

# Analyzing Authors' Claims

Read the debate about the U.S. Supreme Court on p. 22, then follow the directions below to analyze each author's claims and decide who makes a stronger case.

<p><b>AUTHOR: Larry Kramer</b> Former Dean, Stanford Law School</p>	<p><b>AUTHOR: Ilya Somin</b> Professor of Law, George Mason University School of Law</p>
<p><b>Author's main claim or argument in the debate:</b></p>	<p><b>Author's main claim or argument in the debate:</b></p>
<p><b>REASON 1:</b> Name a reason the author gives for this claim.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 1.</p>	<p><b>REASON 1:</b> Name a reason the author gives for this claim.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 1.</p>
<p><b>REASON 2:</b> Name another reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 2.</p>	<p><b>REASON 2:</b> Name another reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 2.</p>
<p><b>REASON 3:</b> Name a third reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 3.</p>	<p><b>REASON 3:</b> Name a third reason the author presents.</p> <p>List evidence the author gives to support Reason 3.</p>
<p><b>What persuasive device(s) does the author use?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Appeals to emotions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses data or scholarly research</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tells why the other side's argument is weak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>	<p><b>What persuasive device(s) does the author use?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Appeals to emotions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses data or scholarly research</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tells why the other side's argument is weak</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>

**EVALUATE:** Which author do you think makes his case more effectively? Do you spot any weaknesses—like a bias or missing information—in either argument? Explain on a separate sheet of paper.