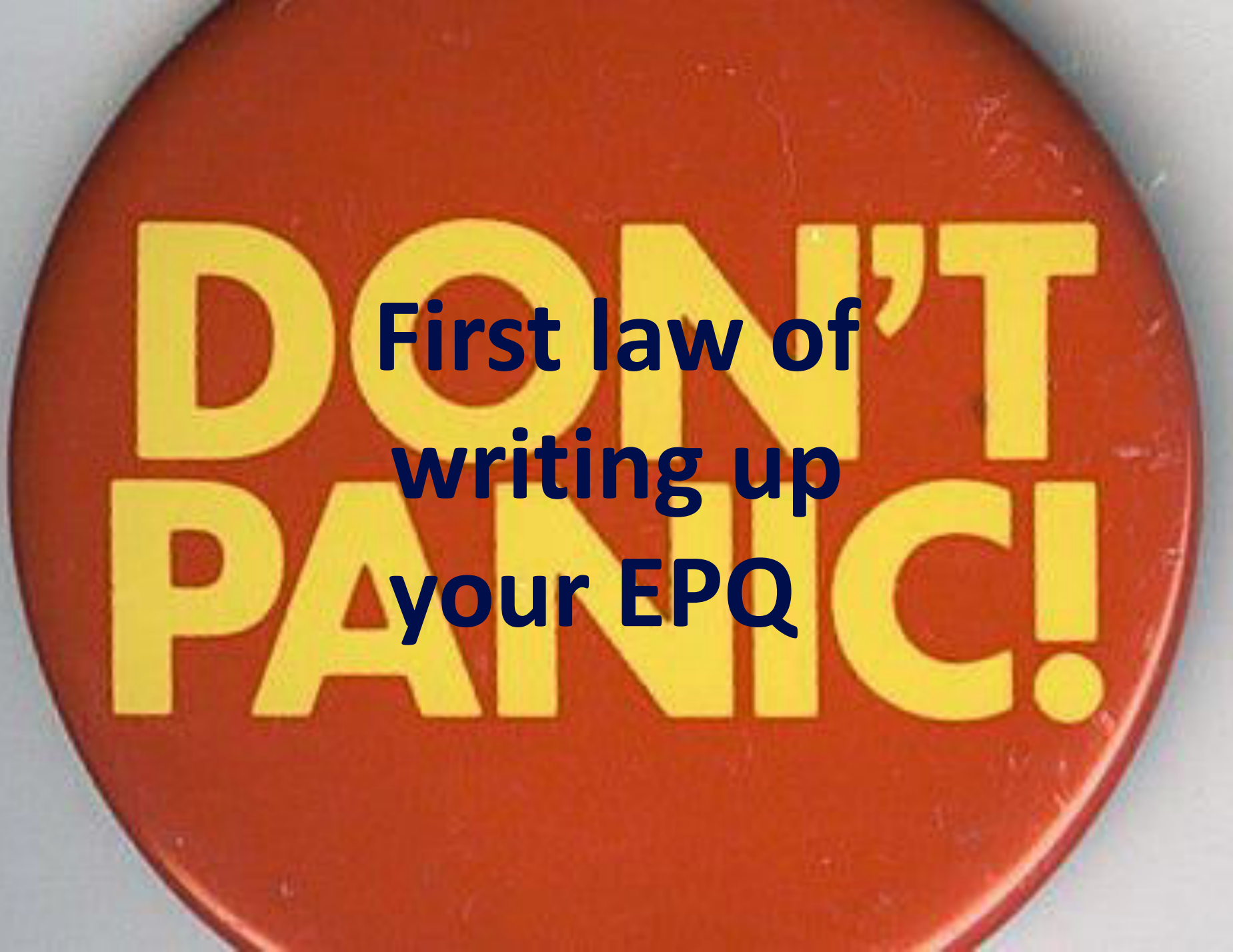


Writing up your EPQ

FROM DAUNTING TO DOOABLE



**First law of
writing up
your EPQ**

our

What are you trying to achieve?

