

# Research Paper Topic Ideas

**CLICK HERE FOR A SURVEY/TEST TO HELP YOU FIND A TOPIC:**

<http://www.tallmania.com/topicgenerator/topicgenerator.htm>

## **Advertising**

Should certain kinds of ads be banned in the interest of health/morality/annoyance – alcohol, cigarettes, prescription meds, etc...?

## **Africa**

Why so many wars? What's the solution?

## **Airplane accidents**

Who is responsible? Should families of victims be entitled to compensation?

## **Airport security**

Should the government use invasive pat-downs and body scans to ensure passenger safety or are there better methods?

## **Al Qaida**

Has U.S. policy actually spread terrorism rather than contain it? Will it get better or worse? Why and how?

## **Alcohol**

Should the U.S. lower the drinking age to 18?

## **Animal rights**

Should it be illegal to use animals for sports and entertainment?

## **Arming pilots**

Good idea?

## **Art**

A few years ago, an artist was criticized for depicting the religious symbols with elephant dung.

When is art not really art?

## **Athletes in high schools**

Should shoe companies be able to give away free shoes and equipment to high school athletes?

## **Beauty contests**

Do they serve any purpose in society?

## **Bridges, roads, waterways**

Why the government gets a bad report card on America's infrastructure.

## **Bullying laws**

Should the state or federal government put laws into place to prevent bullying?

## **Cell phones**

How have they changed us socially?

## **Censorship**

Should parents censor textbooks and other literature for children in schools?

## **Cheap labor**

U.S. companies that move factories to undeveloped nations barely pay employees enough to live on. Is it unethical to pay cheap wages or are companies doing those workers a favor?

## **Child soldiers**

Why and how children are used for war

## **Church arson**

Hate crime?

**Civil disobedience**

Is breaking the law for a cause justifiable?

**Civil unions**

If civil couples have the same rights/privileges of married people, why get married?

**Climate change**

Is global warming a hoax? Is it being exaggerated?

**Coal**

Should the use of coal be subjected to stricter environmental regulations than other fuels?

**College athletics**

Should college athletes be paid?

**Cyber crime**

What are the latest ways to steal identity and money?

**Divorce**

Should we reform laws to make it harder to get a divorce?

**DDT**

Should DDT be re-approved for use in the wake of recent bedbug outbreaks across the country?

**Electronic information preservation**

Does the Information Age mean we are losing important historical information?

**Exams**

Exams often do little more than measure a person's ability to take exams. Should exams be outlawed in favor of another form of assessment?

**Fast food**

Are we taking it too far by blaming fast food restaurants for obesity? When is it individual responsibility and when is it appropriate to place blame?

**Felons and voting**

Should convicted felons have the right to vote?

**Feminism**

Is feminism still relevant? How do young women view feminism?

**Fitness programs**

Should companies allow employees to exercise on work time?

**Flag**

Should children be required to say the Pledge of Allegiance in schools?

**Food**

Steroids. Antibiotics. Sprays. Are food manufacturers killing us?

**Gap year**

Should teens in the U.S. adopt the British custom of taking a "gap year" between high school and college?

**Gay marriage**

Should there be a constitutional amendment that allows gays and lesbians to legally marry?

**Generations**

How 4 different generations in the workplace can work together.

**Grades**

In some European schools, fewer than 10% of students get As. Is there grade inflation in the U.S.?

Why so many As for Americans?

**Health care crisis**

Most developed nations have universal health coverage. Why doesn't the U.S., the wealthiest nation, have it?

### **Holocaust**

Should denial of the Holocaust be illegal?

### **Homeland Security**

Are we safer since the creation of this department?

### **Infidelity**

In some states, it is illegal to cheat on a spouse. Should we prosecute cheaters? Is a law that's not enforced really a law?

### **Immigration**

Should illegal immigrants be made legal citizens?

### **Internet and children**

Are children smarter (or more socialized) because of the Internet?

### **Internet regulation:**

Should the federal government be allowed to regulate information on the internet?

### **Iraq War**

Is America winning or losing the War? What is the measurement of success? Have the benefits outweighed the costs?

