

# *Madigan Library*

## **HSR115 – American Literature Since 1865**

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Use this page to guide you through the various library and Web resources to gather information for your Service Learning Project and Resource Notebook. Remember that you must gather your information from a variety of sources, including scholarly journal articles and three agencies or organizations.

### [Selected Web Sites](#)

Includes links to local and national agencies, government and non-profits specializing in your topics.

### [Research Tips](#)

How to search the Library's resources for books and journal articles.

### [Citing Your Sources](#)

A selection of style manuals, including APA.

### [Evaluating Information Found on the Internet](#)

An excellent guide from Elizabeth Kirk, a librarian at Johns Hopkins University.

### [Scholarly Journals vs. Popular Magazines](#)

Wondering how you can tell what kind of information you have found? A simple comparative chart from Duke University librarians.

### [Controversial Social Issues](#)

Use this section to get ideas and more information for your final presentation.

## **Selected Web Sites**

The following Web sites will get you started on finding the data and other information you need. Use these as model Web sites in terms of authority and reliability.

Use [search engines](#) to find your own Web sites. Need more resources? Try the [Psychology](#) and/or [Sociology](#) Resources by Subject.

## **General Resources**

### [American Counseling Association](#)

"The American Counseling Association is a not-for-profit, professional and educational organization that is dedicated to the growth and enhancement of the counseling profession. Founded in 1952, ACA is the world's largest association exclusively representing professional counselors in various practice settings."

### [Lycoming County Health Improvement Coalition: Human Services Directory](#)

A comprehensive listing of all Lycoming County human services agencies.

### [Pennsylvania Government Agencies, Authorities, Boards, Commissions, Councils, Departments and Offices](#)

An alphabetical listing from PAPowerPort.

### [Pine Tree Legal Assistance: Legal Services Sites](#)

An alphabetical listing by state of organizations that provide free legal assistance to eligible clients or state support to legal services programs.

**Note:** The link to North Penn Legal Services on this site is not correct. The correct link is <http://www.northpennlegal.org/>.

### [Population Reference Bureau](#)

"The Population Reference Bureau informs people around the world about population, health, and the environment, and empowers them to use that information to advance the well-being of current and future generations." Their work focuses around four "core themes": Reproductive Health and Fertility; Children and Families; Population and the Environment; and Population Futures—Aging, Inequality and Poverty, Migration and Urbanization, and Gender.

### [Snyder, Union, Mifflin, Child Development, Inc.](#)

"Snyder Union Mifflin Child Development (SUMCD) is a private non-profit agency providing high-quality, early childhood services to children and parents in multiple counties. SUMCD believes in the very important role parents play in the development and growth of children, and therefore, serves families, not just children. SUMCD reaches out to enhance a family's quality of life and helps them reach their greatest potential by recognizing their unique needs, building on strengths and resources, respecting and tolerating differences, and protecting confidentiality. SUMCD provides five basic programs (Head Start, Early Head Start, Community Child Care, Project PEEK, and Child Care Information Services--CCIS)."

### [Stateline.org](#)

"Funded entirely by The Pew Charitable Trusts...This Web site, staffed entirely by professional journalists, was originally envisioned primarily as a resource for newsmen and newswomen who cover state government. Using computer technology as a delivery vehicle, we proposed to arm these news-gatherers with timely tips and research material on state policy innovations and trends, enabling them to make their reporting more informative and useful to consumers. This, we believed, would help nourish public debate of important state-level issues such as healthcare, tax and budget policy, the environment, welfare reform and other issues that in recent years have not gotten the media attention they deserve." News stories can be searched or browsed, and can also be viewed by state.

### [U.S. Census Bureau](#)

Access data tools, such as the [American FactFinder](#), [State & County QuickFacts](#), [CenStats](#), and [Population Finder](#) for information on people, households, geography, and much more.

### [United States Department of Health & Human Services](#)

"The Department of Health and Human Services is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. The Department includes more than 300 programs, covering a wide spectrum of activities." Included are health and social science research, Medicare and Medicaid, financial assistance and services for low-income families, Head Start, preventing child abuse and domestic violence, substance abuse treatment and prevention, and services for older

Americans, to name a few. Their main page has major topics listed along the left-hand side, including a link to [specific populations](#).

## **Abuse and Domestic Violence**

### [American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children](#)

"The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children is a national organization whose mission is to enhance the ability of professionals to respond to children and families affected by abuse and violence. APSAC tries to fulfill this mission in a number of ways, most notably through providing education and other sources of information to professionals who work in the child maltreatment and related fields."

### [Campus Outreach Services](#)

Founded by [Katie Koestner](#), a nationally-recognized date rape survivor, this company offers programs, Webinars, and consulting services on topics such as alcohol and addiction, body image, dating violence, mental health, and sexual abuse, assault, and harassment.

### [Family Life Development Center](#)

"As a multidisciplinary unit of the College of Human Ecology [Cornell University], the Center accomplishes its mission through research, training, and outreach. It serves New York State, the nation and the international community. The current areas of special interest include child maltreatment and family violence, youth development, children in residential care, HIV/AIDS prevention, and military family life."

### [Family Violence Prevention Fund](#)

"The Family Violence Prevention Fund works to prevent violence within the home, and in the community, to help those whose lives are devastated by violence because everyone has the right to live free of violence."

### [Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma](#)

"The Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT) is a training center that focuses directly and specifically on violence -- responding to it, and addressing its impact -- across a wide social spectrum. We are concerned with issues ranging from child maltreatment, sexual assault, children exposed to violence, intimate partner violence, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)."

### [International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect](#)

"ISPCAN's mission is to prevent cruelty to children in every nation, in every form: physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, street children, child fatalities, child prostitution, children of war, emotional abuse and child labor. ISPCAN is committed to increasing public awareness of all forms of violence against children, developing activities to prevent such violence, and promoting the rights of children in all regions of the world."

### [Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse](#)

"The mission of the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse (MINCAVA) is to support research, education, and access to violence related resources." Included is access to the MINCAVA Electronic Clearinghouse.