To provide your reader with the information to understand the topic you are discussing, its context and importance

To show the reader that you are aware of the various arguments and debates that relate to your subject

To include relevant theories, studies and arguments and sources of information

To express a personal opinion based on the arguments, theories and evidence that you have read

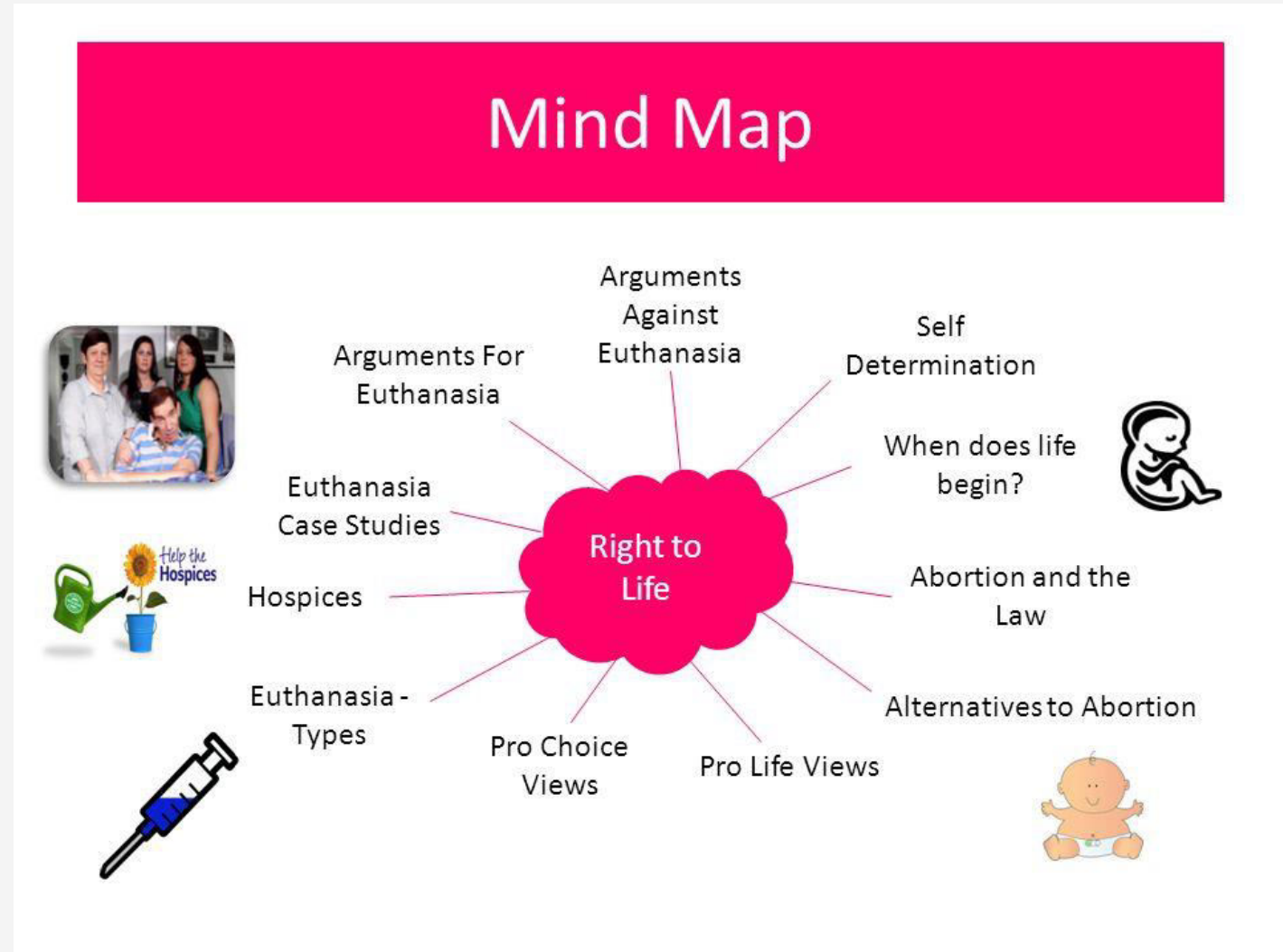
Stages of writing up your research



Plan...

Give yourself time to think..

