

To: Campus Coordinators

From: Jesse McCartney

As you prepare your teams for the 2018 Ethics Bowl, you might wish to consider using some of the sources below. In your initial meeting, for example, you might want to watch “Fiddler on the Roof” together as you share some pizza.

I also strongly recommend Shirley Jackson’s short story “The Lottery” as a work that is likely to spark some interesting debates and reflections on the concept of community.

Robert Hine’s book *The Quest for Community on the American Frontier* is very readable and accessible for undergraduates and provides a variety of examples of American communities and their successes and failures. Both the Prologue and the first chapter, “What, Where, Why” offer concepts of community and essential elements that make up a community.

Bellah’s work and the responses to it are less readable but offer considerable insight into the forces and counterforces in community.

The topic you choose is certainly timely, but also difficult. I hope you and your students enjoy the discussions that the topic engenders.

References:

The Mayflower Compact

The Preamble to the U. S. Constitution

The Bill of Rights

Shirley Jackson’s “The Lottery”

H. D. Thoreau’s “Civil Disobedience”

Willa Cather’s “Neighbor Rosicky”

Joseph Stein, “Fiddler on the Roof”

Robert V. Hine, *The Quest for Community on the American Frontier*

Robert N. Bellah, et al. *Habits of the Heart: Individualism and Commitment in American Life*.

Charles H. Reynolds and Ralph V. Norman, eds. *Community in America: The Challenge of Habits of the Heart*.