**Research Example:**

1. Describe the issue: The issue I have chosen is gay marriage. Gay marriage is defined as marriage between partners of the same sex. Gay marriage is currently illegal in Australia.

2. Describe why the issue has come about:

7. Political and legal implications of the social issue:

**Implication: a possible future effect or result**

**\***Legal implication: if same sex marriage is legalized it would have massive legal implications. For the first time same-sex partners would be recognized by the federal government. Same sex partners would have the same rights and privileges as any other married couple (i.e. filing tax returns, health coverage, custody of children)

\*Political implication: same sex marriage has huge implications on politics. The latest opinion poll says that 72% of Australians support legalizing gay marriage. Political parties (Liberal) are going to have to change their stance on the issue because of the massive public support for the issue. People will start to support and follow parties that agree with legalizing same sex marriage.