- Think about all aspects of the topic you want to cover in your write up.
- Use as post it notes, spider diagrams or mind maps to help you organize your thoughts.
- There are lots of free online products such as Coggle, Mitro, Mind Manager to help you do this:
- <https://www.getapp.com/mind-map/view-list>



Find

Think like a detective...

Look for connections between topics

- Do you have enough information on each aspect of your topic?
- Do you need to add or remove sources/documents?
- This is the time to critically appraise your sources!

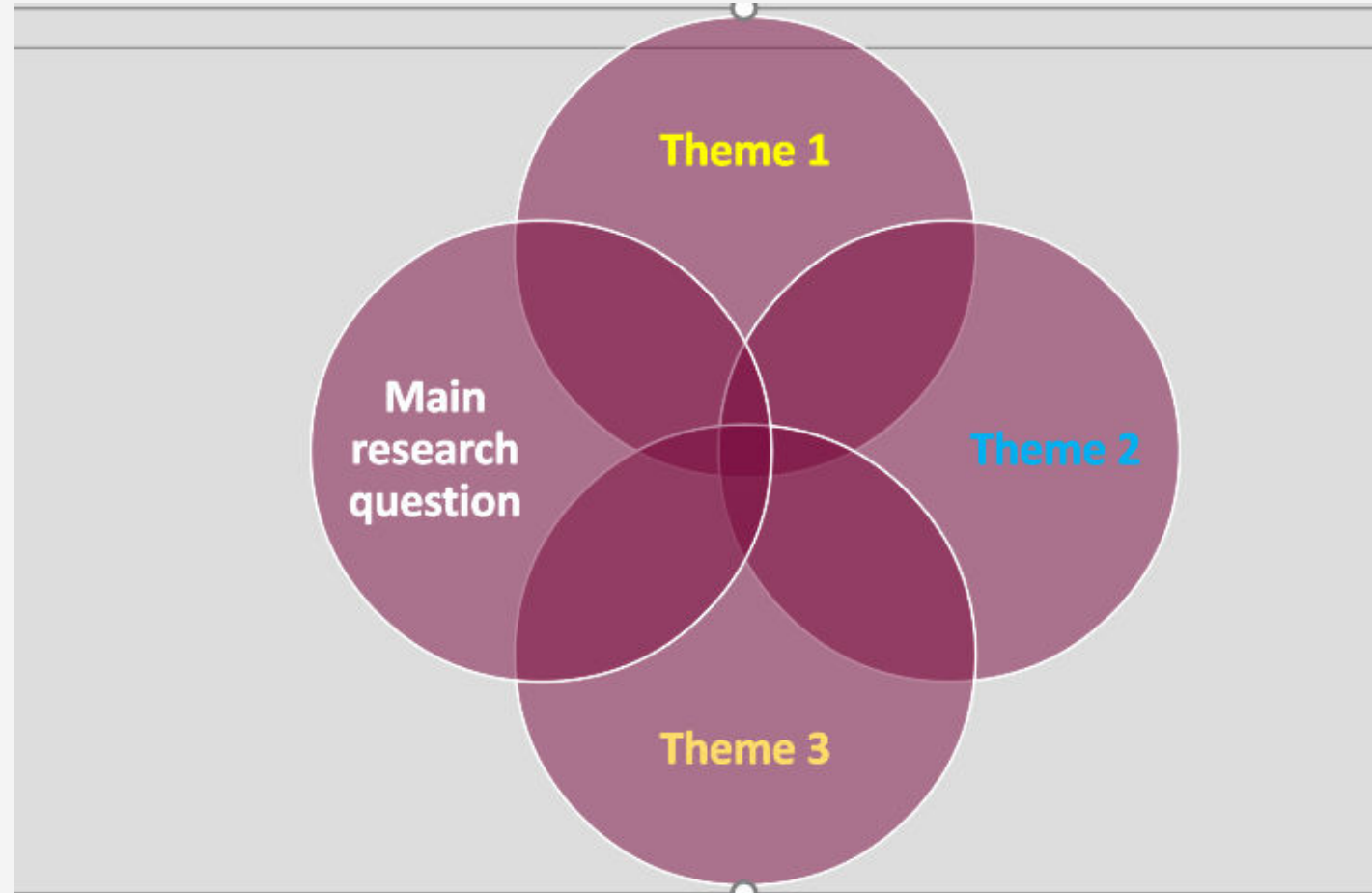


Structure using themes

What do you need to talk about?

