Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Fourth Quarter Project***

**Overview:** For your fourth quarter project you will be given considerable leeway in terms of what you choose to research. You may choose any topic covered in your textbook in Chapters 30 and 31. In addition you may research and present any topic that is relevant to current American society at a historical and/or cultural level. Either way your topic will need to be approved by Mr. Rauschenbach.

**Format:** Your presentation should be done as a slideshow using the Presentation program through Google Apps. If you choose to present in another format such as a documentary, skit or song you must get approval first. Your presentation should be a display of what you’ve learned rather than a display of information.

**Opt-Out Clause:** The end of the year becomes very hectic for many students as they take benchmark exams, final exams and in some cases Regents as well. To ease some of the pressure you may opt out of this project with parental permission. If you opt out, your other grades will take on a greater percentage of your total grade. For instance, your tests will now count as almost 50% of your overall grade as opposed to 40%. THIS IS NOT AN EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT. If you choose to do this it can negatively affect your grade.

**Timeline:**

* May 13th – Last day for approval of topics and submission of “opt-out” forms. Anyone who does not opt out by this day and does not yet have a topic will be assigned one.
* June 6th – Beginning of presentations. All projects should be completed and you should be ready to present.

**Guidelines:**

* Project must be done independently. In very rare cases I will allow a group project with parental permission and only for special circumstances.
* No class time will be given for the creation of this project. It must be done on your own time.
* ***The overall theme and purpose of each presentation is to show how your topic has changed/shaped/affected American history, culture, and/or society.***

April 24, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardians,

 In order to potentially avoid undue stress during this hectic time of year our project for the fourth marking period is optional. This project is not an extra credit assignment; it will count for 20% of the marking period grade. If you opt-out of the project the other grades (tests, quizzes, and homework) will take on a greater weight in your child’s grade. For some students this type of project is helpful in balancing their grades. Also, you should understand that if you choose to not opt-out of the project, the resulting grade could potentially have a negative overall effect on the marking period grade. Please consider all of this before deciding whether your child should choose to do the project or not. Please contact me if you have any questions.

 Sincerely,

 Mr. Rauschenbach

 We have decided that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will opt-out of the fourth quarter project. We do so understanding that this will change the normal weighting associated with other grades.

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 Parent Signature

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 Student Signature

***MUST BE RETURNED BY 5/13***