher's orientation, due to the fact that it contains no sources, opinions, adds and that it claims to inform about a complex theme in a very short article:

Pfister, Carla. "Darum sind Gleiche Rechte für Homosexuelle Paare Umstritten." *20min.ch*, 11 Apr. 2021, <https://www.20min.ch/story/darum-sind-gleiche-rechte-fuer-homosexuelle-paare-umstritten-921394101782>. Accessed Nov 16 2021.