In *The Sexual Politics of Meat*, Carol J. Adams shows that throughout history women have often given men the best cuts of meat, especially in times of food scarcity, making meat a battleground, or point of contention, and a matter of life and death.

In this paper, examine how sex is politicized, how it exists as a politically contentious issue in society. From protests to policies, from government intrusion to philosophical debates, from the classroom to the bedroom, sex is often at the center of major political issues. Take one or two issues and, using readings from class, as well as others, analyze a sexual political issue.

The point of this paper is to show how debates around sexuality are a “politics by other means,” and how those debates have political consequences above and beyond even the particular issue at hand.
Helpful hints for successful sociological writing:

These papers are an opportunity for you to engage with the theoretical ideas we’ve been discussing in class. What do I mean by “engage”? Here’s my attempt to explain:

1. Add (and multiply). Take ideas from the class and apply them in a way that adds to the theories and our discussions of them. Do not just summarize the readings.

2. Let me repeat: Don’t just summarize. Explain enough of the idea that will help you apply it to the specific example(s) you’re engaging with, but this is not a book report. Don’t simply tell me what an author said wrote – show me. Please make sure you add enough of these authors’ ideas into your project that I know you’ve read them and have thought about them.

3. Everyone has an opinion, but don’t give them to me in this project. This is not about whether or not you think society “should” work harder or longer or shorter. Take your topic of interest and analyze it, which is different than editorializing. If there are current debates on the topic, use the ideas that we are discussing you’re working with to explain the nature of these debates.

4. Write drafts. Good papers are the result of writing and re-writing.

5. Writing Tutors—Middlebury College provides writing tutors for students. Use them. Having someone else read over drafts of your paper is probably the best editing exercise you can do. More info here: http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/resources/ctlr/writingcenter

6. Talk to me, people! Stop by my office hours to discuss your paper. Come with questions about your topic so that meeting can be most effective.