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Dreams and nightmares

As a person who experiences dreams and nightmares frequently, I am interested in the interpretation of common dreams/nightmares and the symbolism behind many of them. In addition to this, i'm interested in exploring the cultural attitudes towards dreams and nightmares. Some areas that can be explored are comparing and contrasting different cultures in their receptiveness of dreams, whether they come up with meaningful interpretations that can possibly alter your everyday life and behavior, and reveal an unknown truth in ourselves, or if they view the topic as mere superstition. For research, I will be using written resources such as books or online articles and essays, I will speak to professional psychiatrists and psychologists, watch documentaries on the topic.

Hostile architecture

I learned about the term hostile architecture through one of my readings from last semester. Hostile architecture is when urban designers construct and alter designs in public space which prevents people from using the space in ways that are not intended by the designer. After reading about this concept, I began to look at the design and architecture of New York City differently. One of the examples I noticed was that there were many park benches that had a slanted uncomfortable design, or a bar/arm rest placed in the middle of benches. These design choices were purposely made to target the homeless, as a way for them to stop using public spaces as their own. Hostile architecture doesn't only affect the homeless, it affects the disabled, seniors, and children too. As an art student and aspiring designer, I find this concept to be difficult to talk about as it angers me but also seems necessary to secure public safety. For

research, I will try to speak to a urban planning/architecture expert at the school, and also use written resources such as books and online articles. I can also look at the hostile architecture/ designs around the city and interview the people that it affects.

Marijuana Vs. Alcohol: Which is worse for you?

After reading a statistic of how there are 88,000 alcohol related deaths each year, I began to wonder why the laws on alcohol are not as strict as the laws on marijuana usage. For this topic, I would like to conduct an academic discussion on the positive and negative effects of marijuana and alcohol. As a believer of recreational and especially medical marijuana use, i'd like to research more on the topic and find out why the legalization of the substance is widely frowned upon in different countries, whereas the usage of alcohol is acceptable. There are many resources that I can use online such as scientific research, looking at the laws around marijuana and alcohol especially in states and countries that have legalized it, and documentaries.