**Special Interest Groups: Internet Activity**

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| **Background/Preparation:** | Students will need a brief introduction to the development and function of special interest groups. This will be accomplished through a short presentation the day before this activity begins and a short video clip on the day of the activity.  |
| **Procedures/Activities:** | Students will be given a list of special interest groups currently in existence in the United States.  Although this list is certainly not conclusive, it is a list of some of the more prominent groups.The teacher will divide the class into six to eight cooperative learning groups and assign a section of the list to each of the groups. Some groups will need to have a smaller or larger number of members depending on the number of special interest groups in that section.Each student will select a special interest group from within their cooperative learning groups assigned section. The will then research that group, visit the website for the group, and identify the following information about the group which has been broken down into specific guided questions in their research assignment sheets:* Historical background
* The groups objectives
* Size of the group’s membership
* The profile of a typical member
* Identify some of the activities of the interest group

Each student will then develop a brochure using a software program such as Microsoft Publisher (see notes in technology resources) aimed at advertising/recruiting new members for the special interest group. The brochure should include the information the student obtained through research, pictures of the group's activities and the group's logo. Students should print their brochure or create a handmade brochure that will be turned in when completed.As a closing activity the students will be given an identifier sheet that will allow them to solicit information from four class members. The will read/evaluate each of the four brochures completing the attached evaluation form. This will give the students the opportunity to learn about five special interest groups other than the one they selected.The teacher will then score each brochure. |