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Religion Class Ethics Assignment

Controversial Issues

- [ProCon.org](#) is a nonpartisan, independent, and nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to inform the public about controversial issues using facts, news, and hundreds of diverse opinions in a pro-con format.
- [Public Agenda's](#) nonpartisan Issue Guides distill facts and analysis from major news and public opinion sources. Find pros and cons on a number of moral issues: **Right to Die**, **Question of Choice**, **Illegal Drugs** ... The Facts Files offer statistics, graphs and numbers to help you back up your arguments.
- [Opposing Viewpoint Resource Center](#) to narrow your results add **debate** to your search terms, i.e. global warming debate
- [SIRS](#) is database containing current articles and reference sources on a variety of topics
- [TopicSearch](#) lists some search results under an **opinions** heading, to

help narrow your search.

- [Hot Paper Topics](#) from Global Warming to same-sex marriage find loads of links here.

Physician Assisted Suicide

Any serious consideration of the topic **physician-assisted suicide** inevitably draws from ethics and medical ethics, law, medical practices, philosophy, psychology, public policy, and religion as one explores questions surrounding the central issue of the right to die. To help you with the issue, the Creighton University School of Medicine has a Web site devoted to the history, impact and ethical issues surrounding [Dr. Kervorkian & Physician Assisted Suicide](#).

You can also listen to a discussion at the [Justice Talking Web](#) site. The [Greenwood Library](#) has extensive links to: journal and newspaper articles, books, WEB sites on suicide, death, and related issues, radio and TV programs, legal matters. NB - some of links on the Greenwood site may be not up-to-date.

Death Penalty Links

- [History of the Death Penalty](#) There are some excellent sources available for those interested in the **history of capital punishment**. The following pages contain a brief summary of that history, with an emphasis on developments in the United States.
- [Capital Punishment in the United States](#)
- On [Frontline](#) you can follow links to readings on: **Pope John Paul II and the Death Penalty**, Inside Death Row with Two Chaplains,

Debating the Death Penalty, Why Texas is #1 in Executions.... and MORE

- The [Texas Execution Information Center](#) is about executions, not capital punishment. That is, this site deals with specific cases, rather than overall conclusions and arguments. This is not a place to find opinions about capital punishment -- whether it is moral, whether it is cruel, whether it is fairly applied, whether it is a deterrent -- etc. It is meant as a resource from which informed opinions will be built.
- The [Illinois Coalition To Abolish The Death Penalty](#) A grassroots membership organization committed to educating the public about the **flaws and injustices** in the **Illinois** capital punishment system and promoting humane alternatives to the punitive death penalty system.
- The [University of Alaska Justice Center](#) provides links to resources from both pro and anti-death penalty perspectives on a number of specific issues, such as whether or not the death penalty has any **deterrent effect** on would-be murderers. Beside deterrence, one of the chief arguments of death penalty advocates is that capital punishment exacts retribution for crimes that serves justice to murder victims and their survivors. Opponents of the death penalty warn of the danger of **executing the innocent**, offering evidence of actual instances of erroneous convictions and executions of probably innocent people, also noting two causes of miscarriages of justice, government misconduct and the politicization of the death penalty.


Cloning and Genetic Engineering

- [Center for Food Safety](#) is a non-profit public interest and environmental advocacy membership organization established for the purpose of challenging **harmful food production technologies** and promoting sustainable alternatives. This site is definitely biased against genetically engineered foods and has very current news article links on the subject
- [The Center for Genetics and Society](#) - human genetics in the public interest
- [Genetic Engineering Human's Playground Subject Guide](#)
- [Union of Concerned Scientists](#)
- [SCOPE](#) Research Group UC Berkeley for controversies surrounding the **risks and benefits** of genetically modified food
- The [Coalition of Americans for Ethical Research](#) information on **stem cell research**

Gambling

- [CACGEC](#) Citizens Against Casino Gambling In Erie County
- [Frontline](#) Gambling Easy Money Pro/Con. Here are some thought-provoking analyses from experts and groups on both sides.
- The site states that the [Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming](#) was established by the University of Nevada, the Institute serves as a structure to broaden the understanding of gambling and the commercial gaming industries. Its aim is to encourage and promote research and learning so that the multifaceted issues surrounding gambling and commercial gaming and the ways in which individuals and society-at-large are affected might be addressed.