Your mind map will show key ideas and arguments to cover in your EPQ

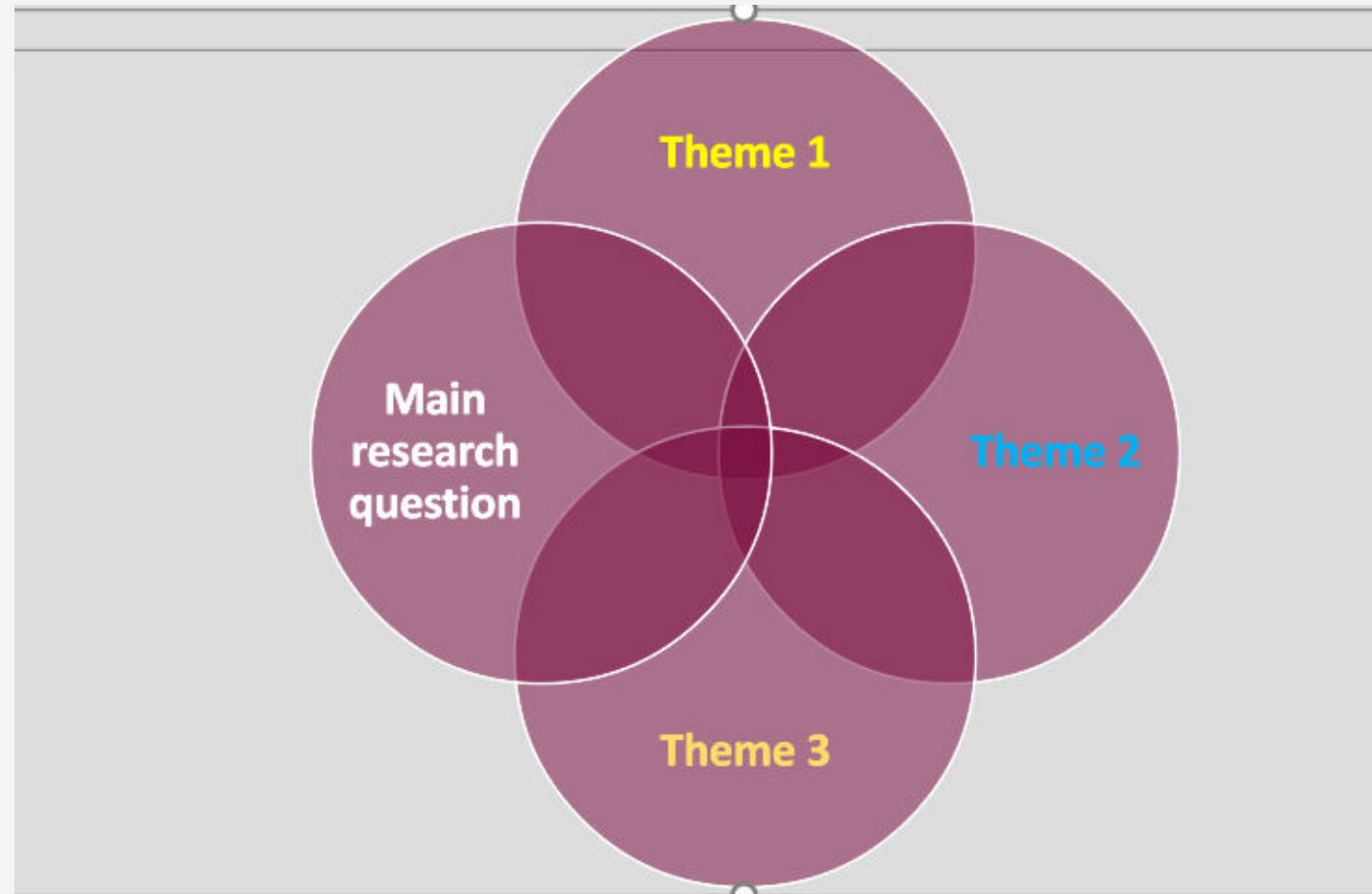
- Can you organize your work by theme? Take for example if discussing the ethics of abortion, one theme may be a discussion of all the legal issues around the subject.
- Legal aspects to consider:-
 - Rights of the child
 - Rights of the mother
 - Laws around abortion in the UK
 - International laws and situation



Structure using themes

What do you need to talk about?

