Article #3:

There are different depictions of transgender people today both online and offline media. Transgender representation is predominantly learned through the media, such as television, movies, websites and social media. The article, *Transgender Representation in Offline and Online Media: LGBTQ Youth Perspectives*, purpose was to explain trends in media representation of transgender people, perceptions of the LGBTQ youth concerning this, and its influence on transgender participants (McInroy & Craig, 2015, p. 606-607). Transgender representation in offline media (e.g., television, movies) has increased significantly in the recent years. These representations are both positive and negative. Some negative representations consist of them being depicted as criminals, sex workers or mentally ill and unlovable (McInroy & Craig, 2015, p. 607). “Offline media is frequently the medium by which people who come to identify as transgender first encounter representation of transgender individuals and communities” (McInroy & Craig, 2015, p. 607). Research shows that negative depictions frequently portrayed in offline media may have detrimental impacts, such as depression or shame, on transgender people and incite fear in the non transgender population (McInroy & Craig, 2015, p. 607). Participants in the study said they feel the media has created negative attitudes towards transgender people.

Today, online media has been the most influential in spreading knowledge on transgender people. The rise of internet stories on transgenders, has resulted in diverse and positive representations. McInroy states that, “Transgender populations are increasingly active producers of online knowledge about transgender identity and issues through active blogging and resources sharing” (p. 608). This is helpful to those people who have not been open about being transgender or do not have access to offline resources. The internet has also helped the
transgender communities by creating geographically dispersed support networks. (McInroy & Craig, 2015, p. 608).