### [National Center on Child Fatality Review](#)

"The Mission of NCFR is to develop and promote a nationwide system of Child Fatality Review Teams to improve the health, safety and well being of children and reduce preventable child fatalities and severe injuries."

### [National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome](#)

"In 1992, shaken baby prevention programs were incorporated at the Child Abuse Prevention Center of Utah. In 1997, the National Information, Support and Referral Service on Shaken Baby Syndrome, a service of the Child Abuse Prevention Center, was started in response to an overwhelming number of calls coming to the Center after sponsoring the First National Conference on Shaken Baby Syndrome. In 2000, in response to a national need for more information and training, the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome separated from the Child Abuse Prevention Center of Utah and became a legal entity. This was made possible by funding from the Dr. W.C. Swanson Family Foundation, which enabled the National Center to focus all its services on the prevention of shaken baby syndrome. Since that time, the Center has made remarkable advancements. Over this time period, it has become very apparent to those affected by SBS cases, and the professionals who try to help them, that there is no other organization in the country, even in the world, which has the capability or the intent to take on this leadership role in the prevention of shaken baby syndrome."

### [National Domestic Violence Hotline](#)

"The National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) is a project of the Texas Council on Family Violence in Austin, Texas. Established in 1996 as a component of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) passed by Congress, NDVH is a nonprofit organization that provides crisis intervention, information and referral to victims of domestic violence, perpetrators, friends and families. The Hotline answers a variety of calls and is a resource for domestic violence advocates government officials, law enforcement agencies and the general public."

### [Office on Violence Against Women](#)

Part of the United States Department of Justice, the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) "is to provide federal leadership to reduce violence against women, and to administer justice for and strengthen services to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This is accomplished by developing and supporting the capacity of state, local, tribal, and non-profit entities involved in responding to violence against women."

### [PreventChildAbuse.com](http://PreventChildAbuse.com)

"The National Exchange Club Foundation is committed to making a difference in the lives of children, families and our communities through its national project, the prevention of child abuse. The NEC Foundation's most successful method of countering abuse is by working directly with parents through the parent aide program. The NEC Foundation coordinates a nationwide network of nearly 100 Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Centers who utilize the parent aide program and provide support to families at-risk for abuse. "

### [RAINN: Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network](http://RAINN.org)

"The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. RAINN operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline and carries out programs to prevent sexual assault, help victims and ensure that rapists are brought to justice."

### [Safe Horizon](http://SafeHorizon.org)

"Safe Horizon's mission is to provide support, prevent violence, and promote justice for victims of crime and abuse, their families and communities."

### [VAWnet](http://VAWnet.org)

"The mission of VAWnet, the National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women, is to harness and use electronic communication technology to end violence against women." Included are links to resources on sexual violence, domestic violence, and research.

## **Children, Teens and Women**

### *Statistics and Issues*

### [Administration for Children & Families](http://AdministrationforChildrenandFamilies.gov)

"The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for federal programs that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities." Services for families include adoption and foster care, child abuse and neglect, child care, child support, disabilities, early childhood education, family/domestic violence, Head Start, health, missing children and runaways, parenting, temporary assistance for needy families, and youth.

### [Annie E. Casey Foundation](http://AnnieECaseyFoundation.org)

"The primary mission of the Annie E. Casey Foundation is to foster public policies, human-service reforms, and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of today's vulnerable children and families. In pursuit of this goal, the Foundation makes grants that help states, cities, and neighborhoods fashion more innovative, cost-effective responses to these needs." Includes information on [Kids Count](http://KidsCount.org), one of the Foundation's major initiatives.

### [Children's Defense Fund](#)

"The Children's Defense Fund grew out of the Civil Rights Movement under the leadership of [Marian Wright Edelman](#). It has become the nation's strongest voice for children and families since its founding in 1973...The Children's Defense Fund's programs are designed to uphold CDF's mission to ensure every child a *Health Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start*, and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities."

### [ChildStats.gov](#)

"This website offers easy access to statistics and reports on children and families, including: family and social environment, economic circumstances, health care, physical environment and safety, behavior, education and health. The Forum fosters coordination, collaboration, and integration of Federal efforts to collect and report data on conditions and trends for children and families." The data sources page groups agencies by field of specialization, such as health, education, behavior, etc.

### [CYFERnet: Children, Youth and Families Education and Research Network](#)

"CYFERnet is designed to be used by anyone who needs comprehensive children, youth, or family information including: educators, researchers, parents, youth agency staff, community members, human services and health care providers, students, policy makers, youth, media."

### [The Future of Children](#)

"*The Future of Children* seeks to promote effective policies and programs for children by providing policymakers, service providers, and the media with timely, objective information based on the best available research. *The Future of Children* is a publication of The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University and The Brookings Institution."

### [National Institute of Child Health & Human Development](#)

"The NICHD, established by congress in 1962, conducts and supports research on topics related to the health of children, adults, families, and populations. Some of these topics include: reducing infant deaths; improving the health of women, men, and families; understanding reproductive health and fertility/infertility; learning about growth and development; examining, preventing and treating problems of birth defects, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities; and enhancing well-being of persons through the lifespan with optimal rehabilitation research."

### [National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center](#)

The National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center is "a federal resource for communities working to prevent violence committed by and against young people. The mission of the NYVPRC is to provide key leaders in communities—city managers/leaders and community leaders—with dynamic resources to help support their efforts to plan, develop, implement, and evaluate effective youth violence prevention efforts." Some

topics included are alcohol abuse, bullying, dating violence, depression, and school violence.

#### [Office of Child Development and Early Learning](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, "the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has focused on creating opportunities for the commonwealth's youngest children to develop and learn to their fullest potential. This goal is accomplished through a framework of supports and systems that help ensure that children and their families have access to high quality services. OCDEL works with many partners to create opportunities for the commonwealth's children. Parents, schools, child care, early intervention, Head Start, libraries, community organizations and other stakeholders have joined with the Office of Child Development and Early Learning to provide high quality early childhood programs and effective prevention strategies to mitigate challenges faced by families that affect school readiness and academic success."