- The Mission of the [National Council on Problem Gambling](#) is to increase public awareness of pathological gambling, ensure the widespread availability of treatment for problem gamblers and their families, and to encourage research and programs for prevention and education.
- [Responsible gambling council](#)
- The New York Times Magazine May 9, 2004 illustrated the insidious ways in which modern electronic slot machines are crafted to captivate their prey. The article described a machine designer watching intently and muttering "gotcha" as a player took the bait. "No other form of gambling manipulates the human mind as beautifully as these machines," said a psychiatrist who studies gambling treatments.

Download article  .

Global Warming

- Environmental Issues on the [Public Agenda](#) Web site include a link to *Discussion Guides* offering 3 perspectives on the issue along with pros and cons of each approach.
- [Opposing Viewpoint Resource Center](#) search using these keywords:
Global warming debate

War

- [The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#) **Just-war theory** deals with the justification of how and why wars are fought. The justification can be either theoretical or historical. The theoretical aspect is concerned with ethically justifying war and forms of warfare...

- [The Church's Teaching on War and Peace](#) Find excerpts from the **U.S. Catholic Bishops'** 1993 statement, *The Harvest of Justice Is Sown in Peace*, provides a summary of key elements of the Church's teaching, including the principles of the just war tradition.
- [Justice in War](#)
- [St. Thomas Aquinas on War](#)
- [King Enclyclopedia](#) **Nonviolent resistance** - Ghandi and Martin Luther King
- [Beyond Intractability: A Free Knowledge Base on More Constructive Approaches to Destructive Conflict](#)
- [International Campaign to Ban Landmines](#)
- [The Geneva Conventions](#): the core of international humanitarian law
The **Geneva Conventions** are international treaties that contain the most important rules limiting the barbarity of war. They protect people who do not take part in the fighting (civilians, medics, aid workers) and those who can no longer fight (wounded, sick and shipwrecked troops, prisoners of war).
- The [Avalon Project](#) at Yale Law School - The Laws of War
- The Frederick K. Cox International Law Center [War Crimes Research Portal](#)
- [Holocaust and Genocide Links](#)

Stem Cell Research

- From [Duke University](#) Stem Cell Research: Funding for the Future or a Commitment to Morality

- [Online NewsHour](#) -- Stem Cell Research. Two US representatives debate the bill and its possible impact on research.
- Stem-Cell Research How [Catholic Ethics](#) Guide Us
- From the National Academies - The Promise of Stem Cells From Research to Medical Therapies. Stem cell research could potentially help millions of Americans. Download report  which has a table listing the Potential US Patient Populations for Stem Cell-Based Therapies.
- Monitoring Stem Cell Research The [President's Council on Bioethics](#) Washington, D.C., January 2004
- [WebMD](#) Physician-Lawmakers Debate Stem Cell Research. Two Congressmen With Opposing Views Bring Their Expertise to the Debate

Conscientious Objection

- [Conscientious Objection](#) and Alternative Service
- [Center on Conscience and War](#)
- [Crimes of War Project](#)
- [Conscientious Objection in America](#) The Peace Collection has a very large amount of material by and about COs in the United States. The goal for the site has been to provide information and as many links as possible to archival sources in particular, as well as lists of other resources available and background information about conscientious objection in America.
- [The Objector](#) website of the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors

Same Sex Marriage

- [Human Rights Campaign](#)
- American Center for Law and Justice, "[Protecting Marriage](#)"
- [Marriage Watch](#) a service of the Marriage Law Project, Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America. Includes texts of all state "defense of marriage" or "marriage protection" acts.
- Jurist: Same Sex Marriage [news archive](#)
- Heritage Foundation, [Marriage in the 50 States](#)
- [Institute for Marriage and Public Policy](#)

Abortion

- Intercollegiate Studies Institute -- Listen or watch the lecture [Is Abortion Morally Justifiable in a Free Society?](#) From ISI's Cicero's Podium: A Great Issues Debate Series.
- [National Abortion Federation](#) Find Links to the latest issues in the ongoing fight to preserve a woman's right to choose.

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