### **Iraq War Vets**

Are they being cheated on medical benefits?

### **Journalism**

Should newspaper reporters be required to reveal their sources?

### **Juvenile offenders**

Should juvenile offenders be tried and punished as adults?

### **Kyoto Protocol**

Should the U.S. join Kyoto to curb greenhouse gases?

### **Lead poisoning**

Should the U.S. stop importing Chinese-manufactured toys?

### **Literacy**

Are Americans "literate?"

### **Malpractice**

How can we balance the need to lower the cost of malpractice insurance with the fact that physician malpractice is one of the leading causes of death?

### **Marijuana legalization:**

Should the federal government legalize the use of marijuana?

### **Media**

Does the media, both print and broadcast, report fairly? Does it ever cross the line between reporting the news and creating the news?

### **Military**

Should the U.S. have mandatory military conscriptions? For whom?

### **Mining**

What safety measures made the recent Canadian mining accident a non-casualty event, while recent U.S. mining accidents have been fatal?

### **Models**

Should there be a minimum weight limit?

### **Moms**

Should stay-at-home moms get a salary from the government?

### **Muslim Americans**

What is life for them like in the U.S. after September 11, 2001?

### **No Child Left Behind Act**

Is it working?

### **Noise pollution**

How much is too much noise? What, if anything, should we do to curb it?

### **Nonverbal communication**

How do men and women communicate differently using body language, and why does it matter (in dating, the workplace, social circles)?

### **Obesity and weight loss**

Should thin people have to pay Medicare and other health costs for the health problems of obese people? Should obese people have higher premiums?

### **Oil companies**

Do oil companies make big bucks while the rest of us pay over \$3 a gallon?

### **Organ sale**

Should we legalize the sale of human organs?

### **Overpopulation**

What would happen globally if the demand for natural resources is greater than the supply?

### **Paparazzi**

What, if any, limitations should be applied to the paparazzi?

### **Parents**

Should parents be held responsible when their children break laws?

### **Pornography**

Parental filters on the Internet. Does censorship actually increase curiosity and use of pornography?

### **Prescription medicines**

Should there be a national database to track controlled substances (i.e., oxycodone) or should it be a state issue?

### **Privacy**

Should the government be allowed to wire tap without permission?

### **Privacy**

What medical information should be confidential? Who, if anybody, should have access to medical records?

### **Public figures**

Does the public have a right to know about a public figure's private life?

### **Racial bias in media**

Does news coverage favor whites?

### **Religion**

Is there one true religion?

### **Road rage**

Why do normally patient people become impatient behind the wheel?

### **School lunches**

Should government impose restrictions on what kinds of foods can be served in school cafeterias?

### **School uniforms**

Pros and cons of school uniforms.

### **Single sex schools**

Do children learn better in boys-only and girls-only schools?

### **Smoking bans**

Should the federal government pass a nationwide indoor smoking ban?

### **Social anxiety**

How is it different from shyness? And, are we a society of anxiety?

### **Spanking**

Should it be outlawed?

### **Sports parents**

What are the effects on children whose parents push them in sports?

### **Statutory rape**

Recently, a 17-year-old boy was sentenced to 10 years in prison for having consensual oral sex with a 15-year-old girl. Are statutory rape laws patronizing to girls and discriminatory to boys?

### **Steroids**

Should they be legalized?

### **Suicide bombers**

What kind of person becomes a suicide bomber?

### **Terrorism**

Can terrorism ever be justified?

### **Title IX**

Has it helped women's sports? Has it harmed men's sports?

### **Tough love**

Does parental "tough love" really work?

### **Toys**

Do certain children's toys create social or emotional problems?

### **Vaccines**

Should parents avoid vaccinating their children?

### **Wage gap**

Women still earn only 75 cents for every \$1 a man earns. Explain why.

### **Wages**

There's a minimum wage, but should there also be a maximum wage/salary a person can earn?

### **Wind energy**

Is wind energy really that cheap? Is it effective? Is it practical?

### **Women in the clergy**

Should women be priests, pastors, ministers, and rabbis?

