

## CQ Researcher

Help! You have a report due soon and have no idea what topic to choose, where to begin, or how to proceed. “Such a deal” your friendly library ladies have for you! Show your instructor that you have a high IQ by thinking “CQ”.

The **CQ Researcher** database (a division of Congressional Quarterly, Inc. – thus the name CQ)) provides original, comprehensive reporting and analysis on current issues in the news. Issues covered in CQ include health, social trends, criminal justice, international affairs, education, and the environment. Each CQ report provides researchers with an introductory overview, the historical background, and a careful chronology of the topic. Then, CQ researchers provide an assessment of the current situation, tables and maps, bibliographic sources, and even pro/con statements from representatives of opposing positions on the subject. All you have to do is analyze and summarize this wisdom in your own, inimitable words, and the “A” is on the way.

Check out **CQ’s** home page to see a list of their **Recent Reports** which this month includes “Ecotourism”, “Voting Controversies” and “Biofuels Boom”. Click on the **In the News** link if you’re looking for a timely topic and want updates on issues covered in recent CQ reports. The **Browse By Topic** link is a great place to start if you have a topic, but need to narrow the focus of your report. For example, if you are interested in doing a report on Education you could click on the topic “Education” and link to reports dealing with such education issues as Bilingual and Multicultural Education, College Financing and Funding and Students and Social Life. If you already have a topic and some keywords in mind use the **Quick Search** feature.

CQ Researcher not only provides you with great reports for your research, but it also has a feature that gives you the information you need to cite those reports in the format of your choice: APA, MLA, Chicago or Bluebook. Simply click on the “Cite Now!” link and choose the style you want. Keep in mind that the format your instructor requires may differ slightly from what you’ll find in the database, but all the information you need for a citation will be available.

Don’t forget that if you want to use CQ Researcher when you’re not on a campus computer, you’ll need to locate the password by logging into Hawknet just as you do to check for grades or register for a class. Look for the “database password” link under Library Resources.

When you get your “A,” you do not have to tell your instructor that you got this hot tip from your friendly library ladies. Let’s make it our little secret!

Your Library – Don’t Do College Without It