Awful Thesis Exercise

The following theses are terrible. Each one has a problem that might later prevent it from becoming an effective thesis; few of them are restricted or provide a solid focus for an essay. Either indicate what is wrong or fix them so they meet all the requirements for an enthymematic argument.

(1) In the area of mental processes, I think women are more intelligent than men.

(2) In my opinion, the U. S. Marines are the greatest fighting force in the world.

(3) Reading is a valuable asset because it is useful to be able to read.

(4) Representative Tom Delay believes people on welfare are just plain lazy.

(5) Boxing is a violent sport that can lead to injury since it has the highest ratio of injuries of any athletics event.

(6) The Lady Eagles are most likely to win the softball tournament this year.

(7) Owning an SUV is a status symbol in American suburbia.

(8) Surveys show 32% of East Tennessee students would support legislation to secede from the rest of western Tennessee and form a new political entity.

(9) All mothers have a maternal instinct to protect their children,

(10) This essay will show that the United States could withdraw from the United Nations in six separate stages over a nine-month period.

(11) The Tennessee public should have access to the records of child molestation cases because of safety.

(12) Age restrictions on tobacco use should be lifted since they are stupid.

Part Two (13-14): Create two possible theses of your own in enthymeme format that deal with the readings we have covered so far. What questions at issue do they answer?