**Think Piece Assignment #4: PRIMARY SOURCES**

Below you will find excerpts from testimony concerning the assassination of President John F. Kenney in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963. These excerpts are taken from the Warren Report.

In your Think Piece, please compare and contrast the different perspectives of the eyewitness accounts of Carole Walther and Mark Lane recorded some time after the event took place. As you compare these two excerpts, describe how each witness expresses their own experience and how they speculate about what likely happened to the President. How sure are each of them about the accuracy of their recollections? Not only do these accounts contain contradictions with each other, the both contradict the Warren Report’s final conclusions that there was only one shooter who fired all his shots from the Texas Book Depository building. How do you resolve these differences considering the widespread belief that eyewitness accounts are out of necessity the “true” ones?

1.Carole Walther, The Warren Report (Spartacus-deucational.com/JFK assassination.htm. Accessed 11/17/2016)

And I looked at this building (Texas Book Depository) and saw a man with a gun, and there was another man standing to this right. I could not see all of his man, and I couldn’t see his face.

The other man was holding a short gun. It wasn’t as long as a rifle. He was holding the gun in a downward position, and he was looking downward.

Just as I was looking at this man the people started shouting “Here he comes, here he comes.” So I looked the other way and forgot about the man.

The President passed us, and he was smiling, and everybody was waving. Then the last of the cars went by, and then to shots right together, and then another one. I’m sure there were four shots.

And then I said, “It’s gunshots.” And people started screaming. I told them that I saw the man had light hair, or brown, and was wearing a white shirt. I explained to the FBI agents that I wasn’t sure about that. That was my impression on thinking about it later. That I thought that was the way the man was dressed. This other man was wearing a brown suit. That was all I could see, half of this man’s body form his shoulders to his hips. He was facing the window. Evidently he was looking out. But his face was in the upper part, where the glass was dirty, and I could see his face.

The first statement that I made, I said the man was on the fourth or fifth floor, and I still feel the same way.

2. Mark Lane, Warren Report. (Spartacus-educational.com/JFKassassination.htm. Accessed 11/17/2016)

I think the evidence indicates – of course, the car came down Main, up here, and down to Elm Street, and was approximately here when the first shot was fired. The first shot struck the President in the back of the right shoulder, according to the FBI report, and indicates therefore that it came from some place in the rear – which includes the possibility of it coming from the Book Depository building.

The second bullet struck the President in the throat form the front, came from behind this wooden fence, high up on a grassy knoll. Two more bullets were fired. One struck the Elm – the Main Street curb, and cased some concrete, or lead, to scatter up and struck a spectator named James Tague in the face. Another bullet, fired from the rear, struck Governor Connally in the back. As the limousine moved up to approximately this point, another bullet was fired from the front, struck the President in the head, drove him – his body, to the left and to the rear, and drove a portion of his skull backward, to the left and to the rear. Five bullets, fired from at least two different directions, the result of a conspiracy.