- Identify themes from the findings or results section of the papers and research articles you have chosen.
- Identify the strengths/weaknesses of evidence or arguments.
- What are the for/against theories?
- Give weight to stronger argument in your write up.
- 10 good papers at least for a dissertation at undergraduate degree.
- How do you deal with research that goes against the main flow of argument? You acknowledge it but say it's not strong evidence. Give reasons why it is unconvincing. This shows you are aware of all arguments and evidence.



Theme

You might find it helpful to organise your information and research?

Theme	Source	Main argument	For	Against
Rights of the child	Beveridge, 2021 Smith, 1999	From the moment of conception an embryo is alive. Embryos should have full legal rights.		Yes
Rights of the Mother	Hubbard, 1998 Zarifeh, 2020 pg 260		No	
UK legal position	Smit, 2001			
International legal position	Tomson, 1998 page 6	Women's rights supersede that of an unborn foetus tus.	Yes	

Themes

You might find it helpful to organize your information and research?

Consider colour coding the research papers you have found to highlight main themes and arguments.

- Arguments for: blue
- Arguments against: yellow
- Main theory: orange

Gather articles that are in agreement or have similar themes together.



Ask

Comparative analysis of research findings

- **What are the most interesting ideas in this text are...and why do I find these ideas interesting?:** This is a helpful reference when drafting conclusion sections of papers.
- **What aspects of the topic do this text overlook or distort? Why?**
- **How is this text of potential use to my writing project?:** How does this text support an argument I'm making.
- **Further texts to look into:** Often when we read texts, we find other potentially useful and interesting references cited within them. Follow them up..



