

# Advancing Faith and Liberty Through Writing

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## **I. Lessons From My Journey**

- Tell people what your goals are
- File clean copy on time and your editor will love you
- Make it easy to find your stuff online
- If you enjoy editing, you've got it made
- Don't get discouraged and never burn bridges

## **II. What a Successful Op-Ed Looks Like**

- They're short (600–900 words)
- The “main idea” must be clearly stated
- Opinions don't matter
- Facts, quotes, and anecdotes are the building blocks
- Your job is to teach the reader something new
- Anticipate obvious objections
- Finish strong

## **III. Tips for Pitching Your Piece**

- Start local
- Think: Why me?
- Read everything the outlet has already published on the subject
- Follow the rules on the website's “submissions” page (with one exception)
- Keep your email under 200 words
- Briefly introduce yourself, with links to relevant previous publications
- Say what differentiates your piece from the rest
- Don't take it personally
- If all else fails...self-publish!