

Pro & Con Information/Issues Research

Online Catalog



The ***SWOSU Online Catalog*** is an index to the books, videos, and journals the Library holds. Use the catalog to find the following series titles:

<i>Contemporary Issues</i>	<i>Opposing Viewpoints</i>
<i>Contemporary Legal Issues</i>	<i>Reference Shelf</i>
<i>Contemporary World Issues</i>	<i>Taking Sides</i>

These books do a great job of providing both sides of a controversial topic.

Online Databases



Issues & Controversies – provides up-to-date, in-depth and objective information on the most prominent and hotly debated issues of the day. It combines objective analysis with clear explanations of opposing points of view. Chronologies, illustrations, maps, tables, sidebars, bibliographies and contact information augment the balanced, accurate coverage of current and historical events.



CQ Researcher – contains in-depth analytical reports on current and controversial issues concentric to the U.S. government. Each report gives the reader a broad overview of the issue, including the historical background and a discussion of current controversies and initiatives. The benefit of these reports is the pro/con section clearly stating opposing viewpoints to a question posed based on a current or controversial issue.



TOPICsearch – contains articles from more than 2,700 sources, including international and regional newspapers, magazines, biographies, public opinion polls, book reviews, pamphlets, and government information.

Reference Materials

Select reference materials provide more specialized coverage of an issue.

- ◆ *Animals and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Political Grounds*
- ◆ *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Religious Grounds*
- ◆ *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Sexual Grounds*
- ◆ *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Social Grounds*
- ◆ *Censorship*
- ◆ *Children, Young Adults and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *Consumer Protection and the Law: A Dictionary*

- ◆ *Education and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of American Activism: 1960 to the Present*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of the American Left*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Censorship*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Environmental Issues*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Ethics*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of High-Tech Crime and Crime-Fighting*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Terrorism*
- ◆ *Encyclopedia of White-Collar & Corporate Crime*
- ◆ *Gambling in America: An Encyclopedia of History, Issues & Society*
- ◆ *Great Debates of the United Nations*
- ◆ *Gun Control and Gun Rights*
- ◆ *Health Care Policy and Politics A to Z*
- ◆ *Health Issues*
- ◆ *Historic U.S. Court Cases*
- ◆ *Homosexuality and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *Immigration and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *International Encyclopedia of Human Rights*
- ◆ *Landmark Decisions of the United States Supreme Court*
- ◆ *Native Americans and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *Physical and Mental Issues in Aging*
- ◆ *Religion and the Law: A Dictionary*
- ◆ *Rights of Indians and Tribes*
- ◆ *Standards and Schooling in the United States: An Encyclopedia*
- ◆ *Tobacco in History and Culture: An Encyclopedia*

Statistical Sources

Select reference materials shelved at the reference desk provide critical data that enhances the understanding of an issue.

- ◆ *American Attitudes*
- ◆ *American Generations*
- ◆ *American Incomes*
- ◆ *Americans At Play*
- ◆ *Crime State Rankings*
- ◆ *Education Statistics of the United States*
- ◆ *Gallup Poll*
- ◆ *Household Spending*
- ◆ *Oklahoma Almanac*
- ◆ *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*
- ◆ *Statistical Abstract of Oklahoma*
- ◆ *Statistical Abstract of the United States*
- ◆ *Statistical Handbook on Adolescents in America*
- ◆ *Statistical Handbook on the American Family*
- ◆ *Statistical Handbook on Violence in America*
- ◆ *Statistical Handbook on Women in America*
- ◆ *Statistical Record of Health and Medicine*
- ◆ *Statistical Record of Hispanic Americans*
- ◆ *Statistical Record of Native North Americans*
- ◆ *Statistical Record of Older Americans*
- ◆ *Statistical Record of the Environment*
- ◆ *Statistical Record of Women Worldwide*
- ◆ *Statistical Portrait of the U.S. Social Conditions and Trends*

◆ *World Almanac*

Associations

Some associations are organized to deal with one side or the other of a controversial issue. To locate an association for your topic, use the suggested encyclopedia or website listed below:

- ◆ *Encyclopedia of Associations*
- ◆ *Internet Public Library: Associations on the Net* <http://www.ipl.org/div/aon>

List of Periodical Titles

This select list of periodicals which have articles that express opinions on controversial topics.

