

# Interview *focus*

## Helping you Achieve your Preparation Goals

The **Legacy Group Pageant Consulting** Interview Focus Newsletter is designed to specifically assist our clients participating in interview preparation but is beneficial to any contestant.

Our weekly updates include the most important news events and related stories so that you learn to build your depth of knowledge around the “right” current events and stop wasting valuable time studying facts and issues that will never find their way into the interview room.

In addition, we also focus on one key social issue in each newsletter to help you understand the pros and cons and help you better decide where you stand on each issue. Once you know where you stand you can better defend your viewpoint in the interview process.

As a bonus there are extra interview questions on each week’s social issue and “get to know you” questions as well as a “tip of the week”. When you’re prepared properly, you’ll never be nervous walking into an interview again! Enjoy!

~Michelle & Jessica

FOCUSING ON COMPLETE  
PREPARATION AND A  
BETTER WAY TO REACH  
YOUR GOALS,  
DEVELOPING THE  
INDIVIDUAL FIRST.

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## PAGEANT WATCH

Miss New Hampshire 2014 was crowned last weekend. Megan Cooley won the crown over 27 other contestants. Her platform is helping people with disabilities. She performed a vocal rendition of “On My Way” for her talent. Legacy Group congratulates Megan on her title!

[Miss New Hampshire 2014](#)

# Interview *focus*

1. On Monday, media reported that some school nutrition directors want the Department of Agriculture to loosen up the new lunch requirement standards so students will stop wasting food. Teens at these schools are blaming Michelle Obama for the changes to their school lunch, even arguing that she has caused them to starve. Do you think it is the responsibility of the school or the parents to ensure that children have a nutritious, healthy and filling lunch? Should schools be allowed to decide what to feed students for lunch or should they have to follow federal mandates (or risk losing funding)?

[The Wire](#)

2. Jason and David Benham, brothers who were set to host a new show on HGTV lost their contract with HGTV after some anti-homosexual remarks they made, based on their faith. We have seen this type of action from different networks over the past few years (Paula Dean, Duck Dynasty, etc). Do you think celebrities should be allowed to express their views on their own time and not reap the percussions in their professional life? Are we allowing networks to go too far and be bullied by various organizations with money? Should Miss America be allowed to express her own personal views on situations, even if it may go against the mainstream beliefs?

[CNN](#)

3. The NFL draft was held last night. Do you think professional athletes are paid too much money? Should similar pay be given to female professional athletes? [CNN](#)

4. The popular app Snapchat admitted this week that its photos and videos don't "disappear forever" as promised, in a settlement with the FTC. Do you think applications like Snapchat lead to more harmful bullying by young people?

[Yahoo News](#)

5. The House voted this week to hold former IRS official Lois Lerner in contempt for refusing to testify at committee hearings about her role in singling out the agency's treatment of tea party applicants seeking tax exempt status. Should Ms. Lerner be forced to disclose her role or should she be allowed to invoke her Fifth Amendment right?

[ABC News](#)

6. U.S soldiers have arrived in Nigeria to help the Nigerian government look for the nearly 300 Nigerian girls that were abducted last month from a boarding school. Do you think the U.S. should focus its efforts on international issues like this when so many issues still continue to plaque the U.S. at home?

[CNN](#)

# Social Issue of the Week:

## College Education

Is a college education worth it? The rising cost of higher education in this country has continued to fuel the fire of whether a college education is worth the price of admission. In 2013, there were 19.9 million college students in the country and average student debt was over \$26,500.

### Proponents of college education:

- Argue that college graduates have higher employment rates, larger salaries, and more work benefits than high school graduates. Proponents also argue college graduates have better logical skills, interpersonal skills, live longer and have healthier children.

### Opponents of college education:

- Argue that debt from college loans is too high and delays college graduates from saving for important things like retirement, a home purchase, or getting married. They also point to many successful people in this country don't have a college degree as support for their position.

With Miss America being a scholarship program, what side of the issue do you stand on?

### Some Interesting Facts to Consider:

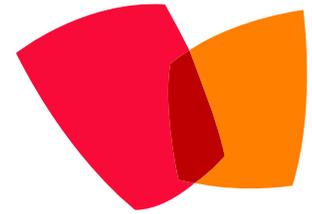
- In 2011, 50% of college graduates in the U.S. under the age of 25 had no job or only a part time job. In 2012, one in three college graduates held a job that only required a high school diploma (83,000 were bartenders, 115,000 were janitors with a bachelor degree).
- 60% of college graduates are women.
- In 2013, there were approximately 6,900 accredited colleges and universities operating in the United States, compared with only 3,535 in 1990 and 1,851 in 1950.
- The unemployment rate for college graduates over 25 years old in 2013 was 3.6%, compared to 7.5% for high school graduates.

Read more information on the pros/cons of obtaining a college education:

[College Education- Pro/Con](#)

\*\*Information from [www.procon.org](http://www.procon.org)

*Coming next week...Concealed Handguns*



### Tip of the Week

*Adding personal stories to your interview helps the judges to get to know who you really are and keeps your interview conversational*

### Get To Know You Questions

1. What makes you uniquely qualified for Miss State/Miss Nat'l?
2. Tell me about a fear you've overcome.
3. What female public figure (non-celebrity) do admire or aspire to be like?
4. How will you gain new sponsors/supporters?

### Social Issue Questions

1. Would you ever choose to not go to college?
2. What expectations do you have, based on your current educational path, for a job position & salary?
3. Why do you think women have surged to become 60% of college graduates?
4. Should public colleges and universities be tuition free like public primary and secondary schools?
5. Would you consider yourself a failure if you could not find a job within your major/degree after graduation?
6. Other than competing in pageants how will you mitigate the cost of a college education?