#### [Office of Children, Youth and Families](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, this office oversees the [Bureau of Child Welfare Services](#), the [Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services](#), and the [Bureau of Policy and Program Development](#).

### **Criminal Justice**

#### *Federal Government Agencies*

#### [Bureau of Justice Statistics](#)

The mission of BJS is "to collect, analyze, publish, and disseminate information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. These data are critical to Federal, State, and local policymakers in combating crime and ensuring that justice is both efficient and evenhanded."

#### [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#)

The mission of the FBI is "to protect and defend the United States against terrorist and foreign intelligence threats, to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States, and to provide leadership and criminal justice services to federal, state, municipal, and international agencies and partners." The Bureau makes available its [Uniform Crime Reports](#).

#### [National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#)

"The mission of the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) is to facilitate research in criminal justice and criminology, through the preservation, enhancement, and sharing of computerized data resources; through the production of original research based on archived data; and through specialized training workshops in quantitative analysis of crime and justice data."

### [National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice](#)

"The National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice was established in July 2001 to assist the field in developing improved policies and programs for youth with mental health disorders in contact with the juvenile justice system, based on the best available research and practice. The Center, which is operated by Policy Research, Inc. in Delmar, NY in partnership with the [Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators](#) (CJCA), is supported by a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and operates current projects with funding from the [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) and the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA). The Center aims at providing a centralized national focal point that pulls together and links the various activities and research that are currently underway, maximizing the awareness and usefulness of new products and learnings, and using the best available knowledge to guide practice and policy."

### [National Criminal Justice Reference Service](#)

"NCJRS is a federally funded resource offering justice and substance abuse information to support research, policy, and program development worldwide...NCJRS services and resources are available to anyone interested in crime, victim assistance, and public safety including policymakers, practitioners, researchers, educators, community leaders, and the general public."

### [National Institute of Corrections](#)

"The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) is an agency within the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons. The Institute is headed by a Director appointed by the U.S. Attorney General. A 16-member Advisory Board, also appointed by the Attorney General, was established by the enabling legislation (Public Law 93-415) to provide policy direction to the Institute." Their mission is to "advance and shape effective correctional practice and public policy that respond to the needs of corrections through collaboration and leadership and by providing assistance, information, education, and training." Included on their site is an [online library](#) and a page listing [publications, videos, training materials, and offender program resources](#) developed by NIC.

### [United States Department of Justice](#)

The mission of the DOJ is "to enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States according to the law; to ensure public safety against threats foreign and domestic; to provide federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime; to seek just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior; and to ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans." View a listing of publications [alphabetically](#) or by [agency](#), as well as [legal cases and documents](#).

### **Drug and Alcohol Abuse**

### [Drugfree.org](http://Drugfree.org)

"The Partnership for a Drug-Free America is a nonprofit organization uniting communications professionals, renowned scientists and parents. Best known for its national drug-education campaign, the Partnership's mission is to reduce illicit drug use in America."

### [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism](http://NationalInstituteonAlcoholAbuseandAlcoholism)

"NIAAA provides leadership in the national effort to reduce alcohol-related problems by: conducting and supporting research in a wide range of scientific areas including genetics, neuroscience, epidemiology, health risks and benefits of alcohol consumption, prevention, and treatment; coordinating and collaborating with other research institutes and Federal Programs on alcohol-related issues; collaborating with international, national, state, and local institutions, organizations, agencies, and programs engaged in alcohol-related work; and translating and disseminating research findings to health care providers, researchers, policymakers, and the public."

### [National Institute on Drug Abuse](http://NationalInstituteonDrugAbuse)

"NIDA's mission is to lead the Nation in bringing the power of science to bear on drug abuse and addiction." There are different sections of the site for medical and health professionals, researchers, parents and teachers, and students and young adults. They also have a [searchable catalog](#) of their publications, one of which is [Preventing Drug Abuse among Children and Adolescents](#).

### [NAADAC: The Association for Addiction Professionals](http://NAADAC)

"NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, is the largest membership organization serving addiction counselors, educators and other addiction-focused health care professionals, who specialize in addiction prevention, treatment and education."

### [National Association of State Alcohol/Drug Abuse Directors](http://NationalAssociationofStateAlcoholDrugAbuseDirectors)

"The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc. (NASADAD) is a private, not-for-profit educational, scientific, and informational organization. The Association was originally incorporated in 1971 to serve State Drug Agency Directors, and then in 1978 the membership was expanded to include State Alcoholism Agency Directors. NASADAD's basic purpose is to foster and support the development of effective alcohol and other drug abuse prevention and treatment programs throughout every State." Areas of the Web site include research, public policy, prevention, and treatment.

### [Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services](http://OfficeofMentalHealthandSubstanceAbuseServices)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, the mission of OMHSAS is that "Every person with serious mental illness and/or addictive disease, and every child and adolescent who abuses substances and/or has a serious emotional disturbance will have the opportunity for growth, recovery and inclusion in their community, have access to

services and supports of their choice, and enjoy a quality of life that includes family and friends."

#### [Science of Addiction: A Guide to Selected Resources](#)

From the Library of Congress, this guide lists the main books and journals that provide information on addiction (check [WorldCat](#) for book titles and [Journal Locator](#) for journal titles). Also included are links to institutes, centers, and other relevant Web sites.

#### [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#)

"The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has established a clear vision for its work -- a life in the community for everyone. To realize this vision, the Agency has sharply focused its mission on building resilience and facilitating recovery for people with or at risk for mental or substance use disorders. SAMHSA is gearing all of its resources -- programs, policies and grants -- toward that outcome." Included are links to [SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention](#), the [Center for Substance Abuse Treatment](#), and [SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies](#) where you can find the latest national data on alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drug abuse, drug-related emergency department episodes and medical examiner cases, and the nation's substance abuse treatment system.

#### [SAMHSA's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information](#)

"SAMHSA's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI) is the Nation's one-stop resource for information about substance abuse prevention and addiction treatment."

