

Narrowing Your Topic

Go to Opposing Viewpoints Research Center (Library Database Page)

Click “Sex Education” for your topic

You will see 90 viewpoint essays. That is too broad. There is too much information.

Start scanning through the titles of the viewpoint essays to get an idea about a narrower topic with greater focus.

As you scan, you will see some of the issues:

- Teen Pregnancy
- Abstinence-Only Programs
- What to Teach
- AIDS

To narrow the topic, go to advanced search. In the first keyword slot, type “sex education.” In the second keyword slot, type “abstinence-only.” Now there are 48 essays. scan and decide whether you can narrow the topic more.

To narrow the topic, go to advanced search. In the first keyword slot, type “sex education.” In the second keyword slot, type “abstinence-only.” In the third keyword slot, type “teen pregnancy.” The result – seven (7) viewpoint essays. Select two with opposing viewpoints – one essay that says abstinence-only programs reduce teen pregnancy – another essay that says abstinence-only programs increase teen pregnancy. (You are going to have to scan/read several essays before you select the two you will use.)