# Contemporary Issues & Faith Traditions

## Subject Terms to Use in APOLIS2

### Religions and Denominations

- Adventists
- Anabaptists
- Anglican
- Assemblies of God
- Brethren
- Buddhist
- Catholic
- Congregational
- Episcopal
- Islam
- Judaism
- Lutheran
- Mennonites
- Methodist or Methodists
- Mormon
- Orthodox Eastern
- Pentecostal
- Presbyterian
- Reformed
- Wesleyan

### Contemporary Issues

- Abortion
- Artificial Insemination, Human
- Bioethics
- Biotechnology
- Birth Control
- Christian Ethics
- Drug Abuse
- Embryonic Stem Cells
- Genetic Engineering
- Human Cloning
- Human Genetics
- Human Reproductive Technology
- Medical Ethics
- Religion and Science
- Sexual Ethics
- Single Parents
- Substance Abuse
- Teenage Pregnancy

- Click on the “Subject” tab in the APOLIS2 catalog (via the library website), enter in any of the above terms, and click on “Submit Search.”
- Click on the subject heading of interest to get the titles for that subject.
- Look for doctrinal and/or theological works --- these might include mention of various contemporary issues.

Two good series are: Churches Speak On: ________

Health and Medicine in the ________ Tradition

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Reference Resource

The Brethren Encyclopedia
BX7821.2 .B74 1983 vs. 1-3

The Complete Book of Everyday Christianity
Robert Banks & R. Paul Stevens, eds.
Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1997
BV4501.2 .C6457 1997

Contemporary American Religion
Wade Clark Roof, ed.
New York: Macmillan Reference USA, 2000
BL2525 .C65 2000 vs. 1-2

The Encyclopedia of American Religions
J. Gordon Melton
Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research Co., 1987
BL2530.U6 M443 1987

Encyclopedia of American Women and Religion
June Melby Benowitz
Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 1998
BL2525 .B45 1998

Encyclopedia of Buddhism
Robert E. Buswell, Jr., ed.
New York: Macmillan Reference USA/Thomson/Gale, 2004
BQ128 .E62 2004 vs. 1-2

Encyclopedia of Religion in American Politics
Jeffrey D. Schultz, John G. West, Jr., and Iain Maclean, eds.
Phoenix, Ariz.: Oryx Press, 1999
BL2525 .E53 1999

The Encyclopedia of the Lutheran Church
Julius Bodensieck, ed.
Minneapolis: Augsburg Pub. House, 1965
BX8007 .B6 1965 vs. 1-3

Encyclopedia of Women and World Religion
Serinity Young, ed.
New York: Macmillan Reference, 1999
BL458 .E53 1999 vs. 1-2
New Catholic Encyclopedia
Editorial Staff at the Catholic University of America
New York: McGraw-Hill, 1967-
BX841 .N44 1967 vs. 1-18

New Dictionary of Theology
Sinclair B. Ferguson, David F. Wright, eds.
Downers Grove, Ill.: Inter-Varsity Press, 1988
BR95 .N38 1988

The New Encyclopedia of Judaism
Geoffrey Wigoder, Fred Skolnik and Shmuel Himelstein, eds.
BM50 .E63 2002

Internet Resources

Association of Religion Data Archives: American Denominations
http://www.thearda.com/Denoms/Families/

Declarations and Policy Statements on HIV/AIDS by Churches and Faith-based Organizations from 2001 to 2005
http://wcc-coe.org/wcc/what/mission/hiv-aids-statements01-05.html

Official Statements or Documents on Bioethics and Biotechnology (as of April 2004)

Religious Tolerance: Abortion
http://www.religioustolerance.org/abo_hist1.htm

Religious Tolerance: Human Cloning
http://www.religioustolerance.org/clo_reac.htm

Religious Tolerance: Survey of Teachings by Faith Groups on Human Sexuality
http://www.religioustolerance.org/sex_chur.htm

Another way to find denomination-specific information on particular issues is to find the “official” website of the denomination, and then search the site for position statements.

Follow these steps:
- Use Google or any search engine to find the denominational website.
- First, browse the site to see if it has a section on positional statements.
- If you can’t find an obvious section containing the positional information, then use the site search (if it has one) --- in the search box, enter in one or two-word terms, like “abortion,” or “stem cell.”
Journal Articles

Look for journal articles by using the following databases (via the library website):

- Academic Search Elite
- ATLA Religion Database
- Catholic Periodical & Literature Index
- CQ Researcher
- Index to Jewish Periodicals
- OmniFile Full Text Mega
- ProQuest Religion
- ProQuest Research Library
- SocINDEX with Full Text

- Enter a denomination or religion term in the first box.
  - SEARCH TIP: Use an asterisk (*) for variations.
    - Instead of “Methodist,” enter “methodis*” --- this will give you results that include either “Methodism,” or “Methodist,” or both.
- Enter the issue of interest in the next box.

Resources in Other Libraries

If you need a book that isn’t in any of our APU libraries, check the LINK+ catalog (via the library website). This is a catalog for 40+ libraries in California. Requests are free, and items will be delivered within 2-3 business days. You cannot request journal article through LINK+.

If you’re not finding enough books on your topic, then be sure to use the WorldCat database (via the library website). This is essentially one catalog for hundreds of public and academic libraries in North America and worldwide. Use the same subject terms that you used in APOLIS2. When you find something you would like to request, either use the request forms that are integrated with the database (look for the icon), or use the generic request form on the library website. This is the Interlibrary Loan service. Items will come within 7-10 business days, and each request will cost $2.00.

Interlibrary Loan forms can also be used when you find journal articles that you’d like, and the full-text is not available in any of our databases or in print.