### **Elderly**

#### [Alliance for Aging Research](#)

"The private, not-for-profit Alliance for Aging Research is the nation's leading citizen advocacy organization for improving the health and independence of Americans as they age. The Alliance was founded in 1986 to promote medical and behavioral research into the aging process. Since then, and as the explosion of the Senior Boom approaches, the Alliance has become the voice for Baby Boomer health by developing, implementing and advocating programs in research, professional and consumer health education and public policy."

#### [Center on an Aging Society](#)

"The Center on an Aging Society at Georgetown University is a Washington-based, non-partisan public policy institute that fosters critical thinking about the implications of an aging society. The Center studies the impact of demographic changes on public and private institutions and families of all ages. To encourage innovative and responsible thinking, the Center conducts and synthesizes research on a broad range of topics related to income and health security and conveys the findings to policy makers. Thus, the Center serves as a source of information on issues often associated with the Social

Security, Medicare, and Medicaid programs. Particular topics that have been the focus of Center projects also include labor market changes, employer-provided health and pension benefits, the health care market, health literacy, and access to health and long-term care."

#### [Merck Manual of Geriatrics](#)

"The Merck Manual of Geriatrics specifically addresses the challenges of caring for the elderly. It incorporates an interdisciplinary focus that is unique, including specific information regarding nursing care, pharmacy, and planning issues." Topics included are nutrition, geriatric emergencies, home health care, and legal, ethical and social issues. Online access is free.

#### [Merck Manual of Health & Aging](#)

"The Merck Manual of Health & Aging, published in 2004, continues Merck's commitment to education and geriatric care, providing information on aging and the care of older people in words understandable by the lay public." Online access is free.

#### [National Clearinghouse for Long Term Care](#)

"This web site was developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide information and resources to help you and your family plan for future long-term care (LTC) needs."

#### [National Council on Aging](#)

"Founded in 1950, the National Council on Aging (NCOA) is a nonprofit organization with a national network of more than 14,000 organizations and leaders. Our members include senior centers, area agencies on aging, adult day service centers, faith-based service organizations, senior housing facilities, employment services, consumer groups, and leaders from academia, business, and labor. Our programs help older people remain healthy and independent, find jobs, increase access to benefits programs, and discover meaningful ways to continue contributing to society."

#### [National Institute on Aging](#)

"NIA, one of the 27 Institutes and Centers of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, leads a broad scientific effort to understand the nature of aging and to extend the healthy, active years of life. In 1974, Congress granted authority to form NIA to provide leadership in aging research, training, health information dissemination, and other programs relevant to aging and older people. Subsequent amendments to this legislation designated the NIA as the primary Federal agency on Alzheimer's disease research."

#### [Office of Long Term Living](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, this site provides resources regarding assistance with daily activities, such as bathing, dressing and meal preparation, whether due to aging, injury, illness or disability.

### [Pennsylvania Department of Aging](#)

"The Pennsylvania Department of Aging was created in 1978 by the state legislature after years of intensive lobbying by individuals and groups representing our rapidly growing elderly population. We are charged by the Older Americans Act and the Pennsylvania General Assembly with being an advocate for the interests of older Pennsylvanians at all levels of government....Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of all older Pennsylvanians by empowering the diverse community, the family and the individual."

### [U.S. Administration on Aging](#)

"The Administration on Aging (AoA), an agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is one of the nation's largest providers of home- and community-based care for older persons and their caregivers. Our mission is to develop a comprehensive, coordinated and cost-effective system of long-term care that helps elderly individuals to maintain their dignity in their homes and communities. Our mission statement also is to help society prepare for an aging population."

- [AoA Grantee Project Reports](#)

"The bibliographic database is a computerized database managed by the Center for Communication and Consumer Services (CCCS). It contains references to program- and policy-related materials on aging not referenced in any other computer system or print resource. The database is intended to serve the State Units on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging, national aging organizations, aging services providers, legislators at all levels, policy makers, and the general public."

## **Health**

### [Health Policy Institute](#)

"The Health Policy Institute is a multi-disciplinary group of faculty and staff dedicated to conducting research on key issues in health policy and health services research. Institute members are engaged in a wide diversity of projects, focusing on issues relating to health care financing, the uninsured, federal health insurance reforms, quality of care and outcomes research, mental health services research, and the impact of changes in the health care market on providers and patients."

### [National Center for Health Statistics](#)

"As the Nation's principal health statistics agency, we compile statistical information to guide actions and policies to improve the health of our people. We are a unique public resource for health information—a critical element of public health and health policy. Our health statistics allow us to: document the health status of the population and of important subgroups; identify disparities in health status and use of health care by race/ethnicity, socio-economic status, region, and other population characteristics; describe our experiences with the health care system; monitor trends in health status and health care delivery; identify health problems; support biomedical and health

services research; provide information for making changes in public policies and programs; and evaluate the impact of health policies and programs."

#### [National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#)

"The mission of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) is to promote minority health and to lead, coordinate, support, and assess the NIH effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities. In this effort NCMHD will conduct and support basic, clinical, social, and behavioral research, promote research infrastructure and training, foster emerging programs, disseminate information, and reach out to minority and other health disparity communities."

#### [National Institutes of Health](#)

"The National Institutes of Health (NIH), a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary Federal agency for conducting and supporting medical research."

#### [Office of Medical Assistance Programs](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, "the Office of Medical Assistance Programs administers the joint state/federal Medical Assistance (also known as Medicaid) program that purchases health care for close to 1.9 million Pennsylvania residents."

#### [Pennsylvania Department of Health](#)

"The Department's mission is to promote healthy lifestyles, prevent injury and disease, and to assure the safe delivery of quality health care for all Commonwealth citizens."

#### [World Health Organization](#)

"WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends."

### **HIV/AIDS**

#### [AIDS.gov](#)

"AIDS.gov serves as an information gateway to drive traffic to Federal domestic HIV/AIDS information and resources."

#### [Centers for Disease Control: HIV/AIDS](#)

"As a part of its overall public health mission, CDC provides leadership in helping control the HIV/AIDS epidemic by working with community, state, national, and international partners in surveillance, research, and prevention and evaluation activities."

