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Essay  
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My submission is a paper entitled, “Considering Another side: Ex Gay Therapy”. It was written for my Engl101 paper series.

I began my research wanting to write about homosexuality and the Christian church. Unfortunately, there wasn’t enough information to take a side or to form solid arguments on this issue. During my research though, I came across several articles addressing ex-gay therapies. I decided to dig deeper into the issue. It was something I hadn’t heard about and wanted to explore. Eventually my argument was in favor of using ex gay programs. In a way, my topic found me.

I researched using electronic sources on the UMD library database listed under the category of LGBT. I also used some credible internet sources to get general information. Throughout the research process I used key words that were important to my paper. I was careful to use and rather than or, ensuring that my search yielded results for all of my key words. Another research technique I used was looking in the bibliography of articles that I had already read to see if the sources could be useful to me as well. Reading source summaries and skim reading helped me determine if a source was going to be worthy of close reading.

My Engl101 instructor and a librarian aided me in the research process. My instructor set up a library day for my class. Before library day she gave us an assignment to read and fill out a packet on how good research is done. On library day, a librarian discussed how to use UM databases, what types of key words to use, and how to find catalogue sources. I used almost all of the techniques that I learned in order to research more effectively.
answer questions about literature, and formulate ideas that will be clear to any audience. As a publisher I will need to be able to research other people’s works, identify those who can write critically, and think critically about other author’s writings.