Shut up and write

Structure

Know where you're going

Abstract

Introduction

Methodology

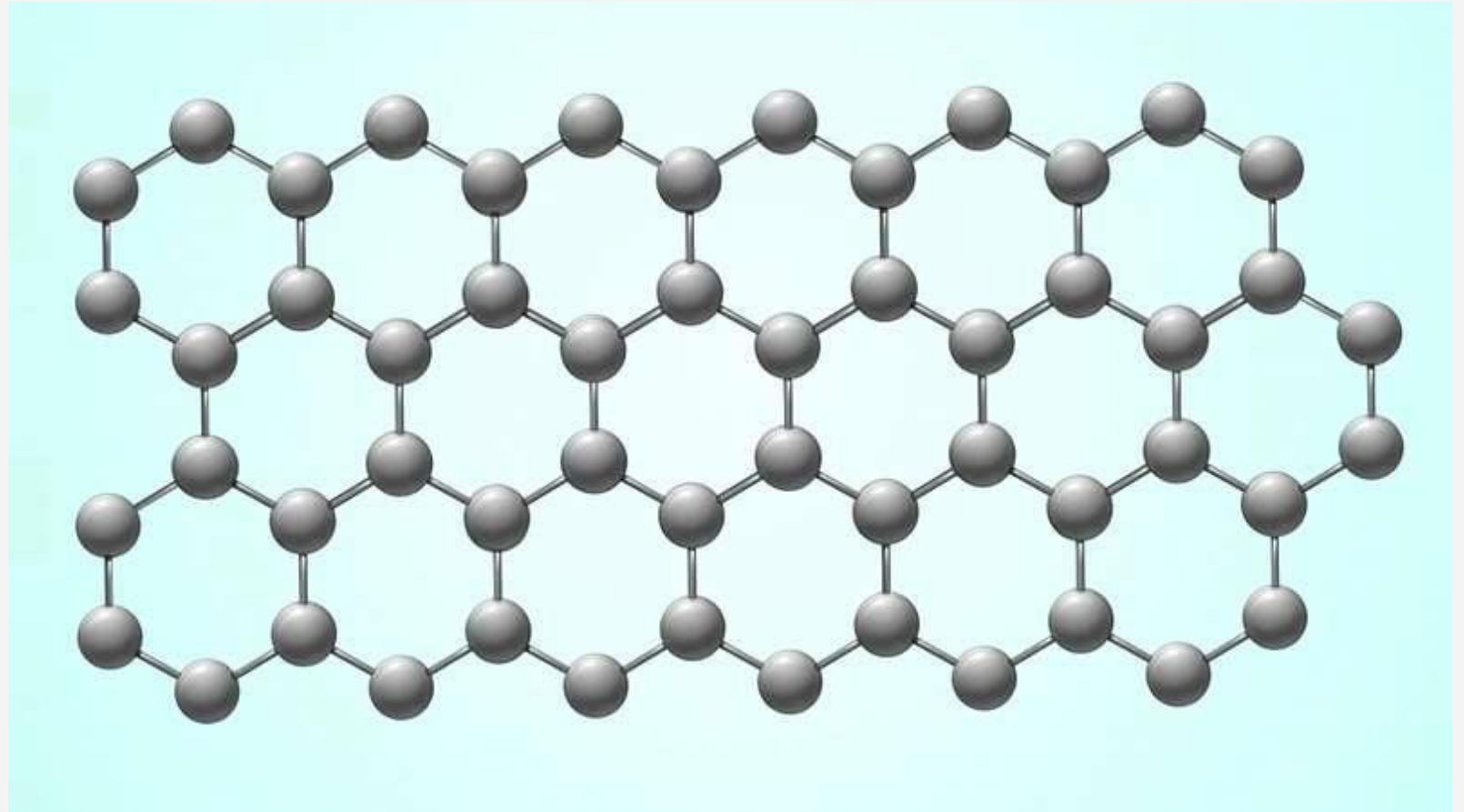
Discussion

Summary

Conclusion

Have your question at top of each page to refer to

Link sections: one section leads to another.....



Abstract

PUTTING THE FETUS FIRST – LEGAL REGULATION, MOTHERHOOD, AND PREGNANCY

*Emma Milne**

ABSTRACT

The fetus-first mentality advocates that pregnant women and women who could become pregnant should put the needs and well-being of their fetuses before their own. As this Article will illustrate, this popular public perception has pervaded criminal law, impacting responses to women deemed to be the “irresponsible” pregnant woman and so the “bad” mother. The Article considers cases from Alabama and Indiana in the United States and from England in the United Kingdom, providing clear evidence that concerns about the behavior of pregnant women now hang heavily over criminal justice responses to women who experience a negative pregnancy outcome or who are perceived to have behaved in a way that could result in a negative outcome. This Article provides a new approach by bringing together a critical assessment of fetal protection laws with theories of motherhood ideologies and analyzing how such ideologies have resulted in legal developments not only in the US, where the fetus has been granted legal recognition in most states, but also in England and Wales, where the fetus continues to have no legal personality. The Article will conclude that the application of the fetus-first mentality within criminal law has resulted in dangerous legal developments that challenge women’s rights, while doing little to protect fetuses.

<https://heinonline.org/HOL/LandingPage?handle=hein.journals/mjg127&div=7&id=&page=>

Structure

Signpost transitions of subject

"In **this section** it is important to understand the UK law around the rights of the unborn child. The **research question** seeks to investigate if **these rights** take precedence over the mothers rights, in **order to do this it is necessary** to examine current UK law surrounding the right of a woman to choose to have an abortion"

Flow need for each subsection back to overall aim



Language

How to approach the write up...

Use Academic English

Review

Redraft

Refine – Proofread

Allow time for redrafting, no one gets it right first time!



The background of the slide is a night sky featuring the Milky Way galaxy. The stars are visible as a dense band of light across the upper portion of the image. Below the galaxy, the sky transitions into a warm, orange and yellow glow, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, the dark silhouette of a person stands on a rocky mountain peak, looking out towards the horizon. The overall scene is serene and evokes a sense of looking at the 'big picture' of the universe.

Get the big picture

Flow back to the overall aim of your study or question you are considering

Get it done and get it
good

Language

Do adopt the third person...