- [Global HIV/AIDS](#)
- [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Reports](#)

"The HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report contains tabular and graphic information about U.S. AIDS and HIV case reports, including data by state, metropolitan statistical area, mode of exposure to HIV, sex, race/ethnicity, age group, vital status, and case definition category. It is published annually by the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), usually in the early fall. The mid-year edition was discontinued after the 2001 reporting year."
- [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Supplemental Reports](#)

"HIV/AIDS Surveillance Supplemental Reports are based on data from CDC's HIV/AIDS Reporting System (HARS) and are issued intermittently. HARS is a collection of computer programs and data files developed by the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at the CDC that simplifies the management and analysis of HIV and AIDS surveillance data."
- [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Special Reports](#)

"HIV/AIDS Surveillance Special Reports are based on data collected by CDC through special studies and surveys. They are not based on HARS data and they appear intermittently."
- [HIV/AIDS Surveillance Technical Reports](#)

"HIV/AIDS Surveillance Technical Reports are based on non-CDC data, i.e., data that are not collected or managed by CDC. These reports also appear intermittently."

#### [National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention](#)

"The National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) is responsible for public health surveillance, prevention research, and programs to prevent and control human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), viral hepatitis, and tuberculosis (TB). Center staff work in collaboration with governmental and nongovernmental partners at community, State, national, and international levels, applying well-integrated multidisciplinary programs of research, surveillance, technical assistance, and evaluation."

#### [National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases: Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome](#)

"The Division of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (DAIDS) was formed in 1986 to develop and implement the national research agenda to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Specifically, the mission of DAIDS is to help ensure an end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic by increasing basic knowledge of the pathogenesis and transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), supporting the development of therapies for HIV infection and its complications and co-infections, and supporting the development of vaccines and other prevention strategies. DAIDS accomplishes this through planning,

implementing, managing, and evaluating programs through [specific] research programs and offices."

- [Comprehensive International Program of Research on AIDS \(CIPRA\)](#)  
"The CIPRA program supports comprehensive research and development efforts in eligible nations to develop practical, affordable and acceptable methods to both prevent and treat HIV/AIDS in adults and children. To date, 33 CIPRA awards have been made to institutions in 24 different countries."

#### [Pennsylvania Department of Health: Division of HIV/AIDS](#)

"As the lead public entity for HIV intervention in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Communicable Diseases, Division of HIV/AIDS has oversight responsibility for numerous HIV prevention and care programs across the state. The purpose of the Division of HIV/AIDS is to develop and implement a multi-dimensional, coordinated strategy to prevent disease and change high-risk behaviors, as well as provide resources and direction for sustaining preventive behavior and avoiding infection with the HIV virus."

#### **Homelessness**

##### [Corporation for Supportive Housing](#)

"CSH helps communities create permanent housing with services to prevent and end homelessness."

##### [Homeless Assistance Program](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare.

##### [Homelessness Resource Center](#)

A program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, HRC seeks "to improve the lives of people affected by homelessness who have mental health conditions, substance use issues, and histories of trauma."

##### [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

"The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a nonpartisan, mission-driven organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States."

##### [National Center on Family Homelessness](#)

"The National Center on Family Homelessness (The National Center), founded in 1988, is the only national organization devoted solely to helping homeless families. We bring new hope and opportunities to homeless adults and children through effective, cost-efficient practices and services. Our trainings and technical assistance help shelters and providers address the day-to-day realities of the tragedy of homelessness."

### [National Coalition for Homeless Veterans](#)

"The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV)...is the resource and technical assistance center for a national network of community-based service providers and local, state and federal agencies that provide emergency and supportive housing, food, health services, job training and placement assistance, legal aid and case management support for hundreds of thousands of homeless veterans each year."

### [National Coalition for the Homeless](#)

"The National Coalition for the Homeless, founded in 1982, is a national network of people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness, activists and advocates, community-based and faith-based service providers, and others committed to a single mission. That mission, our common bond, is to end homelessness."

### [National Health Care for the Homeless Council](#)

"The National Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) Council is a home for those who work to improve the health of homeless people and who seek housing, health care, and adequate incomes for everyone. In the National HCH Council, agencies and individuals, clinicians and advocates, homeless people and housed people come together for mutual support and learning opportunities, and to advance the cause of human rights."

### [National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty](#)

"The mission of NLCHP is to prevent and end homelessness by serving as the legal arm of the nationwide movement to end homelessness. To achieve its mission, the organization pursues three main strategies: impact litigation; policy advocacy; public education."

### [National Low Income Housing Coalition](#)

"The National Low Income Housing Coalition is dedicated solely to ending America's affordable housing crisis. We believe that this is achievable, that the affordable housing crisis is a problem that Americans are capable of solving. While we are concerned about the housing circumstances of all low income people, we focus our advocacy on those with the most serious housing problems, the lowest income households."

### [Pennsylvania's Homeless Children's Initiative](#)

"The goal of the program is to ensure homeless children and youth a free and appropriate public education on an equal basis with all other children in the state. Program objectives and activities are intended to remove and/or ease the barriers to enrollment and educational success for homeless children."

### [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Homeless Home Page](#)

"HHS is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and supporting the delivery of essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. As such, the delivery of treatment and services to

persons experiencing homelessness is included in the activities of the Department. The coordination of these services, both within the Department, as well as with our Federal partners who provide housing and complementary service programs, is a critical component of achieving the goal of preventing and ending homelessness."

#### [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: Homelessness](#)

Provides information on local homeless assistance, housing counseling, and HUD's homeless assistance programs.

#### **Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities**

##### [ADA.gov](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act Web site from the U.S. Department of Justice. Includes several sections leading users to up-to-date information on ADA design standards, enforcement, and new or proposed regulations.

##### [American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry](#)

"The AACAP (American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) is the leading national professional medical association dedicated to treating and improving the quality of life for children, adolescents, and families affected by these [mental, behavioral, or developmental] disorders."