### **Workaholics**

Do Americans work too hard? Does working more actually reduce productivity? Is a 40-hour work week too much? Should there be a mandatory cap on the number of hours a person can work?

Should there be changes in employment laws to give Americans more relaxation time?

### **Working mothers**

What differences, if any, are there in children who are raised by stay-at-home moms and working moms? Does society today still discriminate against working mothers who wish to have flexible work schedules?

## **High School Research Paper Ideas**

A good research paper begins with a good idea. So, if you want to make a good start in writing your research paper, you have come to the right place. Right in this article, you will find some catchy **high school research paper ideas** and useful recommendations on where it is possible to find more topic ideas for your paper.

### **High school research paper ideas: Interracial adoption**

Interracial adoption has recently become widely used in many countries. However, there are many problems related to interracial adoption and among them are psychological, cultural, and language differences. Choose one of them to consider in your paper.

### **High school research paper ideas: Doping in sports**

Professional sport requires much energy that is sometimes difficult to get. That is why doping is used in sport. Investigate what kinds of products are widely used in power-lifting, athletics, and other kinds of sport. Discuss their advantages and disadvantages in your paper.

### **High school research paper ideas: Domestic violence and wife abuse**

Domestic violence has always been a tragedy in society, that is why this problem remains urgent nowadays. Provide the recent reports of women who are daily abused by their husbands. Analyze them in your paper. Try to predict what this problem may lead to if remains neglected by government.

### **High school research paper ideas: Credit and fraud**

Most people of today use credits, as it is one of the most convenient means of buying. However, fraud is a frequent phenomenon as well. So, in your research paper, suggest possible strategies of credit fraud prevention.

### **High school research paper ideas: Juvenile delinquency**

To develop this idea in your high school research paper, we advise you conduct research on the problem to find out how many youths under age commit crimes, what the main causes of this problem are, and how to solve it reasonably.

### **High school research paper ideas: Interracial marriage**

Conduct research to find out whether interracial marriage is a good idea from sociological point of view. Are spouses of different nationalities happy at an average?

If none of the above mentioned **high school research paper ideas** is interesting to you, do not give way to despair. Do the following:

Ask your teacher for advice;

Visit a student forums to ask for useful tips;

Recollect your reports that you succeeded in at classes.

## Race and Ethnicity

- Should racial profiling be a legitimate law-enforcement policy in some areas?
- Should Affirmative Action for state university enrollment be continued?
- Should the primary method of public school funding--property taxes in individual school districts--be amended to create more fairness in schools?
- Should high-school history classes and social-studies curriculum be changed to reflect diversity and multicultural perspectives?
- Should Christmas, Easter, and other religious observances be considered national holidays?
- If a university offers "African-American Studies" or "Black Studies" as courses, should it also offer "European-American Studies" or "White Studies"?
- How do certain television programs perpetuate racial or ethnic stereotypes?
- Should Columbus Day be discontinued in favor of a new post-colonial perspective?
- Should schools only purchase textbooks that offer revised or alternative histories of historical events?
- What should be done about racial disparities in the sentencing of criminals?
- Should the American government pay reparations and return land to Native Americans?
- Should hate groups have the right to distribute literature on university campuses?
- If research shows that certain racial or ethnic groups receive poorer medical care on average, how should this problem be corrected?
- Should governmental organizations have staffs that accurately reflect the racial, ethnic, and gender balance in society?
- Gender and Sexuality
- What should be done to eliminate salary disparities between men and women?
- What should be done to create equity in executive positions for women in particular corporations and industries?
- Should women be allowed in military combat? To what extent?

- Is healthcare for women underfunded? In what ways?
- Should insurance companies which cover the cost of Viagra prescriptions also be required to cover birth control and regular examinations for women?
- Are homosexual characters and topics appropriate for prime-time television?
- In what ways does gender play a difference in student success and teacher attention in the classroom?
- Should the Equal Rights Amendment be revived and made part of the Constitution?
- Should the Family and Medical Leave Act be extended beyond 12 weeks?
- Should prostitution be legalized? Under what conditions?
- How does pornography differ from prostitution? Is it contradictory that one should be legal while the other is not?
- Should homosexual marriage be permitted in Florida?
- Should homosexual couples in Florida be legally allowed to adopt?

