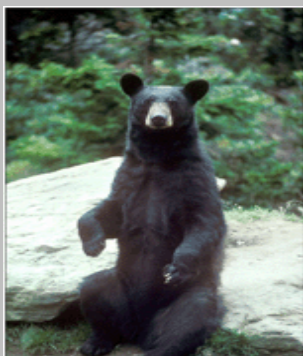


SIRS[®] Issues Researcher

RESEARCH TIP:

✓ **Picking a Topic**

It's important to choose something that is interesting to you and also meets the requirements of your project.



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Leading Issues

Page 1 of 3

Abortion	Battered Women	Controversial Mascots
Abortion, Moral and Ethical Aspects	Beauty Pageants	Convicted Felons' Rights
Abstinence	Bioethics and Cloning	Copyright Infringement
Abstinence and AIDS Prevention	Biomedical Technology	Cosmetic Surgery
Abstinence Education	Bioterrorism	Criminal Justice
Access to Contraception	Birth Control	Cults
Acculturation and Assimilation	Birth Control Availability	Curfew
Adoption	Black Market	Cyberbullying
Advertising	Body Image	Cybercrime
Advertising and Children	Bulimia	Cybersocializing
Advertising in Schools	Bullying	Darfur/Sudan Conflict
Affirmative Action	Business Ethics	Dating Violence/Date Rape
AIDS	Campaign Funds	Death Penalty/Capital Punishment
AIDS in Africa	Capital Punishment	Democracy
Alcohol Use	Cell Phones in School	Discrimination in Criminal Justice Administration
Alcoholism	Censorship	Divorce
Alternative Education	Character Education	Domestic Terrorism
Alternative Energy Sources	Cheating	Domestic Violence and Child Abuse
Alternative Medicine	Child Abuse	Doping in Sports
Animal Cloning	Child Care	Downloading
Animal Cruelty	Child Labor	Drilling for Oil
Animal Experimentation	Child Sexual Abuse	Drug Control
Animal Rights	Children's Online Protection Laws	Drug Legalization
Anonymous Egg and Sperm Donation	Church and State	Drug Testing
Anorexia	Civil Rights	Drunk Driving
Anti-Immigrant Movement	Clean Coal	Eating Disorders
Arts Censorship	Climate Change	Economic Policy, U.S.
Assisted Suicide	Cloning	Education Policy
Athletes' Pay	Commercial Whaling	Educational Tests and Measurements
Bailout	Conflict Diamonds	Election Issues
Banned Books	Conservation of Natural Resources	
	Consumer Privacy	

“How has this Leading Issue affected communities in other states or countries where my family or friends live?”

DID YOU KNOW?

✓ **Essential Questions**

Essential Questions with answers and viewpoints will help you understand the specific question under debate for each issue.

Electoral College	Genocide	Internment
Emergency Contraception	Global Financial Crisis	Interracial Adoption
Endangered Species	Global Warming	Iraq War
Energy Dependency	Globalization	Islamic Fundamentalism
Environmentalism	Globalization, Moral and Ethical Aspects	Israeli/Palestinian Conflict
Ethics and Criminal Behavior	Green Movement	Jobs for Immigrants
Ethnic Relations	Gun Control	Journalism and School Censorship
European Union	Gun Safety	Jury System
Euthanasia	Hate Crimes	Juvenile Delinquency
Experimental AIDS Treatment	Health Care	Late-Term Abortion
Extraterrestrial Life	Health Care Reform	Lobbying
Factory Farms	Herbal Supplements	Local Food Movement
Fad Diets	Holocaust Denial	Marijuana Legalization
Fair Trade	Homelessness	Mass Media
Family	Homelessness, International	Media Bias
Famine	Homeschooling	Medical Ethics
Fantasy Sports Leagues	Homework	Medical Malpractice
Federal Government and Economic Policy	Human Cloning	Medical Marijuana
Federal Regulation of Prescription Drugs	Human Reproductive Technology	Medical Practice Regulation
Filtering Software	Human Rights	Mental Depression
First Amendment and Censorship	Human Rights, Universal	Mental Health
Food and Nutrition	Human Smuggling	Mental Health Insurance
Food Safety	Human Trafficking	Merit Pay for Teachers
Freedom of Religion	Hunting	Military Recruiting
Freedom of Speech	Identity Cards	Minimum Wage
Freedom of the Press	Identity Theft	Mixed Martial Arts/Ultimate Fighting
Gambling	Illegal Immigration	Mortgage and Lending Issues
Gangs	Immigration	Music Lyrics
Gay Adoption	Interfaith Movement	National Security and Privacy
Gay Liberation Movement	International Adoption	Natural Disasters
Gay Rights	International Monetary Fund	No Child Left Behind Act
Gays in the Military	International Space Station	Nuclear energy
Genetic Engineering	International Trade	Nuclear Weapons
Genetic Testing	International War on Drugs	Obesity
Genetically Modified Foods	Internet Censorship	Organ Donation
	Internet Gambling	Organic Food

Outsourcing	School Prayer	Teenage Sexual Behavior
Overpopulation	School Safety	Teenagers, Civil Rights
Ozone Depletion	School Schedule	Teenagers, Suicidal Behavior
Parentage, Right to Know	School Shootings	Teens and Cosmetic Surgery
Parental Consent for Abortion	School Uniforms	Teens and Driving
Partial Birth Abortion/Late-Term Abortion	School Vouchers	Terrorism
Patients' Rights	Second Amendment and Right to Bear Arms	Title IX
Paying for Grades	Sex Education	Tobacco Advertising
Plastic Surgery	Single Parents	Tobacco Regulation
Pollution	Single-Sex Schools/Classrooms	Torture
Polygamy	Smokeless Tobacco	Treatment of Prisoners
Popular Culture	Smoking	U.S. Foreign Aid
Pornography	Smoking Bans	U.S. War on Drugs
Poverty	Social Security Reform	Underage Drinking
Poverty, International	Solar Energy	Underground Economy
Prescription Drug Advertising	Sovereignty	Unemployment
Privacy and the Press	Space Exploration & Travel	United Nations
Privacy in Schools	Space Missions	Vegetarianism
Privacy in the Workplace	Space Vehicles	Violence in Mass Media
Privacy Rights for Teenagers	Sports	Voting Age
Privatization	State Lotteries	Voting Fraud
Property Rights	Stem Cells	War
Prostitution	Stock Markets	War Crimes/War Criminals
Racial Discrimination	Student Expression and School Discipline	War on Terror
Racial Profiling	Student-Athlete Compensation	Water Use
Rape (Dating Violence)	Substance Abuse	Weapons of Mass Destruction
Recycling	Suicide	Web 2.0
Religion	Surrogacy	Welfare
Religion in the Public Sphere	Sweatshops	Women's Rights
Religious Fundamentalism	Tax Exemptions for Religious Organizations	Work and Family
Renewable Energy	Taxation	Workplace Discrimination
Reporters and Shield Laws	Teaching of Evolution	Zero-Tolerance Policies
Right of Privacy	Technology	Zoos
Rights of Non-Mainstream Religions	Technology and Privacy	
Same-Sex Marriage	Teenage Pregnancy	
School Discipline and Corporal Punishment		



RESEARCH TIP:

✓ **Target Audience**

Understanding characteristics of your target audience can influence your topic choice. Try to present a topic that is meaningful and interesting to your audience.