##### [American Association of People with Disabilities](#)

"AAPD is the largest national nonprofit cross-disability member organization in the United States, dedicated to ensuring economic self-sufficiency and political empowerment for the more than 50 million Americans with disabilities. AAPD works in coalition with other disability organizations for the full implementation and enforcement of disability nondiscrimination laws, particularly the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973."

##### [American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(AAIDD\)](#)

The American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is the professional association run by and for professionals who support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

##### [American Psychiatric Association](#)

"The American Psychiatric Association is a medical specialty society recognized worldwide. Its over 35,000 U.S. and international member physicians work together to ensure humane care and effective treatment for all persons with mental disorder, including mental retardation and substance-related disorders. It is the voice and conscience of modern psychiatry. Its vision is a society that has available, accessible quality psychiatric diagnosis and treatment."

### [American Psychological Association](#)

"The objects of the American Psychological Association shall be to advance psychology as a science and profession and as a means of promoting health, education, and human welfare by: the encouragement of psychology in all its branches in the broadest and most liberal manner; the promotion of research in psychology and the improvement of research methods and conditions; the improvement of the qualifications and usefulness of psychologists through high standards of ethics, conduct, education, and achievement; the establishment and maintenance of the highest standards of professional ethics and conduct of the members of the Association; the increase and diffusion of psychological knowledge through meetings, professional contacts, reports, papers, discussions, and publications, thereby to advance scientific interests and inquiry, and the application of research findings to the promotion of health, education, and the public welfare."

### [The Arc of the United States](#)

"The Arc is the world's largest community based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It provides an array of services and support for families and individuals and includes over 140,000 members affiliated through more than 850 state and local chapters across the nation. The Arc is devoted to promoting and improving supports and services for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities."

### [Association of University Centers on Disabilities](#)

"Through its members, AUCD is a resource for local, state, national, and international agencies, organizations, and policy makers concerned about people living with developmental and other disabilities and their families."

### [Attention Deficit Disorder Association](#)

"The mission of ADDA is to provide information, resources and networking to adults with AD/HD and to the professionals who work with them. In doing so, ADDA generates hope, awareness, empowerment and connections worldwide in the field of AD/HD."

### [Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law](#)

"The mission of the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law is to protect and advance the rights of adults and children who have mental disabilities. The Center envisions an America where people who have mental illnesses or developmental disabilities exercise their own life choices and have access to the resources that enable them to participate fully in their communities."

### [Center for Mental Health Services](#)

"The Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) is the Federal agency within the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that leads national efforts to improve prevention and mental health treatment services for all Americans. CMHS pursues its mission by helping States improve and increase the quality

and range of treatment, rehabilitation, and support services for people with mental health problems, their families, and communities."

#### [Children and Adolescent Bipolar Foundation](#)

"The Child and Adolescent Bipolar Foundation (CABF) is a parent-led, not-for-profit, Web-based membership organization of families raising children diagnosed with, or at risk for, pediatric bipolar disorder."

#### [Council on Quality and Leadership](#)

"At The Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL), we believe in a world of dignity, opportunity and community inclusion for all people. We are the recognized leader for quality of life for persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with mental illness, and the people, organizations and communities who support them. Through our services, publications and public presence, we establish real connections between disabilities theory and practice and help those who work with persons with disabilities take the important step from innovative ideas to everyday action. Quite simply, our goal is to be partners and mentors to our customers, showing them how they can become even better at ensuring that people with intellectual disabilities and people with mental illness lead lives of dignity and quality."

#### [Mental Health](#)

Links to an overview, latest news, research, statistics, and more from MedlinePlus.

#### [Mental Health](#)

From the World Health Organization.

#### [Mental Health America](#)

"Mental Health America (formerly known as the National Mental Health Association) is the country's leading nonprofit dedicated to helping ALL people live mentally healthier lives. With our more than 320 affiliates nationwide, we represent a growing movement of Americans who promote mental wellness for the health and well-being of the nation – everyday and in times of crisis."

#### [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)

"NAMI (the National Alliance on Mental Illness) is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to improving the lives of persons living with serious mental illness and their families."

#### [National Association for Down Syndrome](#)

"NADS is the oldest organization in the country serving individuals with Down syndrome and their families. It was founded in Chicago in 1961 by parents who chose to go against medical advice and raised their children with Down syndrome at home. Their pioneering efforts have made it easier for later generations of individuals with Down syndrome to be accepted by their families and communities, to develop their capabilities, and to

work towards independence. Our mission is to ensure that all persons with Down syndrome have the opportunity to achieve their potential in all aspects of community life. We offer information, support, and advocacy."

#### [National Association for the Dually Diagnosed](#)

"NADD is the leading North American expert in providing professionals, educators, policy makers, and families with education, training, and information on mental health issues relating to persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The mission of NADD is to advance mental wellness for persons with developmental disabilities through the promotion of excellence in mental health care."

#### [National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities](#)

"The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) is a national, member-driven organization consisting of 55 State and Territorial Councils. NACDD places high value on meaningful participation and contribution by Council members and staff of all Member Councils, and we advocate and continually work towards positive system change on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families."

#### [National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services](#)

"The National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) is a nonprofit organization, established in 1964, to improve and expand public services to people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities."

#### [National Down Syndrome Congress](#)

"The mission of the NDSC is to provide information, advocacy and support concerning all aspects of life for individuals with Down syndrome."

#### [National Down Syndrome Society](#)

"The mission of the National Down Syndrome Society is to benefit people with Down syndrome and their families through national leadership in education, research and advocacy."

#### [National Institute of Mental Health](#)

"The NIMH mission is to reduce the burden of mental illness and behavioral disorders through research on mind, brain, and behavior. To fulfill its mission, the Institute is committed to the following priorities: support the integrative science of brain and behavior providing the foundation for understanding mental disorders; define the genetic and environmental risk architecture of mental disorders; develop more reliable, valid diagnostic tests and biomarkers for mental disorders; develop more effective, safer, and equitable treatments that have minimal side-effects to reduce symptoms, and improve daily functioning; support clinical trials that will provide treatment options to deliver more effective personalized care across diverse populations and settings; and

create improved pathways for rapid dissemination of science to mental health care and service efforts."

