

## LESS TRANSPARENT

### SCI 101: Scientific Evidence

Read through your example scientific poster and answer the following questions.

Title of your example poster: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the ethical question that is being asked?
2. What pieces of evidence do they provide in support of and in opposition of their question? In  
Opposition:    In Support
3. Are the pieces of evidence from peer-reviewed scientific sources (look at the references to be sure)?
4. How are the pieces of evidence presented (numbers, graphs, tables, figures)?
5. How are the pieces of evidence analyzed in the Discussion section?
6. What is the ethical conclusion?
7. Do the pieces of evidence support their conclusion? Why or why not?
8. Are you convinced by their evidence of their ethical conclusion? Why or why not?
9. What questions do you still have after reading this poster? What could they have done better?

## MORE TRANSPARENT

### SCI 101, Alison Sloat

#### Exercise 3: Scientific Evidence

**Purpose:** The purpose of this assignment is to analyze an existing scientific poster. This will increase your familiarity with how scientific posters are constructed, and will help you later in the course when you research, design, and create your own effective poster with sufficient scientific evidence that supports your conclusion. As a result of completing this assignment, you will be able to identify the sources of scientific information, interpret the results, and critically analyze the scientific merit of the conclusion of an existing scientific poster.

**Task:** Read through your example scientific poster and answer the following questions.

Title of your example poster: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Identify the ethical question that is being asked.
2. List the evidence the authors provide in support of **and** in opposition to their question.
3. Examine the pieces of evidence listed in #2 above. Identify whether they are from popular (Pop), scientific peer-reviewed (SPR), or non-scientific peer-reviewed (NSPR) sources, and note each statement above as (Pop), (SPR), or (NSPR). Do you think there is enough scientific evidence from peer-reviewed articles? Why or why not?
4. Describe how the pieces of evidence are presented (e.g., numbers, graphs, tables, figures).
5. Explain how the pieces of evidence are analyzed in the Discussion section.
6. Identify the ethical conclusion.
7. After analyzing the content of the poster, do the pieces of evidence support their conclusion? Explain why or why not.
8. After assessing the scientific merit of their evidence, are you convinced of their ethical conclusion? Explain why or why not.
9. List the questions you still have after reading this poster. What could they have done better?

**Criteria:** The grade on this assignment will reflect how completely you answer the questions.

