

DIRECTIONS: Choose from the following list for the advocacy topic of your choice. If you find nothing here, you may search on other reputable websites, including the **SMS Issues and Controversies** website below:

Issues and Controversies:

<http://icof.infobaselearning.com/index.aspx>

Note: In school you can go directly to the *Issues and Controversies* website; at home you will need to enter the user name and password provided below:

User Name: scarsdale

Password: scarsdale

Possible Topics List

1 - Should the US abolish the Electoral College?

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/should-electoral-college-be-abolished>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tyler-lewis/why-we-should-abolish-the_1_b_8961256.html

2 - Should US ban cars getting less than 30 miles per gallon?

http://www.slate.com/articles/business/the_juice/2015/10/gas_is_cheap_and_americans_are_buying_less_efficient_cars_horrible_idea.html

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/brand-connect/wp/enterprise/reducing-the-environmental-impact-of-driving/>

3 - Should the US government ban the use of plastic bags?

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/09/business/energy-environment/should-plastic-bags-be-banned.html?_r=0

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/should-plastic-shopping-bags-be-banned/>

4 - Should there be age restrictions placed on video games?

<http://www.out-law.com/page-5810>

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2002/dec/29/games.eu>

5 - Should people be able to vote using the Internet?

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/OTUS/election-day-vote-online-internet-today/story?id=17647954>

<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2015/07/the-dangers-of-internet-voting>

6 - Should teenagers be able to have cosmetic surgery?

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4411597/>

<http://www.plasticsurgery.org/news/briefing-papers/plastic-surgery-for-teenagers.html>

7 - Should the minimum wage be raised?

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/making-sense/why-raising-the-minimum-wage-is-good-economics/>

<http://www.cnbc.com/2015/04/27/why-we-should-raise-the-minimum-wage-commentary.html>

8 - Should schools allow the sale of junk food in their cafeterias?

<http://www.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=10853>

<http://www.education.com/magazine/article/junk-food-banned-school/>

9 - Should the use of antibiotics be limited?

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1113833/>

<https://www.physics.ohio-state.edu/~wilkins/writing/Samples/policy/antibiotics.html>

10 - What should be done about Football head injuries?

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/07/opinion/dont-let-kids-play-football.html>

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/health-wellness/articles/2014/11/07/should-you-let-your-kid-play-football>

11 - Should the NFL Washington Redskins change their name?

<http://www.usnews.com/debate-club/should-washingtons-football-team-change-its-name>

<http://historynewsnetwork.org/article/159160>

12 - Should schools stay open through the summer?

<http://www.teachhub.com/should-american-schools-go-year-round>

<http://www.alternet.org/education/its-time-schools-rethink-benefit-extended-summer-break>

13 - Should cell phone use be restricted or banned from schools?

<http://neatoday.org/2015/02/23/school-cell-phone-bans-end-educators-weigh-pros-cons/>

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/lifestyle/style/2015/06/15/cellphones-school-teaching-tool-distraction/OzHjXyL7VVIXV1AEkeYTij/story.html>

14 - Should school uniforms be mandatory?

<http://www.publicschoolreview.com/blog/public-school-uniforms-the-pros-and-cons-for-your-child>

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/regionals/south/2014/02/20/uniforms-for-public-school-students-the-debate-continues-they-become-more-popular/btIYoFLoizOkFpXrdEUScK/story.html>

15 - Should the school day begin later?

<http://neatoday.org/2015/09/20/despite-proven-benefits-starting-school-later-is-still-a-tough-sell/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/29/upshot/schools-are-slow-to-learn-that-sleep-deprivation-hits-teenagers-hardest.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=mini-moth®ion=top-stories-below&WT.nav=top-stories-below>

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rulesforengagement/2015/09/_during_adolescence_biological_changes.html

16 - Should the learning of musical instruments in school continue?

<http://www.nafme.org/20-important-benefits-of-music-in-our-schools/>

<http://www.effectivemusicteaching.com/articles/directors/18-benefits-of-playing-a-musical-instrument/>

17 - Should boys and girls be educated separately from each other?

<http://www.nea.org/tools/17061.htm>

<http://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2015/12/the-resurgence-of-single-sex-education/421560/>

18 - Should tablets be allowed to replace textbooks in school?

<http://neatoday.org/2013/07/31/as-more-schools-embrace-tablets-do-textbooks-have-a-fighting-chance-2/>

<http://www.newstribune.com/news/news/story/2013/jul/07/textbooks-vs-tablets-schools-begin-exploring-trans/518400/>

19 - Should mandatory calorie counts on menus continue?

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/lifestyle/2014/12/01/new-fda-rules-will-put-calorie-counts-menus/NcV6aDQYG73CswHGc3KGrM/story.html>

<http://www.eater.com/2015/11/3/9664850/restaurant-calorie-counts-healthy-menu-items>

20 - Should there be a special tax on soda?

https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/food/is-a-soda-tax-the-solution-to-americas-obesity-problem/2015/03/23/b6216864-ccf8-11e4-a2a7-9517a3a70506_story.html

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/should-there-be-a-tax-on-soda-and-other-sugary-drinks-1436757039>

21 - Should the penny be abolished?

<http://www.moneycrashers.com/get-rid-penny-reasons/>

<http://money.usnews.com/money/personal-finance/articles/2013/02/14/the-american-penny-how-its-managed-to-stick-around-all-these-years?page=2>

22 - Should e-cigarettes be banned?

<http://www.lung.org/stop-smoking/smoking-facts/e-cigarettes-and-lung-health.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/health-risks-e-cigarettes-emerge>

23 - Should English become the official language of the United States?

http://www.dbp.idebate.org/en/index.php/Debate%3A_English_as_US_official_language

<http://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2001/mar/08/guardianweekly.guardianweekly11>

24 - Should big game hunting be outlawed?

<http://science.time.com/2014/01/13/black-rhino-hunt-could-help-the-endangered-species/>

<http://conservationmagazine.org/2014/01/can-trophy-hunting-reconciled-conservation/>

25 - Should the Ivory Trade be outlawed?

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/08/140829-elephants-trophy-hunting-poaching-ivory-ban-cities/>

http://upfront.scholastic.com/issues/05_16_16/the-race-to-save-the-elephants/

<http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/2013/01/31/time-running-out-to-save-elephants-from-ivory-trade/>

26 - What should be done about the overfishing of tuna?

<http://ocean.nationalgeographic.com/ocean/explore/pristine-seas/critical-issues-overfishing/>

<http://science.time.com/2013/01/11/the-pacific-bluefin-tuna-is-almost-gone/>

27 - Should actual animal dissections be required in school?

<http://www.nea.org/home/17249.htm>

<http://www.ajc.com/weblogs/get-schooled/2013/jun/25/should-students-dissect-animals-or-should-schools-/>

28 - Regarding the affects of naval sonar on whales, what if anything should be done?

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/does-military-sonar-kill/>

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2013/jul/03/whales-flee-military-sonar-strandings>

29 - Regarding the mounting resistance to antibiotics, what if anything should be done?

<http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/consumer-health/in-depth/antibiotics/art-20045720>

<http://www.nps.org.au/medicines/infections-and-infestations/antibiotics/for-individuals/what-is-antibiotic-resistance>