#### [Office of Developmental Programs](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, this office's mission is "to provide individuals with mental retardation, autism, and their families the services and supports they need and the opportunity to make real choices about living, working and options for social activities to enable them to live in and participate fully in the life of their communities."

#### [Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, the mission of OMHSAS is that "Every person with serious mental illness and/or addictive disease, and every child and adolescent who abuses substances and/or has a serious emotional disturbance will have the opportunity for growth, recovery and inclusion in their community, have access to services and supports of their choice, and enjoy a quality of life that includes family and friends."

#### [Pennsylvania Association of Resources: Autism/Intellectual Disabilities](#)

"Our mission is to ensure that the quality of supports and services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and individuals living with autism and their families is continuously improved through an association of providers who are committed to that purpose."

#### [President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities](#)

"Since its inception, the President's Committee has led the charge to improve the lives of people with intellectual disabilities, most recently adopting the goals outlined in President George W. Bush's New Freedom Initiative to recognize and uphold the right of all people with intellectual disabilities to enjoy a quality of life that promotes independence, self-determination, and full participation as productive members of society. These goals include the assurance of full citizenship rights, the reduction of the occurrence and severity of intellectual disabilities and the promotion of forward thinking programs and services and cutting edge assistive technologies to improve the lives of people with intellectual disabilities."

#### [SAMHSA's National Mental Health Information Center](#)

"The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) National Mental Health Information Center provides information about mental health via a toll-free telephone number (800-789-2647), this web site, and more than 600 publications. The National Mental Health Information Center was developed for users of mental health services and their families, the general public, policy makers, providers, and the media."

### [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#)

"The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has established a clear vision for its work -- a life in the community for everyone. To realize this vision, the Agency has sharply focused its mission on building resilience and facilitating recovery for people with or at risk for mental or substance use disorders. SAMHSA is gearing all of its resources -- programs, policies and grants -- toward that outcome."

## **Poverty**

### [Institute for Research on Poverty](#)

"IRP is a center for interdisciplinary research into the causes and consequences of poverty and social inequality in the United States. It is based at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As one of three Area Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, it has a particular interest in poverty and family welfare in the Midwest."

### [Joint Center for Poverty Research](#)

"The Northwestern University / University of Chicago Joint Center for Poverty Research supports academic research that examines what it means to be poor and live in America. JCPR concentrates on the causes and consequences of poverty in America and the effectiveness of policies aimed at reducing poverty. Our goal is to advance what is known about the economic, social and behavioral factors that cause poverty, and to establish the actual effects of interventions designed to alleviate poverty."

### [National Center for Children in Poverty](#)

"The National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP) is the nation's leading public policy center dedicated to promoting the economic security, health, and well-being of America's low-income families and children. NCCP uses research to inform policy and practice with the goal of ensuring positive outcomes for the next generation. We promote family-oriented solutions at the state and national levels."

### [National Poverty Center](#)

"The National Poverty Center (NPC) was established in the fall of 2002 as a university-based, nonpartisan research center. We conduct and promote multidisciplinary, policy-relevant research on the causes and consequences of poverty and provide mentoring and training to young scholars. The National Poverty Center is charged with promoting high-quality research on the causes and consequences of poverty, evaluating and analyzing policies to alleviate poverty, and training the next generation of poverty researchers."

### [Office of Income Maintenance](#)

Part of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, "the Office of Income Maintenance is responsible for the administration of the Temporary Assistance for

Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance program, Medicaid/Medical Assistance (MA), food stamps, child support, home heating assistance (LIHEAP program) and employment and training services. These programs are provided through County Assistance Offices, which are located across Pennsylvania."

#### [Poverty Guidelines, Research, and Measurement](#)

From the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

#### [PovertyNet](#)

From the World Bank, "PovertyNet provides an introduction to key issues as well as in-depth information on poverty measurement, monitoring, analysis, and on poverty reduction strategies for researchers and practitioners."

#### [Rural Poverty Research Center](#)

This center's mission is "to examine both the causes and consequences of poverty in rural areas and the factors affecting the success of policies to improve the self-sufficiency and well-being of low income workers and families in rural America."

Founded in 2002 as part of the [Rural Policy Research Institute \(RUPRI\)](#).

#### [University of Kentucky Poverty Research Center](#)

"The University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research (UKCPR) was established in October, 2002 as one of three federally designated Area Poverty Research Centers with core funding from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services...The Center's research mission is a multidisciplinary approach to the causes, consequences, and correlates of poverty and inequality in the United States, with a special emphasis on the residents of the South."

#### [U.S. Census Bureau: Poverty](#)

Includes links to reports, briefs, and data on poverty, history of the poverty measure, poverty measurement studies, and links to related sites.

#### [West Coast Poverty Center](#)

"The West Coast Poverty Center at the University of Washington serves as a hub for research, education, and policy analysis leading to greater understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and effective approaches to reducing it in the west coast states. Funded in October of 2005, the Center is the newest of three regional poverty centers funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Education (OASPE)."

### **Pregnancy**

#### [Adolescent Reproductive Health](#)

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Reproductive Health site.

### [Faststats: Teen Births](#)

From the National Center for Health Statistics.

### [Guttmacher Institute](#)

"The Guttmacher Institute advances sexual and reproductive health worldwide through an interrelated program of social science research, public education and policy analysis."

### [Pennsylvania Coalition to Prevent Teen Pregnancy](#)

"The PCPTP Mission Statement is to provide statewide leadership on the issue of adolescent pregnancy prevention through advocacy, education and support for community efforts."

### [Planned Parenthood](#)

"Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) is the nation's leading women's health care provider, educator, and advocate, serving women, men, teens, and families. For more than 90 years, we've done more than any other organization in the United States to improve women's health and safety, prevent unintended pregnancies, and advance the right and ability of individuals and families to make informed and responsible choices."

### [Teenage Pregnancy](#)

Links to an overview, latest news, research, statistics, and more from MedlinePlus.

