Library Research for Argumentative/Persuasive Essay

EN101 – C. Cook

Your librarian today is:
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Course Guide
The following instructions will show you how to access the course guide created for your class. The guide is a collection of useful resources you can use throughout the research process including links to databases, the MVCC Library catalog, research guides, and my contact information.

1. Go to the MVCC Library website
   - Go to the Current Students menu and click on the button for Libraries
   - OR
   - Enter mvcc.edu/library in the web browser’s URL address bar

2. On the MVCC Library website, click on the tab for Research Guides.

3. From Research Guides, click the drop-down arrow under Spring 2019 Course Guides to choose a course. Select English Courses. Click the Go button.

4. Hover your mouse over EN101 and click C. Cook.
Databases
MVCC Library subscribes to over a hundred databases that hold thousands of written articles. Each database specializes in a particular subject. Articles can be from multiple sources including newspapers, magazines, encyclopedias, or scholarly journals.

Tip! Don’t just focus on one database. Different databases are going to provide access to different journals. If you use only one database, you are missing out on a lot of good information that will help your research.

Best databases for background information and pro/con discussions:

- CQ Researcher
- Issues & Controversies
- Opposing Viewpoints in Context
- Points of View Reference Center

Databases to use once you have a narrower topic:

- Academic OneFile
- Academic Search Complete
- databases relevant to the subject area of your particular topic
To access databases:

1. Go to the MVCC Library website

2. On the MVCC Library website, click on the tab for Databases

3. Choose a database.
   - Click on the dropdown menu to find databases relevant to your topic
     OR
   - If you know which database you want to use, choose it from the alphabetical list
Using *Opposing Viewpoints in Context* database
This is a great database to use for forming your ideas and narrowing down the scope of your research topic.

If you’re not sure what to search for or what keywords to use, click on the button to browse a list of subject areas.

Otherwise, try using keywords to search for a topic:

1. Type your keywords into the search box. Like a Google search, a dropdown list of suggestions will appear.

2. Click on the magnifying glass or press the Enter key to execute your search.

3. You may see a list of results featuring articles OR you may see a topic page created for many popular, current topics. This page provides an overview of the topic and you can select to view different viewpoints on the topic from a number of different types of sources including journals, newspapers, videos, audio clips, etc.

**Assisted Suicide**

In the context of health care, physician-assisted suicide denotes an established process guided by strict legal requirements in which a terminally ill patient requests and receives lethal doses of medication. More generally, the term assisted suicide may refer to any circumstance in which a person intentionally provides someone with the means to end his or her life. The process of euthanasia requires active involvement in administering a life-ending intervention. While physician-assisted suicide is permitted in some US jurisdictions, euthanasia is considered a form of homicide and remains uniformly illegal in the United States. In states that allow physician-assisted suicide, patients must meet certain requirements to be eligible and must take certain steps to complete the process, including submitting multiple requests...
4. To read or view any of the items listed on the page, click on the title. The full text of the article will appear along with related subject terms, citation and publication information, and various options to save or print the information.

How does assisting with suicide affect physicians?

Full Text:

“Physicians who carry out assisted suicide have a wide variety of emotional and psychological responses.”

Ronald W. Pies is a professor of psychiatry affiliated with the State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York, and the Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts. He is the author of several books, including The Difficult-to-Treat Psychiatric Patient. In the following viewpoint, Pies argues that many health care providers have reservations about performing physician-assisted suicide, including health care providers who generally support a patient’s right to die. Citing his own experiences as both a physician and a family member who has watched relatives suffer, the author acknowledges the desire to end the suffering of a patient or loved one. He maintains, however, that participating in a patient’s suicide contradicts the physician’s primary function of preserving life. Noting the experiences of doctors in areas where physician-assisted suicide and other controversial dying options are permissible, Pies cautions that requiring doctors to provide such services can affect doctors’ mental health negatively.

As you read, consider the following questions:

1. What distinctions does Pies make between physician-assisted suicide laws in the United States and legislation in other countries that allows doctors to aid in patients’ deaths?
2. If a medical procedure is legal, do you think a doctor should be able to refuse a patient’s request based solely on moral objections? Why or why not?
3. Using examples from the article and your own experiences, in what ways do you think the physicians’ duty to preserve life is similar to and different from the physician’s promise to do no harm?

Options to cite, print, email, download

Related subject terms – you can use these in a search to find additional relevant titles!
Using *Academic Search Complete* database

1. Type your keywords in the search box. Just like in a Google search, the database will give you a drop-down list of suggestions.

2. Click the Search button.

3. A list of articles will appear. If no results appear, check your spelling or change your search terms.

4. If you have too many results, there are multiple useful options for trimming down the list to those that are most relevant.

5. Scroll through your results. To see a summary (or abstract) of an article, click on the blue title.
6. A detailed record of the article will appear. To view the full article, click on the “PDF Full Text” link.

    [Image]

Click to view the full article

THE ETHICAL LANDSCAPE OF **ASSISTED SUICIDE**: A BALANCED ANALYSIS.

**Authors:** SULLIVAN, DENNIS M. 1
TAYLOR, ROBERT M. 2


**Document Type:** Article

**Subject Terms:**
- ASSISTED suicide
- PUBLIC opinion on assisted suicide
- EUTHANASIA
- BINDER, Peter
- FINLAY, Ilera
- SOLOMON, Andrew

**Abstract:**
The article discusses the ethical issues involving physician-assisted suicide. Also cited are the arguments of professors Peter Singer and Andrew Solomon in favor of the legalization of assisted suicide, the position by Baroness Ilera Finlay and Professor Daniel Callanan against the issue, as well as the classical principles of medical ethics as listed in the “Principles of Biomedical Ethics” (7th edition) by T. L. Beauchamp and J. F. Childress.

Assigned subject terms – you can use these terms to find similar articles

Summary of article

7. If you want to print an article, click on the print icon inside the article and not on the outside.

    [Image]

Click to download

Click to print

Don’t click here to print

Click to email the article

Create a citation
**Library Catalog**

The MVCC Library holds tens of thousands of items on its shelves. These materials include books and DVDs, many of which can be checked out of the library.

To use the catalog:

1. Go to the MVCC Library website.

2. On the MVCC Library website, click on the tab for Library Catalog.

3. Enter search terms in the search box.
   - The catalog’s search engine is NOT intuitive. If your search returns zero results, check your spelling!
   - When searching for materials on a topic, your best bets for search type are “All Fields” or “Words in Subject”
   - Use the words adjacent option if your search terms should appear next to each other.

**Useful if your search phrase contains more than one word**
4. The results page will appear with a list of items located in either the Utica or Rome campus library. If you find an item you need that is located in the Utica campus library, go to the front desk and request it be sent to the Rome campus library. (And vice versa!)

- To locate a book in the library, write down the call number and title. The call number is the address of the item. A librarian is always happy to help you locate books. The Copies Owned/Out column will tell you if someone else has the item checked out and which campus library owns it.

**Search tips:**

**Boolean operators** help to narrow or broaden your search. The most useful logical connectors are **AND**, **OR**, **NOT**.

- **OR** finds records containing either one or both terms. This broadens the search. It can also be used to account for variant spellings. For example: assisted suicide OR euthanasia; United States OR America
- **AND** finds records containing both terms. This narrows the search. For example: assisted suicide AND cancer patients
- **NOT** finds records containing the first term, but not the second term. This narrows the search. For example: assisted suicide NOT law

Find out if the Utica or Rome campus library owns the book, and if it’s on the shelf.

(1/1) Means someone has the only copy checked out.
(1/0) Means one copy is owned and it’s on the shelf.