

## BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE

Use the strategies described on this page to locate information about controversial issues.

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### Periodical Articles

**Issues and Controversies** from Facts.com includes excellent articles on controversial issues. Use the Search box or the Subject list to find articles on a wide variety of issues including gay rights, mine safety, and obesity.

**CQ Researcher** is published by Congressional Quarterly 48 times per year. Each report covers one current event topic. Examples are air quality standards, the FBI, gender equity in sports, and cloning. Report sections include background, overview chronology, the current situation, pros and cons of the issue, the outlook, and a bibliography on one aspect of the topic.

**Opposing Viewpoints** covers today's hottest social issues. Each issue has pro and con viewpoints articles; a list of full-text articles from magazines, journals and newspapers; and primary source materials. Included also are statistics, multimedia images, podcasts, and links to selected web sites.

**Congressional Digest** is published monthly. Each issue discusses one topic including an outline of actions taken by the U.S. Congress, an overview, and the pro and con section. Topics have included nuclear waste storage, flexibility in the workplace, and federal farm policy. Locate *Congressional Digest* articles by following these steps:

- Open [Search for Articles](#).
- Click *Academic Search* under Popular Databases.
- Click in the box beside Find: and type *a word or phrase describing your subject* (e.g., nuclear waste).
- Click in the box next to Publication and type *Congressional Digest*.
- Click *Search* to retrieve about your topic from Congressional Digest.

**Gallup Poll Tuesday Briefing** "contains sampling, data collection and data processing procedures designed to provide representative samples of the adult civilian population living in telephone households in the continental United States." To access articles from this periodical:

- Open [Search for Articles](#).
- Under Databases A-Z, click *B*.
- Click *Business Source Premier*.
- Click in the Find: box and type *JN "Gallup Poll Tuesday Briefing" and a word or phrase describing your topic* (e.g., abortion).
- Click *Search* to retrieve articles about your topic in Gallup Poll Tuesday Briefing.

**LexisNexis News Transcripts** includes the full text of many news transcripts. To search for news transcripts about a specific topic:

- Open [Search for Articles](#).
- Under Popular Databases, click *LexisNexis*.
- Click the *Guided News Search tab*.
- Under Step One: Select a news category, click the arrow and click *News Transcripts*.
- Under Step Two: Select a news source, click the arrow and click *All Transcripts*.
- Under Step Three: Enter search terms, type words or phrases to describe your topic.
- Under Step Four: Narrow to a specific date range, set the date range of your choice.
- Click *Search* to retrieve news transcripts on your topic.

**LexisNexis Polls & Surveys** includes full text reports of polls and surveys. To search for these reports:

- Open [Search for Articles](#).
- Under Popular Databases, click *LexisNexis*.
- In the left column under Academic Search Forms, click *Reference*.
- Under Reference, click *Polls & Surveys*.
- In the first search box, type *a word or phrase describing your topic*.
- Choose other options listed on the search form (e.g., date).
- Click *Search* to polls & surveys transcripts on your topic.

**Locate other periodical articles** about your topic using the indexes available on the Owens Library [Search for Articles](#) page. [Searching Tips & Tricks](#) will help you retrieve relevant results.

**Use Point of View in Periodicals** to locate articles and opinion pieces from specific points of view.

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### Searching Tips & Tricks

- Truncated words (word stems followed by an asterisk) will retrieve any word beginning with the letters listed, e.g., ***abortion and controvers\**** will retrieve any record containing the word abortion and the words controversy, controversies or controversial. Do not use truncation on less than 4 characters.
- **Use any of the following keywords** or word stems to search for information advocating for or against an issue:

advantag\*, against\*, analy\*, argument\*, attitud\*, attribut\*, benefit\*, compar\*, contrast\*, controvers\*, cost\*, disadvantage\*, discuss\*, editorial\*, evaluat\*, favor\*, improv\*, legal\*, mistak\*, moral\*, need\*, oppos\*, politic\*, position\*, progressive\*, religio\*, respect\*, success\*, support\*, view\*, and vital.

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### Books Available in Owens Library

**Contemporary World Issues** is a series of books that include information about controversial global issues. The books are shelved in the main collection on third floor and may be checked out at the first floor Library Services Desk. Search the Library Catalog for books in this series about your topic by following the steps listed below:

- Open the [Library Catalog](#).
- Click in the *box next to the words Search for:* and type *contemporary world issues and a word or phrase describing your subject* (e.g., contemporary world issues and hate crimes).
- Click the *Search* button.
- If a book about your subject is available in the Contemporary World Issues series, a title will be displayed.

**Current Issues** is a four volume set of encyclopedias and is located under the call number Ref 306.0973 C97c. Examples of topics are AIDS, census, marijuana, and smoking. Each entry is 1-2 pages long and gives additional listings for related topics.

**eBooks** are electronic books available to Northwest students, faculty, and staff. Users can search the full text for information about topics. The title, author, and content notes of eBooks can be searched in the Library Catalog.

**Opposing Viewpoints** is a series of books providing information about both sides of controversial issues. The books are shelved in the main collection on third floor and may be checked out at the first floor Library Services Desk. Search the Library Catalog for books in this series about your topic by following the steps listed below:

- Open the [Library Catalog](#).
- Click in the box next to the words Search for: and type *opposing viewpoints and a word or phrase describing your subject* (e.g., opposing viewpoints and endangered species).
- Click *Search*.
- If a book about your subject is available in the Opposing Viewpoints series, a title or list of titles will display.

#### Other Books & Print Sources:

- **Search the Library Catalog** for other books & print sources about your topic, following the steps listed below:
  - Open the [Library Catalog](#).
  - Click in the *box next to the words Search for:* and type *word(s) or a phrase describing your subject*.
  - Combine more than one idea with the Boolean operator *and*. **Search Example:** cloning and ethic\*
- [Searching Tips & Tricks](#) will help you retrieve relevant results.
- Click *Search MOBIUS* to find books from more than 50 academic libraries throughout the state.

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### World Wide Web Resources

Follow the directions listed below to access quotations, statistical data and definitions via the Owens Library Reference Resources page:

- Open [ProCon.org: Pros and Cons of Controversial Issues](#)
- This site
  
- Open [Reference Resources](#)
- Use online almanacs, quotation sources, dictionaries and statistical sources linked from this page.

To find Web sites selected and annotated by librarians:

- Consult [Course/Subject Resources: by Topic](#)
- When the list of subjects appears, click *a subject*.

- Many of the subjects will list WWW Resources

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All quoted material is from the respective source.

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