



PATHFINDERS

Methuen High School Media Center—Methuen, MA

Pathfinders are pages that offer students selected resources in a variety of media on a topic they are researching. They provide a head start for students as they begin their research project.

SOCIAL ISSUES

To find books in the MHS Media Center, click on Spectrum—this is the electronic card catalog. Type in the topic you want to search. If you don't already have a topic, you can find some lists of books on social issues by typing in:

Current Controversies
Opposing Viewpoints
Contemporary Issues
At Issue
Life Issues
Overview Series
Examining Pop Culture

Another good place to look for topics is in
REF 306.097 CUR
Current Issues (4 vols.)

Some titles we have are:

- REF
170
ETH *Ethics*. Hackensack, NJ: Salem Press, 2005.
- REF
174.957
ENC *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. New York: Macmillan Reference USA, 2004.
- REF
306.097
CUR *Current Issues*. New York: Macmillan Reference USA, 2003.
- REF
361.973
SOC *Social Issues in America: An Encyclopedia*. Armonk, NY: Sharpe Reference, 2006.

SELECTED WEB SITES

Multnomah County Library Homework Center

<http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/lib/homework/sochc.html>

An excellent listing of websites which represent opposing points of view on each subject listed.

Internet Public Library Social Issues and Social Welfare Resources

<http://www.ipl.org/div/subject/browse/soc80.00.00/>

A helpful listing of social issue topics which lead to links on the issues followed by an alphabetical listing of web resources on different social issues.

Hot Paper Topics

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

A list of social issues provided by St. Ambrose University in Davenport, IA, with links to many web sites.

Public Agenda Online

<http://www.publicagenda.org/>

Public Agenda is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public opinion research and citizen education organization. Click on "issue guides" for topic ideas.

ProCon.org

<http://www.procon.org>

ProCon presents research on controversial issues in a nonpartisan primarily pro-con format.

CNN

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

Links to special coverage & hot topics from CNN.

IDEA—Debatatabase

<http://www.idebate.org/index.php>

Debatatabase contains arguments for and against hundreds of debating topics, written by expert debaters, judges and coaches. Also included are background summaries and links to Web sites of interest. Scroll down to "View Complete Topic Index" for a detailed list of choices.

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Social Issues Web Portals

http://library.sussex.tec.nj.us/social_issues.htm

Links to many social issues sites from the Sussex County Technical High School, Sparta, NJ..

ONLINE RESOURCES

Infotrac - contains databases of magazine articles, a biography resource, and health and business references. Try Reference Center Gold, Expanded Academic ASAP, & Biography Resource Center.

bigchalk eLibrary – online reference center including books, magazines, newspapers, pictures, maps & TV transcripts.

Massachusetts Newsstand – newspaper articles from the Boston Globe (1980 - current), Boston Herald (1991 - current), and ten other Massachusetts newspapers.

Grolier Online – 2 electronic encyclopedias– New Book of Knowledge and Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia. Articles in these encyclopedias link you to other articles and also to relevant web sites where you can find more information on your topic.

REMOTE ACCESS

These databases are also available from home. You can gain access to these resources from home by going to the Answers...To Go! web page made available from the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System:

<http://www.nmrls.org/answers/dbmvlc.html>

and enter your public library card number (from Methuen or any MVLC member library) where you are prompted for a patron or user number.

CITING SOURCES

- **Using MLA Style to Cite and Document Sources**
www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html
- **OWL Online Writing Lab**
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html#Works-Cited
- **NoodleBib**
<http://www.noodletools.com/login.php>
Online tool to assist you in citing your sources easily and correctly in the MLA style format.

Using these links indicates the user is leaving the district server and that linked material is not necessarily approved by the district.

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