For this research project assignment, I chose to conduct my research on a topic that was easily accessible to me, something that I knew directly affected the community I lived in. I decided that since the casino industry here on the island of Saipan is a hot topic, it would be something great to learn about. It’s a great topic and it’s definitely something we all need to be educated about, since it affects us. However, I don’t think I’m the person to be conducting further research.

I decided to compile information about the benefits, as well as disadvantages, of the casino industry. I was able to find a few academic journals and articles that provided me ample information on both the economic and social advantages/disadvantages. I also found information on Best Sunshine International, the owners of the casino that is operating here on Saipan. As a point, I also did research on Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

This research paper was completed in sections. After selecting a topic, we were given sections to complete each week. This allowed us to get as much feedback from peers as well as our instructor. I feel that this method would be preferred by everyone. This method allows us to take our time and put thought into the assignment. Though it was still extremely difficult for me, I feel that if I was given a research paper to complete in just two weeks, I might not survive.

Though this research paper had some level of difficulty, I was very pleased to be bombarded with so much helpful resources, in the form of handouts, powerpoint presentations, textbook material and podcasts. I think if these resources weren’t available to me, I would be lost most of the time. The PowerPoint presentations definitely helped me because it was very detailed and visually appealing.

APA format of writing has always posed challenges for me but I’m glad that I got the chance to practice. I know this won’t be the last time I’ll be using APA format of writing so I am determined to get better at it.

All in all, I think this writing project taught me a lot. I learned that it is extremely important, and I can’t stress this enough, to stay on task and manage your time efficiently. I think this assignment would have been a breeze for me if I was better at managing my time. Though this topic is not something I would conduct further research on, I would definitely use what I learned in this course when conducting research on other topics.