

## Pro and Con Controversies Pathfinder

The purpose of this pathfinder is to introduce some of the resources available in the Houston Cole Library on the **Pro and Con Controversies**. The various types of library materials useful in research are described along with some examples of each. This pathfinder is NOT a comprehensive listing of sources, but is intended to be a starting point from which patrons can begin their research according to their specific needs.

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BASIC INTRODUCTION OR OVERVIEW MATERIAL can be found in:

- REF HN57.E59: *Encyclopedia of Social Issues*
    - The six volumes of the *Encyclopedia of Social Issues* contain 1498 individual entries. Throughout, the emphasis is on debates and controversies that have engaged the North American public's attention in the latter decades of the 20th century, with particular emphasis on recent years.
  - REF AI3.H67: *Hot Topics*
    - A journal index to controversial and/or popular topics. Indexes 1979 - 1995 and is located on the 2nd floor in a carrel along the south wall.
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Books on PRO and CON CONTROVERSIES can be located in the Library Catalog by entering a subject search. Books can be located in the Library Catalog by clicking on "Author/Title/Subject/Call Number" search type. Then click on the "Subject" option in the Find Results In box. Last, type in your subject and press the enter key.

Suggested subject headings for this topic are:  
Pros and Cons

Books are integrated into the collection by subject and can be located in the Library Catalog by clicking on "Keyword Anywhere" search. Then type in the subject in one search box and the SERIES name (see below) in the other search box and press the enter key. You may also try a "Keyword Anywhere" search by typing in one search box the phrase "moral ethical aspects" (without the quotation marks) and your subject in the other search box and then press the enter key.

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## ***SERIES***

- *At Issue*
  - Each book in this anthology series focuses a wide range of viewpoints onto a single controversial issue, providing in-depth discussions by leading advocates of each perspective. Articles are uncut and footnotes and source notes are retained.
  
- *Contemporary World Issues*
  - "Books in the Contemporary World Issues series address vital issues in today's society such as terrorism, sexual harassment, homelessness, AIDS, gambling, animal rights, and air pollution. Written by professional writers, scholars, and nonacademic experts, these books are authoritative, clearly written, up-to-date, and objective."
  
- *Current Controversies Series*
  - This series examines important social, political, and economic debates. It is a rich resource of diverse opinions on many sides of each issue.
  
- *Facts on File Series*
  - Each book includes a history of the subject, biographical information on important figures in the field, a complete annotated bibliography and a carefully designed index.
  
- *Hot Topics Series*
  - The Hot Topics series presents readers with a selection of the best research and practice available. Topics are based on information gathered from a poll of leading educational organizations. Each volume contains articles carefully selected from a number of sources.
  
- *Library in a Book*
  - Each volume of the Facts on File Library in a Book series is carefully designed to be the best one-volume source for research on important current problems. Written clearly and carefully so that even the most complex aspects of the issue are easily understandable, the books give the reader the research tools to begin work, plus the information needed to delve more deeply into the topic. Each book includes a history of the subject, biographical information on important figures in the field, a complete annotated bibliography and a carefully designed index.
  
- *Opposing Viewpoints Series*
  - This series uses magazines, journals, books, and newspapers, as well as statements and position papers from a wide range of individuals and organizations.

- This series is also available electronically at [Opposing Viewpoints Reference Center](#).
  - *The Reference Shelf*
    - Contains reprints of articles, excerpts from books, addresses on current issues, and studies of social trends in the United States and other countries.
  - *Sage Focus Edition*
    - Each book in this series takes an in-depth look at a particular issue
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## ***JOURNALS or NEWSPAPERS***

JOURNALS or NEWSPAPERS held by the library can be identified by searching the Library Catalog under the journal or newspaper name.

A few Journals which would report on this topic are:

- PER H1.A4: *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*
  - Each issue contains articles on some prominent social or political problem. This journal can be searched using [Expanded Academic ASAP \(Gale Group\)](#)
- H35.E35: [CQ Researcher](#)
  - Each in-depth report focuses on a single issue in the news, providing a comprehensive review of the controversies that are driving the debate, historical background, an overview of the current situation and a look ahead. Sidebars in each report, including easy-to-read charts and graphs, add depth to the discussion.
- H1.A2: *International Social Science Journal*
  - Each issue is devoted to a special theme. It provides information and debate on subjects of interest to an international readership. This journal can be searched using [Academic Search Premier](#).

A search of one of our general subject indexes or newspaper indexes can also provide some useful information.

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**INTERLIBRARY LOAN services are available to graduate students and faculty. Please ask a librarian about these services.**

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