Opposing Viewpoints In Context

Use this database to find:

- Pro and Con arguments about a social issue
- Statistics, court cases and essays on a topic
- Biographies of social activists
- News media coverage and images of a topic
- Websites featuring articles about a topic

How do I get to Opposing Viewpoints In Context?

1. Start at the Multnomah County Library web site
2. Under Research select Homework Center
3. Click on Homework databases
4. Scroll down to Social issues (Opposing Viewpoints). Click on this link.
5. Type in your Multnomah County Library card number and PIN.

Starting your research
Choose an issue or keyword search your topic.

When you click on an issue, you will see an overview of the topic:

Texting While Driving

Advances in cell phone technology can save time and help people stay in close contact with friends and family. Although cell phones were originally marketed mainly to business executives as car phones, their use in the car has recently become a matter of great public concern and debate. Cell phones are now so inexpensive that nearly anyone can afford to own one, and they are also much smaller and more portable than their earlier counterparts. Furthermore, the technology has advanced so that placing or receiving a phone call is no longer their only function. Modern cell phone users can send and receive text messages, and some phones even run computer applications. Studies have shown that even talking on a phone while driving can increase the risk of an accident, but activities such as texting that require drivers to take their eyes off the road for longer periods of time and... View More

Below this are Featured Viewpoints (essays arguing one side of an issue), & associated news & magazine articles, radio & television features & websites. Click on the links to view the information.

Or keyword search your topic.
The next screen will show the results of your search.

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On this Page
- Featured Viewpoints
- News
- Video
- Magazines
- Interactive Map
- Audio
- Images
- Related Topics

Click on the links under On this Page for different types of information.

- Viewpoints essays on the issue from many perspectives
- Reference overview of a topic
- Websites a list of websites that feature coverage of the issue
- Audio and Video excerpts from radio and television coverage of the topic
- Images photographs or illustrations
- News and Magazines recent articles from popular magazines and newspapers on the topic
- Interactive Map visual display of statistics on a topic
- Academic Journals recent articles from scholarly journals (peer-reviewed) on the topic

Once you are in an article, there are several tools on the right side of the page to help you.

The perils of multi-tasking

Edmonton police this week pulled over a motorcyclist for texting while driving. The biker’s response was to speed away—into oncoming traffic. A candidate for a Darwin Award, you say? Actually, texting at the controls is becoming all too common: A recent Transportation Safety Board report found texting likely contributed to a fatal plane crash in northern B.C. Which is something Toronto Mayor Rob Ford might think about the next time he reads documents on an expressway.

Other useful resources

The Maps section visually presents data overlaid on a U.S. map.

Teenage Pregnancy