



Argumentative Essay Topics:

Social Concerns and Quality of Life Issues

The following topics are suitable for argumentative essay assignments about social issues. Suggested thesis statements and a list of web links to pertinent information are provided for each topic. Topics on this page include:

[Gay Marriages](#)

[Animal Rights](#)

[Gambling](#)

[Illegal Immigration](#)

Need more information? Try these links:

- [GCC library](#) (click on [Periodical Indexes](#) to search the electronic databases)
- [Public Agenda](#)
- [Rand](#)
- [American Civil Liberties Union](#)
- [Useful Web Sites and Search Engines](#)



Gay Marriage

Thesis Statements:

- Granting legal marriage rights to gays and lesbians would threaten the stability of the family, a pillar of our society.
- Granting legal marriage rights under the law must extend to gays and lesbians to ensure that all citizens enjoy full human rights.

Some of the issues in this argument:

Should society encourage traditional values and traditional forms of family life?

Should employee benefits be offered to people with domestic partners?

Should we tolerate discrimination against gays and lesbians in employment or housing?

Should our government enact legislation to strengthen and support traditional families -- like a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman?

Should we provide the same rights to gay and lesbian couples that are currently only afforded to heterosexual couples -- the right to marry, adopt and receive benefits?

Sources of Information:

In Favor of Gay Marriages

- [ACLU: Federal Marriage Amendment](#)
- [Equal rights: The case for gay marriage](#)
- [Human Rights Campaign](#)
- [Lambda Legal Defense: Marriage Project](#)

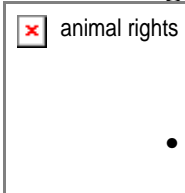
Opposed to Gay Marriages

- [President Calls for Constitutional Amendment Protecting Marriage](#)
- [Eleven Arguments Against Same-Sex Marriage \(Part 1 of 5\)](#)
- [Gay Marriage: Why Would It Affect Me? Ten Arguments Against Same Sex Marriage](#)
- [Deathblow to Marriage by Stanley Kurtz](#)
- [STAYING 'TRUE TO THE RESEARCH' ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE AND PARENTING](#)
- [Is Marriage in Jeopardy?](#)

Comprehensive Websites

- [Public Agenda Issue: Gay Rights](#)
- [The Marriage Law Project](#)
- [Institute for the Study of Marriage, Law, and Culture](#)
- [NPR Social Issues](#) (audio)
- [Same Sex Marriages and Civil Unions](#)
- [Domestic Partnerships and Same Sex Marriages](#)
- [SoYouWanna Know about Gay Marriage?](#)

Animal Rights



Thesis Statements:

- Animal testing is necessary to develop new medicines and advance scientific knowledge.

Sources of Information:

Supporting Animal Research

- [CARE Committee on Animal Research and Ethics](#) from APA
- [Foundation for Biomedical Research](#)
- [US Meat Animal Research Center](#)