### **Multiculturalism and Diversity**

- Should English be made the official language of the United States?
- Should ESL students be taught content courses in their native language?
- Should Columbus Day be discontinued in favor of a new post-colonial perspective?
- Should Christmas, Easter, and other religious observances be considered national holidays?
- Should the United States have a more stringent immigration policy?

### **Advertising and Marketing**

- How do certain kinds of advertising perpetuate racial stereotypes?
- How do certain kinds of advertising make claims of patriotic values?
- How does mass marketing and manufacturing affect originality and creativity in the arts and other fields?
- Does the American consumerist society conflict with democratic values? In what ways?
- How does advertising treat convenience as necessity?
- What kind of advertising is unethical?

- What current issues of truth in advertising exist?
- Should product placement in movies, film, and other media be controlled?
- Should product advertising and selling by permitted in public schools?
- Should communities retain the naming rights to baseball parks and football stadiums, or should businesses be allowed to purchase these rights?
- Does the modeling industry bear any responsibility in providing healthy, realistic physical role models for young women?
- Is the use of sexual imagery in a certain ad campaign unethical?
- Should tobacco and liquor advertising be allowed on television?
- Should all billboard advertising of alcohol be banned?
- Should tobacco and alcohol companies be allowed to use ad campaigns that could be considered child-friendly?
- Why are alcohol companies now allowed to advertise on television under certain conditions (after prime time, with responsible drinking messages in some ads, etc...)?

### **Economic Issues**

- Should the local sales tax be increased/decreased?
- Should "sin taxes" on alcohol and tobacco be increased to help pay for the increasing costs of medical care?
- Should the state increase the use of toll roads to pay for local road improvements?
- Do local power and utility companies operate as monopolies?
- Should purchases made over the Internet be taxable?
- Should the government provide financial assistance to people whose retirement funds were invested in the stock of companies that may have used unethical accounting practices (i.e., Enron, Arthur Andersen, etc.)?
- Argue for or against the earning potential vs. risk of investing in a certain kind of stock.
- Argue for or against a controversial trade tariff or tax.
- Why do many stock analysts describe the nature of today's stock market as completely different from the stock market of twenty or thirty years ago? Argue for or against this assertion.

- Does America have a responsibility to assist its industries financially and politically if other countries' industries receive similar assistance from their own governments?
- Argue for or against Federal Reserve strategies that attempt to keep inflation low.
- Large corporations, such as Walmart and Barnes & Noble bookstores, have been criticized for driving mom-and-pop shops out of business. Is this a valid criticism when considering the nature of supply and demand?
- A few years ago, the U.S. Mint issued a new form of dollar-bill coin. Argue for against the continued use of this new currency.
- Should the United Kingdom join other E.U. countries in converting its currency to euros?

### **Environmental Issues**

- Should national environmental policy focus on developing more oil resources, or developing renewable energy sources?
- Should our national energy policy focus on building more nuclear power plants?
- How does overseas oil dependency influence our economy/ international policies?
- Should genetically engineered food be labeled differently?
- How do city zoning laws and ordinances effect development and conservation?
- What civic policies should be changed to encourage conservation rather than new land development?
- Should recycling be mandatory?
- How should recycling efforts be funded?
- Should fines for littering and dumping be stronger?
- Should fines and penalties for corporate pollution be more punitive?
- Should the fuel efficiency of SUVs and pick-up trucks be raised?
- Should the government offer tax credits for the purchase of hybrid or alternative energy vehicles?
- Should the designations of endangered and threatened species be changed?
- Should loss of economic/industrial benefit be considered when land is preserved for endangered species?
- Should more civilian oversight be created to monitor government and military pollution?

- Should environmental studies become a mandatory part of science curricula in public schools?