In academic writing you need to find impersonal ways of expressing your ideas and intentions. For example: You might say to your friend “for my dissertation I will be trying to find the relationship between money spent on advertising and increased consumer spending”. That is fine, you are telling your friend what you are going to do in clear simple English. However, in your dissertation proposal you would have to put this into third person language. For example: “This dissertation will explore the relationship between money spent on advertising and increases in consumer spending”.



[WRITING IN THE THIRD PERSON - Study Support](http://www.studysupportresources.port.ac.uk)
<http://www.studysupportresources.port.ac.uk> › Wr...

Language

The third person...

In academic writing the convention is to write in the third person. This means not using personal pronouns such as **I, me, my** and not referring to yourself or your reader. So, avoid using sentences such as:

It seems to me (First person)

I believe (First person)

USE

The evidence suggests..

Overall, these results indicate that..



[WRITING IN THE THIRD PERSON - Study Support](http://www.studysupportresources.port.ac.uk)
<http://www.studysupportresources.port.ac.uk> › Wr...

Language

How to talk about the research...

<https://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/referring-to-sources/>

Referring to the research:

The literature on X has highlighted several ...

Different theories exist in the literature regarding ...

More recent attention has focused on the provision of ...

There are relatively few historical studies in the area of ...

A large and growing body of literature has investigated ...

Much of the literature since the mid-1990s emphasises the ...

Much of the current literature on X pays particular attention to ...

There is a large volume of published studies describing the role of ...

The existing literature on X is extensive and focuses particularly on ...

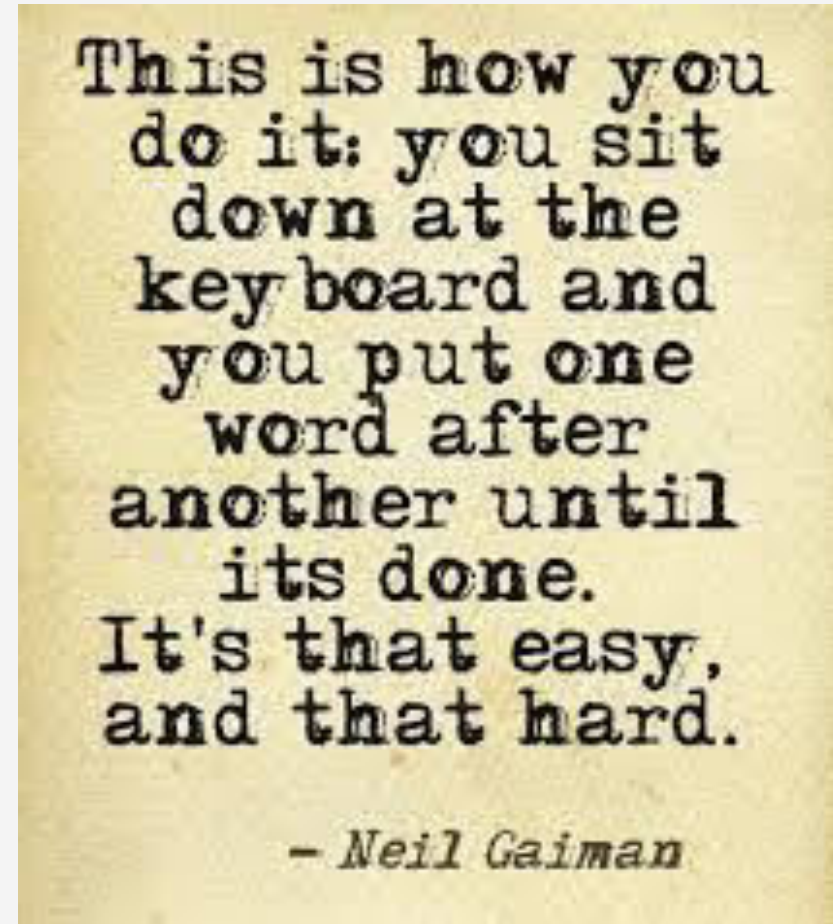
There is a relatively small body of literature that is concerned with ...

The generalisability of much published research on this issue is problematic.

A considerable amount of literature has been published on X. These studies ...

