Finding the Latest **PRO vs. CON** Issues using the *SIRS Issues Researcher*, part of the *SIRS Knowledge Source* database

*The SIRS Knowledge Source* is an excellent database to use for research projects about current issues. Use the new *SIRS Issues Researcher*, which will guide you through your research.

Click on the red link for *SIRS Issues Researcher*, shown circled below …

Choose any **link**, like *Affirmative Action* shown below, or type a topic in the **Search** box…
After you click on a link, you will see the following to guide your research…

- a **Topic Overview** (in the orange box below) which will explain the main points of your chosen issue
- the **Essential Question** (in the blue box below) which will help you formulate your thesis statement
- links to Pro (Yes) and Con (No) overview essays (in the green box below) which will help you understand both sides of your issue
- a list of **additional articles** to read (in the purple box below) sorted by date

Under the Topic Overview, you will find extremely helpful icons…

- the **Timeline** icon provides a timeline of your chosen issues
- the **Global Impact** icon provides articles which demonstrate the impact of your chosen issue around the world
- the **Statistics** icon provides charts and graphs
- the **Research Guides** icon provides help with writing reports, term papers, and PowerPoint presentations
- the **Note Organizer** icon is an *Inspiration*-like wizard

Examples of these resources follow on the next pages…
This is an example of the **Timeline** icon results...

### Affirmative Action Timeline

**Background**

Affirmative action is designed to promote access to opportunities in education, employment, housing, and government contracts among certain designated groups, such as women and minorities. The modern concept of affirmative action can be traced back to World War II. In 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802 (E.O. 8802) to bar defense contractors from engaging in racial discrimination. E.O. 8802 also created a Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) to investigate and deal with alleged employment discrimination. During its five-year existence, FEPC investigated more than 14,000 complaints of discrimination. However, since the FEPC lacked any real enforcement power, it could not compel compliance by employers.

**1961**

President John F. Kennedy uses the term affirmative action in E.O. 10925, an order requiring federal contractors to pledge nondiscrimination and ensure equal opportunity. Noncompliance of E.O. 10925 can result in penalties, such as the suspension of a contract.

**1962**

News: The Southern Christian Leadership Conference begins Operation Breadbasket in Atlanta, Georgia. This Operation, which spreads across the country, involves targeting local businesses and threatening boycotts unless more African Americans are hired.

**1963**

The National Urban League introduces a 10 point integration plan to close the gap between African Americans and whites. Two of the points

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This is an example of the **Global Impact** icon results...

### Civil Rights: Global Impact

#### INTERNATIONAL

Civil Liberties Have Yet to Alleviate the World’s Misery

Author Francesca Kug comments on the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reflects on its significance and influence around the world.

#### UNITED KINGDOM

Gay Judge Shatters ‘Pink Glass Ceiling’

This article profiles the career of Sir Terence Etchells, who will become the first openly gay judge to win a place on the Bench of the Court of Appeal in Great Britain.

#### UNITED STATES

US Endorses UN Gay Rights Text

This article highlights the Obama Administration’s decision to join 66 United Nation member states in the fight to help protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered individuals.

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**Matching Subjects**: (2 results)

**All source types**: (22 results)

- Newspapers (12 results)
- Magazines (4 results)
- Viewpoints (2 results)
- Reference (2 results)
- Graphics/Media (8 results)
This is an example of the **Statistics** icon results...

![Statistics icon results](image)

This is an example of the **Note Organizer**. It works similar to **Inspiration**.

![Note Organizer](image)