### **Media Issues**

- How does profit motive in media corporations influence what and how information is broadcast?
- What ethical considerations or conflicts of interest exist for a corporate media news channel?
- How and why do certain media outlets contribute to sensationalism in news reporting?
- Is the Internet a positive development for news reporting? Does it represent a more democratic medium of information?
- How does specific media bias affect how news is interpreted and delivered?
- How has the conglomeration of media companies influenced radio and TV content?
- Do cable companies represent a monopoly?
- Should cable services be offered on an *a la carte* system?
- Should a stiffer rating system be imposed upon television programming?
- Should tabloid television be scheduled only for late night time slots?
- Should parental locks be optional or mandatory on televisions?
- After 2006, only high-definition television will be broadcast, and older television sets will require a type of converter box to interpret the new digital signal. Argue for or against this development.
- Consider media influence on national political campaigns fifty or a hundred years ago in comparison with such influence today. Should new regulations be imposed to make current campaign coverage more equitable?
- Should music-sharing programs on the Internet be outlawed?
- Should websites that allow the free download of bootlegged movies be shut down? Do production companies have the right to shut down websites that allow the free download of sound or video clips from their media?

### **Consumerism and Convenience Culture**

- Should the official work week be shortened/extended?
- How is shopping an American cultural value?
- What American or cultural values does the mall represent?

- How does the concept of consumer credit influence our economy?
- How does American consumer culture deal with the concept of death?
- How are the values, expectations, and rituals of specific holidays such as Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Mother's Day influenced by consumer culture?
- What role does product packaging play in consumerism?
- What role does the national debt play in consumer's spending awareness?
- Consider the issue of disposable products and packaging and their impact on the marketplace as well as the environment. Argue for or against new regulation.
- Should third-world countries be held to the same levels of pollution control as more advanced nations?
- Argue for or against new environmental regulation concerning a specific industry (e.g., clear-cutting for cattle raising vs. tropical rain forest protection).
- Argue for a specific regulation that will make a certain business or industry more environmentally safe.

#### **TV and Film**

- Should TV ratings be re-evaluated in regards to sex and violence?
- Is there a double standard regarding nudity, sex, and ratings on television?
- Is male nudity rated at a different "level" than female nudity?
- What values do "reality television" shows appeal to? How have they changed television viewing?
- What does the trend towards voyeuristic TV programs reveal about modern American culture?
- To what extent has television as a source of entertainment changed American neighborhoods and leisure activities?
- What values/philosophies/worldviews are expressed by a certain television program?
- What impact has 24-hour news coverage had on our TV watching habits? How has it changed our view of information?
- How does MTV contribute to celebrity and image-selling?
- Should more customer options be available with cable television?
- Should consumers be able to purchase viewing rights to TV channels in an *a la carte* fashion (for example, paying \$40 a month for 40 channels individually chosen by the consumer)?

- How has the television as an invention changed the American household and family life?
- Why is the TV and Film industry considered so hard to break into?
- Because celebrities are so often in the public spotlight, do they have ethical responsibilities to set good examples for young people?
- In the past, the Screenwriters Guild of America has pushed for the credit "A Film By [director's name]" to be banned. Why would the SGA want this, and is this a justified request?
- Do scriptwriters have a right to be allowed on the set of a movie they wrote, or is this a privilege to be allowed at the discretion of the direction?

### **Sports and Entertainment**

- How has the increase in ticket prices and athlete salaries negatively affected professional sports?
- Should professional tennis players only be able to use wooden rackets?
- In World Cup soccer matches that end in ties, should penalty kicks be discarded for some other method of determining a winner?
- Should professional sports leagues such as the NBA , NFL, and MLB establish a promotion/relegation system that rewards strong teams from lesser leagues with promotion, while relegating poor teams to a lower division?
- What changes, if any, should be made to NBA rules to preserve the integrity of the sport?
- Do sports stars or celebrities bear any responsibility for being role models for children?
- Should the instant replay remain in effect in the NFL? Should it be extended to other sports as well?
- Should teams with potentially offensive logos and nicknames (like the Cleveland Indians and Washington Redskins) change their names to be more racially sensitive?
- To what level should collegiate sports be funded? What is their relationship to academics?
- Should college athletes be exempt from taking classes?
- Should college athletes be paid to play?
- Does Title IX actually promote gender equality in college sports?
- Should GPA standards for college athletes be raised, or more rigidly enforced?
- How have professional sporting events been negatively influenced by entertainment, including Jumbotrons, music, and crowd-pleasing activities?