### [teenpregnancy.org: National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy](#)

"The National Campaign, founded in February 1996, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan initiative supported almost entirely by private donations. Our mission is to promote values, behavior and policies that reduce both teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among young adults. By increasing the proportion of children born into welcoming, intact families who are prepared to take on the demanding task of raising the next generation, our efforts will improve the well-being of children and strengthen the nation."

### [Unintended Pregnancy Prevention](#)

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Reproductive Health site.

## **Runaways**

### [National Center for Missing and Exploited Children](#)

"The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's® (NCMEC) mission is to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation; help find missing children; and assist victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families, and the professionals who serve them."

### [National Runaway Switchboard](#)

"The mission of the National Runaway Switchboard is to help keep America's runaway and at-risk youth safe and off the streets. The organization serves as the federally designated national communication system for runaway and homeless youth."

### [NCJRS: Missing Children](#)

Links to articles and other information from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

### [Team HOPE](#)

"The mission of Team HOPE is to assist families with missing children by offering counsel, resources, empowerment and emotional support from a trained volunteer, who has had or still has a missing child. We enhance the already-proven skills of our volunteers and provide them with the tools they need to assist families with missing children." Team HOPE is a part of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's Family Advocacy Division.

## **Veterans**

### [Disabled American Veterans](#)

"With more than 1.2 million members, Disabled American Veterans is an organization of disabled veterans who are focused on building better lives for disabled veterans and their families. The organization accomplishes this goal by providing free assistance to veterans in obtaining benefits and services earned through their military service. It is fully funded through its membership dues and public contributions. It is not a government agency and receives no government funds."

### [Institute of Medicine: Health of Veterans & Deployed Forces](#)

Although this site focuses mainly of the medical health of veterans, it does have information regarding issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder.

### [National Gulf War Resource Center](#)

"The National Gulf War Resource Center (NGWRC) is here to help veterans of recent and current wars and operations. We are an international coalition of advocates and organizations providing information, support and referrals for all those affected by the complexities of current and recent combat operations (1990 to current). We are focused on providing information about the following: Gulf War Illness; other toxin-induced illnesses; traumatic brain injury; and post traumatic stress disorder."

### [United States Department of Veterans Affairs](#)

"Our goal is to provide excellence in patient care, veterans' benefits and customer satisfaction."

### [Vietnam Veterans of America](#)



"Founded in 1978, Vietnam Veterans of America is the only national Vietnam veterans organization congressionally chartered and exclusively dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans and their families...VVA's goals are to promote and support the full range of issues important to Vietnam veterans, to create a new identity for this generation of veterans, and to change public perception of Vietnam veterans."

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## Research Tips

### Help! I need to find a book on my topic!

When looking for books, you may need to broaden or narrow your search terms. For example, instead of searching "teen pregnancy" try "adolescence" or "birth control".

Click on the  button next to the record of each book you find and then on the  tab to view subject headings for that book. Clicking on any of these links may lead you to other items in our collection.

### Help! I can't find any books on my topic!

Use [WorldCat](#) to find books and other materials held by libraries around the world. If you find one the Madigan Library does not own, simply click the "Borrow from another library" link to request a copy from one of the libraries that owns it.

### Help! I need journal articles on my topic!

Using one of the following databases, search for your subject the same way you did for books in the Library's catalog. Remember to use the "advanced search" feature, when possible.

### [Contemporary Women's Issues](#)

Covers over 1,500 sources (periodical and non-periodical) published by more than 100 organizations around the world. Focuses on timely and relevant topics and meaningful issues for women, including health, human rights, the work place, legal status, and more.

### [PsycINFO](#)

Psychology and related fields since 1806. Includes international material selected from periodicals written in over 25 languages, as well as current chapters and books.

### [ProQuest Research Library](#)

Search for coverage of a broad range of subjects including arts, business, children, education, general interest, health, humanities, international, law, military, multicultural, psychology, sciences, social sciences, and women's interests.

### **Away from campus?**

You can use these databases at home with a computer connected to the Internet and your network ID and password.

### **Help! Which database is the best one for the research I'm doing?**

Try the library's [list of databases by subject](#). If this does not help, the library's [Ask A Madigan Librarian](#) offers assistance via e-mail and live chat. We can recommend databases that are appropriate for your topic and provide guidance for more effectively searching the Internet and the databases on our Web site.

### **Help! The library doesn't have what I need!**

Locate the full-text of an article you found cited in a database by clicking on the LinkSource icon, or browse/search the journal title in [Journal Locator](#).

Still can't find it? Our [Document Delivery and Resource Sharing](#) service makes getting those far away resources easy for you. It takes about 2 weeks for a book to arrive from another library; articles arrive in just a few days and are posted electronically.

To request an item our library does not own, simply login to/register for Illiad using the link below:

[Document Delivery Form](#)

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## **Controversial Social Issues**

Use the following Web sites to get ideas of what kinds of controversial social issues are present in today's society.

[dmoz Open Directory Project: Society: Issues](#)

[Google: Society: Issues](#)

From the Google Directory.

### [Hot Paper Topics](#)

List compiled by librarians at the St. Ambrose University Library.

### [Librarians' Internet Index: Society and Social Science: Social Issues](#)

LII is an annotated index of Web sites evaluated by librarians.

### [ProCon.org](#)

ProCon.org is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is "Promoting education and informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a simple, nonpartisan primarily pro-con format."

### [Public Agenda: Issue Guides](#)

"Public Agenda Issue Guides are used by journalists, policy makers, teachers, students and citizens who want to better understand controversial topics. Public Agenda Issue Guides provide facts and figures, different perspectives and analysis of public attitudes from surveys conducted by Public Agenda and by other respected polling and news organizations." Each issue has an overview of the topic, links to facts, discussion guides, and other resources to help you understand the issue, a public opinion section that includes people's main concerns, bills and proposals, red flags, and polling organizations, and links to additional resources, such as news articles.

### [Social Issues](#)

Although geared at middle and high school students in the Multnomah County Library System, this site has a nice list of topics, as well as links to reputable Web sites. A [similar Web site](#) is also available from the King County Library System.

### [Yahoo! Society and Culture: Issues and Causes](#)

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### **Questions or comments**

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