Why did the author do it this way?

Read before you begin:

- “My Amendment” by George Saunders (Language Awareness pages 237–241)
- “Black Men and Public Space” by Brent Staples (Language Awareness pages 309–311)

Your task:

Choose one of the two essays above and write a rhetorical analysis essay that discusses the author’s choices and the purposes or effects of those choices.

Advice:

- Each essay has questions called “Thinking Critically About the Reading.” (The one for Saunders is on page 241; for Staples it’s on page 312.) You would be wise to work through those questions, though the essay should be a lot more than a list of answers.
- If you choose to write about the Saunders article, you really need to look up irony and satire in the dictionary and ask yourself whether the Saunders amendment proposal, complete with the “Manly Scale of Absolute Gender” was meant to be taken literally.

Mechanical requirements:

- The final product will be typed and double-spaced according to MLA format.
- The paper will be at least 4 pages long (That’s about 1400 words).

Due Dates:

1. Thursday, September 27: Bring TWO printed copies of your rough draft for peer editing.
2. Thursday, October 4: Final copy of essay #3 is DUE!

This essay is worth 100 points.