

Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center


Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center is a full-text resource covering today's hottest social issues such as stem cell research, terrorism and the use of drugs by athletes. All of the information that is needed to fully understand an issue is provided: pro and con viewpoint articles, full-text articles from academic journals and newspapers, primary source documents, government and organizational statistics, multimedia including images and podcasts and even links to select web sites. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center* also includes a unique translation feature, which allows researchers to translate documents—with only the click of a button—into Spanish, French, Japanese, German, Italian, Portuguese, simplified Chinese, and Korean.

At the home page, you will find several search options. In the basic search mode you can click on a topic from the Topics List without having to enter a search term or visit other screens. To broaden or narrow your search three types of searches are available from the Basic Search mode: Subject Search – for common topics, Keyword Search – for less common terms or Entire Document Search – for jargon, or more abstract topics.

Sample Topic by using Keyword Search

Is lethal injection a humane form of capital punishment?

1. Open Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center and enter 'lethal injection' in the "Find:" entry box at the top of the page.
2. Select the radio button for "Keyword" and click on the "Search" button.
3. Retrieved are 12 viewpoint essays, 3 reference articles, more than 741 newspaper articles, 2 primary sources, and 58 multimedia presentations which include broadcast transcripts (podcasts, audiofiles photographs and interviews.)



Basic Search ?

Find:

Search for words in: Subject Keyword Entire document

Limit the results:

Sample Topic by using Subject List:

You want to write a report on different theories about what motivates terrorists as well as what antiterrorism measures have been suggested.

1. Open *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center* and click on the “Terrorism” link from the list of topics on the right.
2. Retrieved to date are 279 viewpoint essays, 74 reference articles, 12 primary source documents, 25 statistical reports, 25 images, 281 academic journal articles and 9 Web sites.

The screenshot shows the Gale Cengage Learning interface for the Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center. The page title is "Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center" and it is accessed via Story Brook University Libraries - SUNY. The search results are for a "Basic Search" of "SU ('Terrorism')". The results are displayed in a table with columns for "Viewpoints", "Reference", "Magazines", "Academic Journals", "News", "Primary Sources", "Statistics", and "Multimedia". The first result is a "Viewpoint essay" titled "1. Rogue Nations Support Terrorism" by Louise Gerdes, published in 2006. The snippet of the article discusses the media's portrayal of terrorism and its impact on Libya's policy. The page also features a "Quick Search" box on the left, a "Subject Terms" list, and a "Refine Results" section with a "Sort by" dropdown set to "Relevance".

In the above search, notice that each of the colored tabs is a hyperlink to that specific type of information. Notice on the left hand side of the page that there are other hyperlinks which may be of interest to you – these are often more specific aspects of the subject and often they give ideas about how you might narrow a topic. Examples of narrower aspects of the search “Terrorism” are “Terrorism Victims,” “Anti-Terrorism Act of 1990,” “Ecoterrorism” and “Cyberterrorism.”

Note that when you first open *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*, at the top of the page is a **Dictionary** link and a **Toolbox** link which includes the following tutorials: How to [Judge Information](#), How to Make a [Concept Web](#), How to [Choose a Topic](#), How to [Write a Topic Sentence](#), How to [Make an Outline](#), How to [Read and Interpret Graphs](#), How to [Cite a Source](#), How to [Organize a Report](#), How to [Build an Argument](#), How to [Write a Conclusion](#), How to [Write a Thesis Statement](#), How to [Create Visual Representations of Data](#) (charts, graphs, etc.), and How to [Footnote](#).