English 1010
Essay 2: Argumentative

First Draft Due: Wednesday, March 27—bring 3 copies for peer review session
Revision Due: Wednesday, April 10—include first draft with my comments, and peer review worksheets

- Essays should be 750-1250 words and double-spaced
- Format with one-inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font
- Include an MLA heading with your name, my name, ENG 1010, and the date
- Use a page number heading beginning on page two in this form: Larson 2
- avoid “I think,” “I believe,” “In my opinion.”
- Proofread your essay for errors

This assignment asks you to write an argumentative essay; using quotes from the text, you will refute the argument presented in one of the following essays: Chua’s Why Chinese Mothers are Superior, Gatto’s Against School or Cullinan’s If Nature Had Rights.

Your essay should include:
- an introduction paragraph ending with a clear and specific thesis statement
- a summary of the argument you are refuting: central claims, evidence, purpose
- an acknowledgement of the strengths, if any, of the argument
- evidence to support your own claim that the argument should be rejected:
  - evidence from the text that the argument’s supporting materials are inadequate or not credible
  - evidence within the text that contradicts the evidence offered by the argument
  - evidence from the text that the inferences are flawed
  - evidence that the argument is unethical
- a conclusion paragraph including a restatement of your thesis statement

The text you choose is the only resource you should need. This is not a research paper!

Note: I will no longer be accepting emailed essays. If you are not in class the day the essay is due, you must bring it to the next class session or drop a copy in my mailbox in the English Department office. You will lose a half a letter grade for every day it is late.
Essay will be graded using the following rubric:

**Organization (25%)**  
Paragraph structures, transitions

**Development and Revision (25%)**  
Thesis & supporting evidence, development of argument, evidence of revision

**Original & Critical Thought (25%)**  
Depth of thinking, original and complex ideas and writing

**Grammar, Mechanics & Style (25%)**  
Syntax, punctuation, grammar, clarity