Sample Persuasive Speech Outline

# Tattoos

**Attention getter**: How many of you remember being at the mall or another public place and seeing someone who is covered in tattoos? Although this isn't the social norm, actually only 21% of Americans have a tattoo, these people certainly get our attention.  
  
**Link to audience**: Because of your age, I'm betting that the large majority of you here in this room today do not have a tattoo. I would also be willing to bet that most of us probably can't imagine our bodies covered in tattoos. I know I certainly can't.  
  
**Speaker credibility**: I have abstained from getting a tattoo my entire life, and I have done research on the pros and cons of getting a tattoo.  
  
**Thesis statement**: Today I am here to convince you that getting a tattoo is never a good idea.  
  
**Preview main points**: First I want to talk to you about a variety of diseases you can get from getting a tattoo. Next I'll address how most people who get a tattoo come to regret that decision. Finally, I will discuss ...  
  
**Transition:** Let's begin by talking about the diseases that you can get from the process of getting a tattoo.

**Main Point #1**: DISEASES  
A. Bacterial infections or STDs  
 1. Months or years of treatment  
 2. May not be curable  
 3. May affect your ability to have children  
B. Deadly  
 1. Hepatitis 16,000 in 2013  
 2. Shuts down liver  
 3. HIV  
 4. Attacks immune system  
 5. 50,000 new cases annually  
  
**Transition**: Besides contracting diseases the large majority of people who get a tattoo come to regret that decision.  
  
**Main Point #2**: Regrets  
A. Visual barrier  
 1. No job or career  
 2. policies against tattoos  
 3. society views as negative, rebellious, immature, unprofessional  
B. People change their minds  
 1. Tastes change  
 2. Dermatologist Amy Derick averages 30 laser removal's per month  
 3. Removal painful  
 4. Removal expensive  
 5. 10% of her clients over 50 and regret immortalizing a person or event

**Transition**: Let's go back over what we've learned today.  
  
**Restate thesis**: getting a tattoo was always the wrong choice.  
  
**Restatement main points**: tattoos can cause disease and regrets.  
  
**Call to action**: I strongly encourage you to learn everything there is to know about the downside of getting a tattoo because making the wrong choice could cause permanent damage to your body but also your future.  
  
**Clincher**: So, simply said, everyone should rethink getting inked!