Toulmin System: Homeless not Hopeless

**Enthymeme:** Randolph Larder Kennedy represents a valuable challenge to social stereotypes because he proved that homelessness is not always the result of profligate living or laziness.

**Claim:** Randolph Larder Kennedy represents a valuable challenge to social stereotypes

**Stated Reason:** because he proved that homelessness is not always the result of profligate living or laziness

**Warrant:** any person who teaches us the weakness of social stereotypes is valuable

**Backing:**
* Discuss various social stereotypes that infect culture: rich are elitist and selfish, poor are lazy, hillbillies are ignorant, people from the projects are violent and ignorant
* Discuss the dangers such stereotypes can have on the success of society

**Grounds:**
* Describe Mr. Kennedy’s appearance and demeanor
* Present his family history (wealthy family, Christian, highly educated)
* Discuss and analyze Mr. Kennedy’s own education (college degree)
* Discuss the accident that left Mr. Kennedy physically impaired and mentally challenged
* Describe Mr. Kennedy’s current attempts at rehabilitation and job training
* Discuss his role as encourager to others at Knox Area Rescue Ministries
* Offer full description of his “philosophy”
* Discuss his convictions regarding “not a hand-out but a hand-up”
* End with honest explanation of my new view of the homeless

**Opposition/Rebuttal:**
* Refute the preconception that all homeless people are addicts
* Refute the preconception that homeless people do not want to work
* Refute the idea that homeless people all come from an unstable family background
* Refute the belief that homeless people are uneducated
* Refute the stereotype of homeless people as inarticulate, dirty, and dangerous

**Qualifiers:**
* some, at times, probably, perhaps