- What kind of performance-enhancing drugs should be allowed in different sports? Should creatine be banned from Major League Baseball?
- Should women be allowed to play in professional sports leagues that have no female league equivalent (the NFL, NASCAR, the NHL)?
- How have the four major professional American sports (baseball, basketball, football, and hockey) affected the rise of other sports such as soccer and lacrosse?
- How has ESPN and other media sources influenced (positively or negatively) professional sports in the last twenty years?
- Should communities bear all, part, or none of the burden of financing new sports arenas for professional teams?

### **Criminal Justice**

- Should the judicial system be reevaluated or changed because of racially unfair sentences?
- What changes should be implemented to prevent male-male prison rape?
- How has the proliferation of privately funded prisons changed the criminal justice system in America?
- Should certain non-violent crimes be punishable by fines rather than jail time?
- Are state-mandated "three-strikes" policies unfair?
- Should children who commit certain crimes be treated as adults? If so, is there a lower age limit to this policy?
- Are exile programs (where a criminal is sent to prison in a distant state) fair?
- What kinds of rights should criminals have?
- What conditions of incarceration are fair?
- Are certain kinds of capital punishment cruel and unusual?
- Should capital punishment be suspended because of racial disparities?
- Should capital punishment be suspended because of the chance of executing an innocent person?
- Should prison be punitive or rehabilitatory in nature?
- Now that genetic/DNA evidence is admissible in court, should controversial closed cases be re-opened?
- If someone has already been executed, should his or her case be re-opened under certain

circumstances? Should some kind of reparation be made to the families of the wrongfully accused?

- Should there be a limit to the number of death row appeals that can be made?
- Presuming that capital punishment is allowable, what types of crimes should this apply to? Only murder? Treason?
- Is society's obligation to simply remove a criminal from society, to actually punish the criminal for crime, or a combination of both? Considering this, then what is the nature of the death penalty in America today?
- Should the legal requirements for obtaining a search warrant be changed?
- If an officer finds something that he was not looking for (e.g., narcotics in an automobile that was being searched for firearms), why should or shouldn't the officer have the right to take the accused into custody? Consider the issue of "reasonable suspicion" in your discussion.
- Why are lawyers stereotyped as sharks? Is this a fair representation, and if not, why is it so prevalent?
- Many consider today's justice system to be too slow. What improvements could be made to expedite the system without sacrificing due process?
- Many states have harsher penalties than others for drunk driving. Consider the policies of a particular state and argue for a change in the penalties.
- Define "terrorist." Under what circumstances, if any, is "terrorism" acceptable?
- Should terrorists be tried in a military or civil court?
- If being tried in our court system, should the citizens of other countries have the same rights as citizens of the United States?
- Argue for or against an amendment to the statute of limitations for a particular crime.
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### The Political Process

- Should the electoral college be discarded in favor of a simple popular vote in presidential elections?
- Do alternative political parties in America receive fair treatment during elections?
- Should third parties be allowed to participate in national debates?
- How does the media help or hinder third parties? Should they receive equal and free airtime on major networks?

- Should the campaign financing system be reformed?
- Should presidential candidates be barred from spending their own money for their campaigns? Does personal campaign finance represent free speech?
- Should terms of senators and congressmen be further limited?
- Should a national form of health care be created, or should health care remain a private industry?
- Examine the historical role reversal of the value systems of Republicans and Democrats.
- Should a particular Congressional District be reapportioned?
- Argue for a policy change that would make the American democratic process more efficient.
- Are checks and balances a crucial element in American government? Do this process work as it was originally intended?
- Has the executive branch of the American government gained too much power in the last fifty years? Cite specific examples in your argument.
- How has/will new technologies like the Internet change the political process?
- How can the voting process in national elections be made less confusing?

