**✰ A Brief Overview of APA Style** ✰

**1. How to cite sources in your writing**

*Every time you* ***paraphrase*** *or* ***quote*** *information from another source, that source must be cited within the text of your writing. The typical citation includes the* ***last name of the author(s) and the year****. You can do this in a few different ways:*

 Smith (2011) studied the impact of violent television on children . . .

 OR

The results of a recent study support the notion that children who view a great deal of violence on television will become more aggressive (Smith, 2011)

 OR

A 2011 study conducted by Smith revealed that children who view a great deal of television violence . . .

**Special Cases:**

✱ If there is **no author**, use the title. Example: (Television violence, 2011)

✱ If there is **no year** of publication (or ‘date last revised’ on a website), use the abbreviation n.d., meaning ‘no date’. Example: (Smith, n.d.)

✱ For **direct quotes**, also provide the page or paragraph number, if available. Example: (Smith, 2011, para. 3)

✱ If there is **more than one author**, list them all the first time, example: (Holbrook, McDonnel & Puck, 2008). However, on following occasions, mention just the first author*.* Example: (Holbrook, 2008)

**2. The References Page (last page of your writing)**

- the title is: References

- each source cited in your writing must appear on this references page

- do not number the references list

- alphabetize the list by last name

- every line should be double spaced (even within each entry)

- use ‘hanging indents’, whereby the first line of each entry is aligned to the left, but the following lines are indented

- to correctly list a web page source, it will look like this:

**Author’s last name, first initial. (Year of publication). *Title of Web page*. Retrieved month, day, year, from** [**www.webaddress.com**](http://www.webaddress.com)

- to correctly list a book, it will look like this:

**Author’s last name, first initial. (Year of publication). *Title of book: Subtitle*. Location of**

**publication: Publisher Name.**

**-** to correctly list a book with more than one author:

 **Author’s last name, first initial, Author’s last name, first initial. Title of book: Subtitle.**

**Location of publication: Publisher Name**

*Example of how to begin your references page:*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

References

Smith, T. (2011). *Television Violence*. Retrieved February 17, 2013 from

www.tvissues.com