

Sample Topics for the Position Paper

Civil Liberties and Public Welfare

Are law enforcement cameras an invasion of privacy?
Should all American citizens be required to complete a year of community service?
Should the driving age be raised to twenty-one?
Should violent video games be outlawed?
Should private citizens be allowed to own assault weapons?
Should businesses and corporations be required to employ a number of minorities proportionate to the number of minorities in the population?
Should immigration laws be changed?
Is the death penalty effective?
Should gambling and sports betting be legalized and regulated by the government?
Should everyone under the age of 17 have a 10:00 curfew?
Should a child who commits a violent crime be tried as an adult?
Should the government be allowed to detain suspected terrorists without trial?
Should people who download music and movies illegally face stiffer penalties?
Do violent video games cause behavior problems?
Should there be stricter federal restrictions for content on the internet?
Should the United States end overseas military operations?
Should politicians be allowed to accept campaign contributions from corporate lobbyists?
Should American families be allowed to have a maximum of two children per household to limit population growth?

Education

Should students be required to wear uniforms?
Should schools begin the day with a silent prayer time?
Should students' textbooks be replaced by laptop computers?
Should students be required to pass a basic skills test to graduate from high school?
Should schools raise money by selling candy, sugary soft drinks, and other unhealthy items to students?
Should schools offer fast food options such as McDonald's or Taco Bell?
Should high school athletes be required to maintain a minimum of a B average to play in games?
Should students and teachers receive money for students' scoring well on standardized tests?
Should schools with low standardized test scores be closed?
Should students learn about world religions in public schools?
Should students who engage in cyber-bullying be suspended or expelled from school?
Should K-12 teachers and college and university professors be armed?
Should teachers have to pass a basic skills test every ten years to renew their certification?
Do colleges put too much stock in standardized test scores?
Should creationism be taught in public schools?
Should the military be allowed to recruit at high schools?

Gender Issues

Should men get paternity leave from work?
Do beauty pageants exploit women?
Should gay couples be able to marry?
Should females be allowed to play on male sports teams?

Health and Wellness

Should cigarette smoking be banned in all public places?
Should the government tax junk food, fatty snacks, and sugary beverages?
Should marijuana be legalized for medicinal purposes?
Should unhealthy fast food products be sold with a mandatory warning label?
Should teenage girls be allowed to get birth control without parental permission?

Should people diagnosed with a terminal illness have the right to doctor-assisted suicides?

Science and the Environment

Is global climate change man-made?

Should people be allowed to keep exotic animals such as tigers or chimpanzees as pets?

Should animals be used for research and product testing?

Should recycling be mandatory, with penalties for people who do not comply?

Should the government increase spending on the space program?

Should more be done to preserve and protect endangered animals?

Should researchers be permitted to use stem cells from aborted fetuses?