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Web Resources

Web offers a wealth of information on any topic. The challenge for each user is to know how to search effectively to find sources that are relevant and of verifiable authority. Evaluating a web source requires skill and critical thinking to avoid being misinformed. Refer to the Library Research course here on Blackboard to learn how to evaluate Web resources. The sources below are recommended for your research on controversial and other hot topics.

[Nature Reports](#)

The website features comprehensive analysis of three different hot scientific issues such as, *Climate Change, Avian Flu and Stem Cells*. Each topic has background information, timeline of major research events in the subject and series of questions that are posed on this subject.

[ProCon.org](#)

This is an authoritative and excellent Web resource that is created by a nonprofit public organization not affiliated with any governmental entity. Read the information under link *About Us* for a background on its mission, the researchers and issues.

[Google Directory](#)

Some topics have more Web resources than others but the directory is a good source to browse for topics with direct links to Wikipedia, government documents and other sites of importance to the topic. Each source is ranked for its the relevance to the topic.

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[Public Broadcasting Service](#)

The website provides index to all programs, documents, media, and educational materials. Here are two examples of such programs on controversial issues: <http://pbs.org/wgbh/warming/> ; <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/stemcells.html>

[Questia](#)

A great place to start your research and locate credible and authoritative sources on many controversial issues. While this online library is for subscribers only, you can search and retrieve selected documents free of charge. It provides a definition of the concept and a list of related terms and topics.

[IDEA: International Debate Education Association](#)

“Inside you will find arguments for and against hundreds of debating Topics, written by expert debaters, judges and coaches. Also included are background summaries, links to websites of interest and recommended books, example motions and user comments.”

Highly recommended!