

## What are the Key Benefits?

<b>Editorial Selection</b>	Unlike mechanically compiled sources, SIRS Issues Researcher has a dedicated editorial team monitoring the issues and selecting the best content, ensuring the most balanced and current collection of viewpoints.
<b>Currency</b>	'Real-time' editorial review of evolving issues provides currency only available from a native digital source. <i>Today's News</i> feature delivers video and articles, updated every few minutes.
<b>Develops Critical Thinking</b>	SIRS editors construct a concise overview which helps students build solid foundations for understanding. Expand on each issue through engaging Essential Questions with answers and viewpoint articles that guide critical thinking and analysis.
<b>Promotes Media &amp; Information Literacy</b>	SIRS Issues Researcher is the <i>only</i> Social Issues resource to combine the best of editorialized content with a variety of print and multimedia sources.
<b>Supports Curriculum</b>	SIRS Issues Researcher enables differentiated instruction through 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Framework topics by supporting student success with graduated content and interactive research tools.

## Why SIRS Issues Researcher over Competitors?

SIRS At a Glance	Unique Differentiators
<p><b>CONTENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% Full-Text w/ Editorial Summaries &amp; Lexile Reading levels</li> <li>• 320+ Leading Issues</li> <li>• 2,000+ Sources most as text+graphics</li> <li>• 350+ International Sources</li> <li>• 200+ Available in PDF</li> <li>• 80,000+ Subjects hand-indexed to LoC</li> <li>• 88,000+ total Documents</li> <li>• 15,000+ Websites</li> <li>• 24,000+ high quality graphics &amp; charts</li> <li>• 2000+ Viewpoint articles</li> <li>• 500+ Political Cartoons</li> <li>• 3000+ Interactives, maps, timelines &amp; primary sources</li> </ul> <p><b>FEATURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Top 10' Leading Issues</li> <li>• Today's News with Video</li> <li>• Focus on Terrorism</li> <li>• Natural Disasters</li> <li>• Curriculum Pathfinders</li> <li>• Spotlight Topics</li> <li>• Article Text to Speech</li> <li>• Language Translation</li> <li>• Note Organizer</li> <li>• Visual Browse</li> <li>• iTHINK Skills Tutor</li> <li>• Standards Alignment</li> <li>• Free Online Training</li> <li>• Lesson Plans &amp; Newsletters</li> </ul>	<p>SIRS is truly different than any other provider. As the <i>only resource</i> for materials targeted to student research which are hand-selected and indexed from over 1,900 varied high-quality sources <i>from around the world</i>, SIRS provides the currency and broad current events coverage of aggregation supporting student research needs. <i>Plus</i>, with editorialized content available in every Leading Issue, SIRS rivals the editorial context of reference works and the interactivity of multimedia encyclopedias – all in one!</p> <p><b>SIRS vs. Aggregators</b> – SIRS saves time by highlighting only the best content spanning the “whats” to “whys” of an issue. Plus, with more varied sources, SIRS editors can cover all the angles, moving beyond just the basic coverage. Editorial selection guarantees more quality photos, videos, illustrations, graphs and charts -- plus, continually monitored Websites need no disclaimers regarding potential content.</p> <p><b>SIRS vs. Reference Works</b> — SIRS issues browse tools and editorially written overviews help students select and frame a Leading Issue topic without hours and pages worth of reading as occurs with many reference books. Essential Questions with answers and viewpoint articles expand upon the background information, giving students solid scaffoldings for research. With the added benefit of new content added daily, students can keep up with current events and continually changing issues that book publishing schedules simply can't accommodate.</p> <p><b>SIRS vs. Encyclopedias</b> — SIRS covers all sides of an issue by providing content top-notch content from sources such as <i>New York Times</i>, <i>Christian Science Monitor</i> and <i>Supreme Court of the United States: A Student Companion</i>. Students go beyond just the facts and figures as they learn to separate fact from opinion, analyze editorial cartoons, and form and support their own opinions.</p> <div data-bbox="1120 766 1502 1312" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>YOUR 'TOP 10'</b> <b>PRO vs. CON</b> LEADING ISSUES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  Latest Articles             Top 10 RSS Feed       </p> </div>

## Questions to Ask Before Investing:

<b>Teacher</b>	Is it important that students have access to the very best resources from a variety of sources?
<b>Principal</b>	Does preparing students to think critically enhance their future chances at academic success?
<b>Ed Technology</b>	Are you comfortable with other resources that have disclaimers about their Web content?
<b>Media Specialist</b>	Does high-value multimedia, including video, graphics and charts, promote media literacy?