- ◆ *America*- It covers a variety of topics with an emphasis towards Catholic readers.
- ◆ *The American Spectator*- It demonstrates a conservative bias.
- ◆ *Atlantic Monthly*- Provides essays on world and national problems, the problems chosen are usually more appreciated by a liberal audience.
- ◆ *Audubon*- An upscale magazine for environmental issues with a specialization towards conservation and appreciation of nature.
- ◆ *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist*- With a liberal approach, this periodical seeks to educate citizens about global security issues, the continuing dangers posed by weapons of mass destructions, ecological issues and the appropriate roles of nuclear technology.
- ◆ *Christian Century*- With moderate and liberal viewpoints, this publication examines issues of politics, culture and theology while emphasizing the challenges to faith that arise in everyday life.
- ◆ *Commentary*- It demonstrates a moderate approach towards issues of Jewish concern.
- ◆ *Commonweal*- An independent journal of opinion edited by lay Catholics which focuses predominantly on social and ethical issues.
- ◆ *Congressional Digest*- Provides an impartial view of controversial issues in the U.S. Congress.
- ◆ *Current*- A compilation of reprints expressing opinions from a wide range of viewpoints.
- ◆ *Harpers*- Addressing the well-educated reader, this publication's investigative journalism focuses on fine writing and original thought to explore the issues and ideas in politics, science and the arts that drive our national conversation.
- ◆ *Humanist*- Creates a naturalistic and democratic outlook informed by science, inspired by art, and motivated by compassion-to broad areas of social and personal concern and challenges readers with insightful ethical critique and commentary on the central issues of our time.
- ◆ *Ms.*- Insightful articles on a variety of social issues, all reflecting women's concerns. The lack of advertising gives this magazine the independence to reflect a strong feminist and liberal bias.
- ◆ *Nation*- A weekly liberal magazine covering political and social issues with an earnest effort not to mar its political writing with modern media devices such as, violence, exaggeration and misrepresentation.
- ◆ *National Review*- It demonstrates an extremely conservative bias, interjected with humorous and creative discourse on issues of society and politics.
- ◆ *New Republic*- Witty writing with a liberal bias often debunking traditional liberal assumptions. A more balanced publication than the *Nation* and includes critical commentary on political issues.
- ◆ *New Statesman & Society*- A British publication affiliated with the Labour Party. It demonstrates a socialist outlook, with articles supporting activist government.

- ◆ ***Partisan Review***- Published by Boston University, this publication has a liberal, pro-education bias. Articles focus on controversial issues which impact university scholars.
- ◆ ***Progressive***- With a militant liberal bias, this publication has articles highly critical of the status quo in America. It is the mission of this publication to be a journalistic voice of peace and social justice and serves as a champion for civil rights, civil liberties, human rights, a preserved environment, and a reinvigorated democracy.
- ◆ ***Society***- Presents new findings from social science research in an accessible format with no obvious bias.
- ◆ ***Washington Monthly***- A fearless liberal publication with a libertarian streak that investigates Washington bureaucracy and government. It poses the big questions and tries to answer them while attempting to expose the hidden political culture in our nation's capital.

World Wide Web Resources

- ***Best Information on the Net: Hot Paper Topics (St. Ambrose University)***

<http://library.sau.edu/bestinfo/Hot/hotindex.htm>

Webiography that lists the best websites for controversial topic issues.

- ***CNN Special Reports***

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/>

Includes facts, statistics, interviews of supporters and opponents, and much more on key issues. The site maintains an archive going back to 1995.

- ***National Center for Policy Analysis***

<http://www.ncpa.org>

NCPA is a non-profit, non-partisan public policy research organization whose goal is to develop and promote private alternatives to government regulation and control, solving problems by relying on the strength of the competitive, entrepreneurial private sector.

- ***SpeakOut.com***

<http://speakout.com/index.html>

Provides issues arranged by topic categories. The site is devoted to promoting activism in a variety of areas.