

# Persuasive topics to research:

## I. Research on the Teenage Brain

- Does video violence affect the teenage brain?
- Intelligence depends on environmental factors, not genetic factors.

## II. Physical Education and Sports

- Should physical education be mandatory for all students every day of the school week?
- Should students on sports teams be required to carry a certain grade point average [GPA] in order to play?
- Should coaches be required to give equal playing time to athletes at the secondary school level regardless of skills (middle and high school)?
- Are spectator sports overemphasized in America today?
- Should athletes who have taken performance enhancing drugs be admitted into the Hall of Fame?

## III. *Chew on This*: The Obesity Epidemic

- Do School Cafeterias Contribute to the Rise in Childhood Obesity?
- Can the growing problem of obesity in the US be reversed?
- Are Diet Companies in the Business to Help People or to Make a Profit?
- Are Low-Fat Foods the Healthier Alternatives?
- Should Sodas and Sugary Snacks be Sold in Vending Machines at Schools and Bake Sales be Banned?

#### IV. National Security and Civil Liberties

- Should all foreigners entering the US be required to leave 2 finger prints and digital photographs of themselves?
- Should a wall be built between Canada and the US and Mexico and the US to keep out all suspected terrorists entering the US illegally?

#### V. The First Amendment

- Controversial T-Shirts – If a student wears a controversial T-shirt, does the school board have the right to ban offensive and controversial clothing or does the student have the right to wear it under the first amendment?
- Cyber Bullying Statutes – If a student is bullying someone do they have the right to claim they have freedom of speech to say what they wanted?

#### VI. Technology and Education

- Are desktop computer outdated?
- Are computer labs unnecessary in schools today?
- Should students be allowed to use mobile devices in class?

#### VII. School & Educational Issues

- Students should be required to wear school uniforms.
- It should be mandatory that no teacher assign homework over the weekend.
- Video cameras should be put into all classrooms to record student and teacher interactions at all times.
- Foreign Language should not be mandatory.
- Armed police guards and metal detectors should be installed in every school.