

Sarah Spitery
sspitery@umich.edu
Writing 220
T. Hetzel
Project II Bibliography
11 March , 2014

Annotated Bibliography

"Book Discussion on Becoming a Candidate." *BOOKTV*. C-SPAN. Washington D.C., 8 Feb. 2013. Television.

This is a video of an interview with Jennifer Lawless, a professor at American University's School of Public Affairs, in which she explains how encouragement can increase the number of women running for public office. She also provides insight on when the right time to run for public office is, which positions you should run for depending on the issues you are interested in, and how to approach elections.

The video is relevant to my piece because Lawless gives realistic advice to women who are considering running for public office. I would like to include quotes from Lawless because she has experience running for Congress and is direct when describing how to think about individual qualifications.

Lawless, Jennifer L., and Richard L. Fox. *Girls Just Wanna Not Run*. American University School of Public Affairs, Washington D.C., Mar. 2013. Web. 25 Feb. 2014.

This policy report published by American University's School of Public Affairs discusses in detail sociological reasons behind the gender gap in American politics. Some of the explanations given for why fewer women run for public office include socialization by parents and early childhood education, athletic participation, and encouragement from role models. Given these sociological factors the support the gender gap throughout women's lives, the authors mention how we can overcome these social barriers and correct the underrepresentation of women in the long term.

This source is extremely useful for my my piece because it can illuminate some of the reasons why women have been socialized against running for elections. By shedding light on

these explanations, I hope female readers can see that their feelings of incompetency in politics are unfounded.

Marty, Robin. "Why So Few Women in Politics? Ask Sandra Fluke." *POLITICO Magazine*. N.p., 5 Feb. 2014. Web. 25 Feb. 2014.

In this article, published by Politico Magazine, Robin Marty explains that the reason the gender gap in politics exists is not due to differing success rates amongst men and women, but rather a disparity between the number of men and women running for Congress. Fewer women have political ambitions as early as their teenage years, and this gap only widens as women grow older.

I am including this source in my piece because it was a turning point in my research. After reading this article, I have chosen to focus my essay on why fewer women choose to run for public office and how we can change that. The article brings up several thought-provoking questions about why women feel as though they are not as qualified as men to run for public office. By including some of these ideas in my piece, I hope to challenge the reader to think about her qualifications and ask herself whether running for public office is something she should consider.

Sandberg, Sheryl. *Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 2013. Print.

Although *Lean In* is not about public office, Sandberg offers a lot of relevant points about why women feel as though they cannot compete with men in top leadership positions. Most of Sandberg's work discusses female business leaders; however, many of the larger arguments she makes are applicable to women working in any industry. Unlike the other sources I have explored, Sandberg writes at length about balancing work and family duties.

Considering my audience, females between the ages of 18 and 35, I feel it is important to include a source that speaks about the challenge of balancing work and family. Many women feel as though they must be able to juggle a career and family; this burden is not something I will

explore in my piece, yet I feel that I should mention it to address that concern from women who worry about family responsibilities should they run for public office.