

Instructions for Writing an Issues Column for Mennonite Creation Care Network

3-3-17

The template below contains suggestions to make writing easier and to let writers know the editor's intent. Using the headings provided will make your piece more accessible for quick online scanning. However, the template questions are not laws. Do not let them squelch your creativity.

Issues We Care About

As you frame your issue, keep in mind that we are not staffed for immediacy. This is a monthly column, not an action alert. Hence, while your calls for action might include taking political action, make sure what you suggest will continue to be relevant for the next month or two.

Secondly, be as specific as possible. For example, "climate change" is a big issue. If the piece of it that touches you most is drought in the West, tie it to climate change, but focus on specific consequences.

- Keep your column to 500 words or less.
- Write for a general audience.
- Send relevant photos if you have some
- Email your column to mccn@goshen.edu.

Template

1. Name of Issue

2. Introduce yourself in a sentence or two.

3. Why I care about _____.

*Provide enough background about the issue to enable people to understand your concern, but keep in mind that other sites (your links below) are better set up to inform people on specific issues. Rather, focus on why this issue **moves you personally**.*

4. Name one or two actions we can take.

5. Include 3 to 5 links to solid articles or websites where people can learn more, with a 1-sentence description of each.

Instructions for Writing a Knowing Your Place Column for Mennonite Creation Care Network