

42. Instructions for Reflection Paper #3: “The History of Your Problem”

Length: 500 words maximum

Due Friday; November 12, 5:00 pm

Using the problem that you identified in Reflection Paper # 2, reflect on the history of that problem. Do you get any sense of how the problem you have identified has been approached in the past? Talk with people in your placement, asking them about their perspective on the problem as well as their insight into how the problem has previously been approached.

This assignment is an active assignment, in that it asks you to do more than observe. You should be having conversations with those in your placement (and those to whom you are referred by people in your placement) that might give you ideas about the history of the problem. You also might want to start looking at other sources such as the Providence Journal archives (the Brown Library has the archives, but the only catalogue of these archives is at the Providence Public Library downtown). “History” is a word that is used loosely here. What we are interested in knowing is whether and how people in the past have wrestled with the problem that you've identified.

Remember, again, to incorporate the **head**, the **hands**, and the **heart**. That is, your reflection should incorporate your and others' thoughts about the history of the problem (and your thoughts about their thoughts), should describe the experience of undertaking this inquiry, and should touch on the emotions raised for you and others both by the problem and by the inquiry.