## **Education**

- Is standardized state or national testing (such as the FCAT) helping or hurting American schools?
- Is the current system of public school funding--primarily through property taxes--unfair? How does it contribute to inequality in the public school system?
- Should tracking be used in determining courses for public schoolchildren?
- Should magnet and charter schools be encouraged or discouraged?
- Should the system of busing students to school be amended?
- Should local school districts be redrawn to create schools that are more equal?
- Should federal school vouchers be used at religious schools?
- Consider the needs of a teacher's salary vs. the realities of the funding schools now have. Argue for a change in education budget allocation.
- Do teachers in classroom of thirty or forty children accomplish their intended tasks as educators? Should they be expected to?
- Some standardized tests scores factor in to how much money a school will receive in the next fiscal

year. Is this an ethical way to demand accountability from a school, or does this further punish lower-performing schools?

- Consider the benefits and drawbacks of a home-school education vs. a public school education.
- Conservatives, liberals, and radicals all have different ideas about the purposes of a public education. Research several perspectives and argue for or against a particular viewpoint.
- How necessary are the arts in the public-school system? Argue for or against a change in funding for a particular district.

### National/International Policy

- In what cases is U.S. military intervention in other countries justifiable? In what cases is it not?
- Does the threat of terrorism warrant the suspension or curtailment of civil liberties?
- What policy should the American government have towards certain political crises? To the Middle East? To Israel? To Tibet?
- What should our policy be towards trade with China?
- Should the United States support the expansion of NATO to include the Baltic states?
- Should mandatory military service be required for all men and women in America?
- What are the ethics involved when considering the separation of powers and allowing a Presidential Line Veto?
- Is shuttle diplomacy a better alternative to gunboat diplomacy in the modern world?
- Consider the CIA's pre-September 11th policy of non-assassination, and its post-September 11th policy of pro-assassination. Argue for or against this new stance.
- Does the United States have a right to preemptively protect itself from terrorist attacks by attacking nations accused of sponsoring terrorism?
- Not considering the United States, what is the most powerful nation on the planet? Explain the criteria used in making this judgement.
- Should the United States change its policies on educating foreign nationals and issuing student visas?

### Civil Liberties

- Should people between the ages of 18 and 20 be allowed to drink adult beverages that contain a lowered alcohol content?

- Should legal hemp production be reassessed by the Florida legislature?
- Under what conditions (if any) should medical marijuana use be legal? Under what rationale have some states gone against federal regulations and fought to allow medical marijuana use?
- Do terrorist attacks justify any suspension of civil liberties in the name of national safety?
- Should prison sentences for non-violent "victimless" crimes be commuted to community service or alternative methods of punishment?
- What rights do airplane passengers give up by allowing themselves to be checked before boarding? Argue for or against a specific passenger check policy.
- What rights do people lose when on public-school property? Is the suspension of these rights valid?
- Proponents of a lowered drinking age sometimes note the disparity between the draft age (eighteen) and the legal-drinking age (twenty-one). Argue for or against the validity of this comparison.
- Argue for or against a minimum age for mandatory education (usually sixteen).
- **Counter-Culture Issues**
- Should people under eighteen years of age be required to have parental permission to get tattoos and piercings?
- Is ear piercing of children of a certain age child abuse?
- Should rave clubs have limits on their operating hours?
- Why have recent raves been shut down in the Orlando area? Was this action justified?
- Do owners of raves have a right to operate a business that can be potentially harmful to youth?
- **Youth Issues**
- Should the minimum age for attaining a driver's license be increased? Should this be a national standard?
- Should the mandatory age for quitting school be raised or lowered, or is the current age of sixteen justified?
- Should computer skills be a fundamental part of education curricula?

#### **Local Area Issues**

- What kind of public transportation system would be best for metro Detroit?
- Would light or high speed rail best serve the interests of Michigan residents?

- Should local zoning restrictions be changed to encourage community development?
- How do current zoning restrictions limit or control growth?
- Should police patrol the CVHS Campus area more stringently? Should regular speed traps be a part of this patrol?
- Should carpool restrictions be placed on certain Michigan highways for certain times of the day?
- How does having a professional sports team contribute to the prestige of the city?
- How does tourism in Michigan affect local communities?