

(Student Example: Essay 1)  
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Essay #1: Rhetorical Success

### It Starts with a Good Title

In a chapter from Margaret Sanger's autobiography entitled, "The Turbid Ebb and Flow of Misery," Sanger explains the plight that women endured during the early 1900's prior to the development of women's contraception. Her use of steadfast evocative descriptions of her accounts of working in New York's Lower East Side prompt vivid images and emotional connections to the reader. In the year 1912, she was called upon a patient, Mrs. Sachs, who survived a fatal infection due to a self-induced abortion. At this point in our culture, the only method of pregnancy prevention the doctor could give her was to remain abstinent. That being nearly impossible for a married woman, Mrs. Sachs found herself in the same situation months later, ultimately resulting in her death. This particular experience impassioned Sanger's quest for a real solution to women's problems.

Prior to even reading the very first sentence your attention is grasped by the title, "The Turbid Ebb and Flow of Misery," which is written with the intent to engage your attention with the use of Pathos. Sanger begins by explaining how she became an obstetrical nurse. Her words then paint pictures of the inhabitable conditions of those that she was called to serve. She then leads into the conflict that she faces with Mrs. Sachs. Finally, Sanger closes this chapter with a new conviction which causes her to pursue a solution to prevent this tragedy from occurring again. In the following essay, I will substantiate how the above mentioned proves Margaret Sanger's rhetorical success.