Previous research findings into X have been inconsistent and contradictory (Smith, 1996; ...).

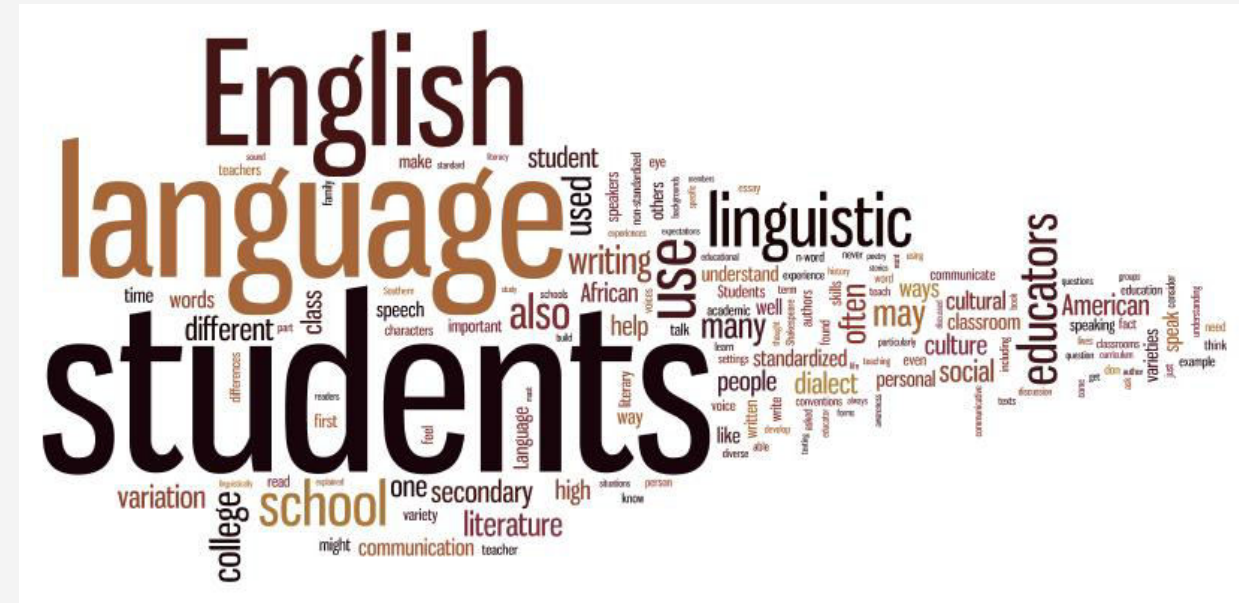
The academic literature on X has revealed the emergence of several contrasting themes.



Language

How to talk about the research...

- Keep it simple – be human
- Send a welcoming signal to the reader
- Have a hook in first paragraph a quotation, a question, a surprising fact set a vivid scene
- Tell a story
- Use active verbs to create pace and vividness



" Insect's suck and chew and cultivate their food to a specialist degree of sophistication"

"Insects have sophisticated digestive systems to consume food"

We have..

- Looked at broad principles and **planning** process that can be applied to make the write up process easier.
- Looked at the **structure** you may adopt to present your finished work. Always Check with Mr. Bowater or Mr. Zarifeh they agree with your approach.
- Looked at the **language** and **tone** to use in your work.

**Don't ask for the moon
when you have the
stars**

References .

Aveyard, Helen. (2007) *Doing a literature Review in Health and Social care*. London: McGraw Hill.

Barras, Robert. (2006) *Speaking for yourself A guide for students*. Oxford: Pearson.

Judith Martin (2022) Study Support resources University of Plymouth Faculty of Business and Law. Available at: <http://studysupportresources.port.ac.uk/> [Accessed 23rd March 2022].

For more information

Some links to provide further support

Seven secrets of stylish academic writing

https://theconversation.com/seven-secrets-of-stylish-academic-writing-7025?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=twitterbutton



Dr Helen Kara How to select your research question

buff.ly/2gq4jnl #phdchat #phd advice #phdforum #EdDchat #PGR #research



Organizing your research University of Derby

<https://libguides.derby.ac.uk/organiseresearch>



End of presentation

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