**Your Task:**

Compare McCarthyism of the 1950s with the Salem Witch Hunt of 1692 by answering the following questions. These events in American History highlight times in which the government has either tried to undermine the rights of Americans (or of a particular part of the American population), or has allowed an injustice to occur in an attempt to do what "is best for us" as individuals and as a nation.

Work in groups of two or three to research McCarthyism and the Salem Witch Trials. Use the links given to begin your research, then branch out for more details.

**McCarthyism**

1. What was the Cold War? Who were the major forces in it? Why were they fighting?
2. What is McCarthyism? Who were the major figures? When did it take place?
3. What events and accusations started the hysteria that led up to McCarthyism?
4. What are some examples of discrimination during the accusations, and to what degree do you think discrimination was a cause of the hysteria?
5. What do you think was the major cause of what McCarthy did?
6. How did it affect the lives of the accused?
7. How did the general public react to accusations of communism?

**Witch Hunts of 1692**

1. What is Puritanism?
2. What is excommunication? Why were church leaders so influential/powerful in Puritan communities? How does religion today compare to the Puritan's idea of religion? How did the Puritans feel about freedom of religion? Why was witchcraft often the explanation for illness?
3. What do you think was the main message the Puritan's tried to convey to its parishioners? Why was everyone so fearful? What were they afraid of?

Links below!

**Web Resources for McCarthyism Webquest**

**The Salem Witch Museum**

<http://www.salemwitchmuseum.com/education/index.shtml>

**Salem Witch Trials Documentary Archive**

<http://etext.virginia.edu/salem/witchcraft/>

**Salem Witch Trials Eyewitness Account**

<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/salem.htm>

**McCarthyism Summary**

<http://www.socialstudieshelp.com/Lesson_99_Notes.htm>

**The Red Scare: McCarthyism**

<http://www.essortment.com/all/mccarthyismred_rmfw.htm>

**Hollywood Blacklist**

<http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/blacklist.html>

**HUAC & The Censorship Changes**

<http://www.moderntimes.com/huac/>

**The Red Scare**

<http://depts.washington.edu/labhist/cpproject/redscare.shtml>