

### **This I Believe Essay, Peer Review**

Each author in your group should read their essay aloud. Then read your peers' essays carefully filling out this sheet (one for each essay). Also fill one out on your own essay. There are 7 questions. Remember to be both honest and constructive. Include positive things about the essay, as well as places that you think could be improved. There is extra room on the back if needed. Authors should keep all reviews of their essay (to be turned in with revision plan).

1) Does the essay flow naturally when read aloud? Support your answer. Is the essay concise: between 350 and 500 words. This is about three minutes when read aloud at a natural pace.

2) Does the essay have a clear thesis statement? (In this case, this is probably the author's belief). If so state it below; if not, what do you think the thesis is based on the content of the essay? Also note whether the thesis is narrow enough for this short essay.

3) Does each paragraph in the essay work to support the thesis statement? Give examples of where it does and/or doesn't.

4) Are paragraphs cohesive units of related ideas? Give examples of where this is true and/or could be improved upon.

**OVER**

5) Does the essay tell a clear, specific story with concrete examples grounded in the author's experiences? Support your answer with evidence from the essay.

6) Does the essay preach or editorialize about things the author doesn't believe? Does it use the editorial "we"? Or is it positive and personally connected to what the author does believe, including use of the first person?

7) Please note any grammatical, spelling, or punctuation issues below.

Any other comments: