**Database: Opposing Viewpoints**

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**Why do I like Opposing Viewpoints?**

Opposing Viewpoints is an easy to use one stop shop for information that pertains to political issues. It provides both sides of an argument (hence the name for the database Opposing Viewpoints) together on the page in a section they refer to as “viewpoints in context”. This section allows one to quickly see what the arguments for opposing sides are, and after reading through this portion then I am then able to look at scholarly articles or current news articles to look at an issue from different sources. A feature that I appreciate is the content rating system that is in the data base. As can be seen below there is a code using colored shapes next to the title of the document rating the level of content within.

![Viewpoints in Context](image)

The code goes as follows: green circle demarks the easiest content, the orange square means there is an intermediate level, and the red triangle is a warning that there is a high level of content and literacy needed to understand what is being presented in the article.

**How have I used Opposing Viewpoints?**

During this year’s political turmoil I’ve used the database to help me keep informed on important issues such as immigration. As I mentioned above it acts as a one stop shop where I can take a quick look at the Viewpoints in Context before moving on to primary sources, videos, or just regular news articles from sources like the New York Times.

**How can I use Opposing Viewpoints?**

This database definitely has potential in politically focused classes. It provides summaries of multiple viewpoints for the same issue allowing me to quickly research the opposition’s position for projects getting an idea of what they stand for and why. At the same time I am reading the summary of a viewpoint the database points me in the direction of more in depth and scholarly articles about the same topic, or a set of statistics for the information that I just read. This progression of being able to move from an informed summary to an academic article or a set of data allows me to build a comprehensive view on a topic quickly.