

# How to Find Pro/Con Topic Information

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## I. SERIES COVERING BOTH SIDES

### The Reference Shelf

Five volumes published annually, each devoted to a timely, controversial question. Includes reprints of articles (pro and con) selected from books and periodicals, background information, and a comprehensive bibliography.

**ACCESS:** Boolean Keyword search: [topic] and “reference shelf”. Example: “gun control” and “reference shelf”

### Opposing Viewpoints Series

Collections of reprints of pro and con articles, selected from books and periodicals, on more than 80 issues concerning social values, crime, government, economics, and foreign affairs. Each title updated every 5-6 years. Lists of periodical articles included.

**ACCESS:** Boolean Keyword search: [topic] and opposing. Example: censorship and opposing

### Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial...Issues

Pro/con articles on many issues, grouped into 14 collections, e. g. Bioethical, Crime, Criminology, Economic, Educational, Environmental, Human Sexuality, Legal, Moral, Social. Articles taken from periodicals, books, Congressional hearings and speeches.

**ACCESS:** Title search: taking sides clashing

### Congressional Digest (Periodical)

An independent, non-governmental monthly periodical featuring controversies in Congress. Each issue is devoted to one current topic, with background information and then pros and cons by 410 Congressional “debaters.”

**LOCATION:** Available full-text in *Academic Search Complete*. Print copies available in Periodical Stacks.

## II. OTHER USEFUL SOURCES

### Issues and Controversies on File

Twice-monthly service covering American controversies. Each issue includes in-depth treatment of three topics in the news – recent developments, background, statistics, opinions, primary resources, contacts, and bibliographies. Cumulative indexes included.

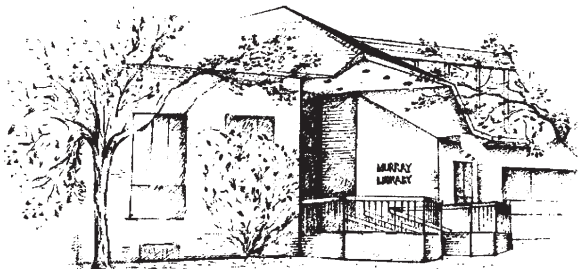
**LOCATION:** Periodicals Stacks. Also available from the Library’s home page under

“Find...Articles/Databases/Subjects” in alphabetical list. Print copies available in Periodical Stacks.

### Contemporary World Issues

An ongoing series covering social and environmental issues. Each volume includes an overview, a chronology of related events, brief biographies, facts and data, legislation and litigation, a directory of organizations, and guides to other materials.

**ACCESS:** Series search: contemporary world issues



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### **The Churches Speak Series**

Official statements of major North American Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish bodies on issues dominating today's headlines. Each monograph also provides an overview of the topic covered, its historical background, and the range of church opinions found in the statements.

**ACCESS:** Series search: **churches speak series**

### **Statistical Abstract of the United States**

Presents the best one-volume source of U. S. statistics on a wide variety of topics including population, health, education, crime, environment, elections, government finance, defense, employment, and income. Historical trends as well as current statistics are included.

**LOCATION:** Reference HA202 .S7x. Also available from the Library's home page under "How do I..." -> Find Statistical Information -> U.S. Government

## **III. LOCATING PERIODICAL ARTICLES**

### **Academic Search Complete**

Online index to more than 9500 periodicals (scholarly and popular magazines, and newspapers) covering a wide range of subjects. Includes brief summaries of many articles and full text of about 5500 journals.

**ACCESS:** Available from the Library's home page under "Find...Articles/Databases/Subjects" in alphabetical list.

### **SocIndex**

Indexes nearly 500 key international English-language periodicals covering sociology, social welfare, economics, gerontology, community health, law and criminology, urban studies, psychology, and related subjects. Coverage for core journals dates back to 1895 and up to the present.

**ACCESS:** Available from the Library's home page under "Find...Articles/Databases/Subjects" in alphabetical list.

*Consult other specialized periodical indexes, both computerized and printed versions, as your topic dictates.*