

# Palomar College Library

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## CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES: IDEAS FOR RESEARCH

### 1. Abortion

- Fetal tissue research
- Late-term abortion
- Right to life
- Ru-486

### 2. AIDS

- Alternative medicine
- Children
- Discrimination
- Testing/privacy

### 3. Animal Rights

- Animal experimentation
- Factory farms
- Habitat conservation
- Hunting/trapping
- Laboratory animals

### 4. Bioethical Issues

- Animal growth hormones
- Bioengineered foods
- Embryo research
- Genetic engineering/cloning
- Genetic testing
- Organ/body donation

### 5. Capital Punishment

- Death Penalty**
- Death row
- DNA evidence
- Mental competence
- Wrongful murder convictions

### 6. Children and Youth

- Child labor
- Child pornography
- Child protection services
- Drug/alcohol abuse
- Eating disorders
- Teen pregnancy
- Teen suicide

### 7. Civil Rights/Liberties

- Domestic surveillance
- NSA intelligence collection
- Patriot Act

### 8. Crime

- Credit card fraud
- Firearms and ...
- Hate crimes
- Identity theft
- Juvenile justice
- Prison violence/overcrowding
- Prevention
- Recidivism
- Sex offenders
- Victims' rights
- White collar crime

### 9. Education

- Birth order and intelligence
- Bell curve
- Charter schools
- Creation science vs. evolution
- Gifted education
- Multiple intelligences
- No child left behind
- Sex education
- School violence
- Standardized testing
- Vouchers

### 10. Energy

- Alternative fuels
- Nuclear energy
- Oil addiction
- Renewable energy
- Utility deregulation

### 11. Environment

- ... and minorities
- Arctic oil drilling
- Endangered species
- Global warming
- Hazardous waste
- Permaculture
- Recycling
- Superfund

### 12. Family

- Adoption/birth records
- Divorce
- Domestic violence
- Elder abuse
- Single parent
- Surrogate motherhood

### 13. Gay Rights

- Adoption
- Civil unions
- ...in military
- Same-sex marriage

### 14. Health

- Avian flu
- Infectious diseases
- Prescription drug insurance
- Universal health insurance

### 15. Human Rights

- CIA secret prisons
- Rendition
- War crimes/torture

### 16. Homeland Security

- Airport security
- Dirty bombs
- Port security
- Weapons of mass destruction

### 17. Immigration

- Amnesty
- Border protection (Minute men)
- A day without immigrants
- Government assistance
- High-tech workers
- Undocumented workers

### 18. Internet

- Child pornography
- Filters/censorship

### 19. Law Enforcement

- Car chase
- Community policing
- Forensic science
- Juvenile delinquency
- Line-of-duty death
- Profiling

### 20. Mental Health

- Childhood depression
- Homelessness
- Prozac
- Ritalin use
- Teenage suicide

## 21. Politics & Government

Lobbying abuse  
Minimum wage  
Outsourcing  
Preemptive war  
Rush to war (Iraq)  
Social security reform  
Spreading Democracy  
Warrantless wiretaps

## 22. Popular Culture

Gambling  
Media and violence  
Piercing/Tattoos  
Professional  
sports/steroids  
Rap/Hip hop

## Additional Topics and Resources

Alternative Viewpoints on the Internet

[http://www.altpress.org/links\\_a.htm](http://www.altpress.org/links_a.htm)

Argumentative Topics

<http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/English/topicarg.html>

CQ Researcher\*

<http://library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/>

King County Library Social Issues

<http://www.kcls.org/hh/socialissues.cfm>

Opinions/Editorials from Newspapers

<http://www.headlinespot.com/opinion/oped/>

Opposing Viewpoints\*

[http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/cclc\\_palomar?db=OVRC](http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/cclc_palomar?db=OVRC)

San Diego State University Subject Guide for Hot Topics

<http://infodome.sdsu.edu/research/guides/hot/supersites.shtml>

\*Palomar College only; password required off-campus

<http://www.palomar.edu/library/OnlineDatabases/offcampus.htm>