   Does buying slaves in order to free them solve the problem? 29
   Is the Trafficking Victims Protection Act tough enough? 31
   Should most forms of child labor be eliminated? 32
   Background
   Ancient Practice 33
   Slavery Goes Global 35
   Outlawing Slavery 38
   Current Situation 38
   Human Trafficking 38
   Slavery and Forced Labor 42
   Outlook 43
   Impact of Globalization 43
   Notes 43
   Bibliography 44

   Should employers be penalized for hiring illegal immigrants? 50
   Can guest worker programs be fixed? 52
Should illegal immigrants be allowed to attend public colleges and universities? 5

4. Racial Diversity in Public Schools: Has the Supreme Court Dealt a Blow to Integration? 71
   Should school systems promote racial diversity in individual schools? 75
   Should school systems seek to promote socioeconomic integration in individual schools? 76
   Is the focus on diversity interfering with efforts to improve education in all schools? 79

5. Reparations Movement: Should Payments Be Made for Historical Wrongs? 95
   Should the United States pay reparations to African-American descendants of slaves? 98
   Have efforts to collect reparations for Holocaust victims gone too far? 100
   Does putting a price tag on suffering diminish that suffering? 102

6. American Indians: Are They Making Meaningful Progress at Last? 117
   Is the federal government neglecting Native Americans? 120
   Have casinos benefited Indians? 122
   Would money alone solve American Indians’ problems? 123

7. America’s Border Fence: Will It Stem the Flow of Illegal Immigrants? 141
   Can a border fence stem the flow of illegal immigrants? 145
   Would blocking all illegal immigrants hurt or benefit the U.S. economy? 146
   Does the fence harm U.S relations with Mexico and other countries? 148
8. China in Africa: Is China Gaining Control of Africa’s Resources?

Is China benefiting Africa’s economy?

Do China’s policies threaten human rights in Africa?

Are China and the West headed for a showdown over Africa’s natural resources?

Background

Breaking Colonial Ties

Colonialism’s Legacy

China’s Return

Resource Envy

Current Situation

Communism to Capitalism

Africa Reacts

Competition Heats Up

Outlook

Belle of the Ball

Notes

Bibliography

Notes

Bibliography

9. Anti-Semitism in Europe: Are Israel’s Policies Spurring a New Wave of Hate Crimes?

Is anti-Semitism on the rise in Europe?

Is anti-Zionism a cover-up for anti-Semitism?

Is anti-Semitism as severe as racial discrimination against other minorities in Europe?

Background

‘Blood Libel’ Slander

10. Anti-Americanism: Is Anger at the U.S. Growing?

Is the United States the primary force behind globalization policies that harm other countries?

Is the United States threatening other cultures?

Is the “American Century” over?

Background

The Ungrateful Son

Religious Differences

Foreign Affairs Bully?

American Exceptionalism

Current Situation

Missteps and Failures

Support for Israel

A Good Neighbor?

Missed Opportunities

Outlook

Lasting Damage?

Notes

Bibliography

11. Crisis in Darfur: Is There Any Hope for Peace?

Has genocide occurred in Darfur?

Would arresting Sudanese President Bashir do more harm than good?

Is China blocking peace in Darfur?

Background

Ostrich Feathers, Ivory and Slaves
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independence and Instability</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another Civil War</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darfur Erupts</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Situation</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicting Bashir</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Betrayal</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Impossible?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlook</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bleak Future</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. The Obama Presidency: Can Barack Obama Deliver the Change He Promises?  
   
   Is President Obama on the right track in fixing the U.S. economy?  
   280  
   Is President Obama on the right track in Iraq and Afghanistan?  
   281  
   Is President Obama on the right track in winning support for his programs in Congress?  
   287  
   Background                                           289  
   ‘A Mutt, Like Me’                                     289  
   Red, Blue and Purple                                  294  
   ‘Yes, We Can’                                        295  
   A Team of Centrists?                                  300  
   Current Situation                                    301  
   Moving Quickly                                       301  
   Working With Congress                                 304  
   Outlook                                              305  
   Peril and Promise                                     305  
   Notes                                                 307  
   Bibliography                                          307  

13. Middle-Class Squeeze: Is More Government Aid Needed?  
   
   Is a stable middle class a thing of the past?  
   314  
   Is overconsumption at the root of the middle class’ problems?  
   315  
   Are aggressive new government programs needed to bolster the middle class?  
   317  
   Background                                           318  
   Evolving Concept                                     318  
   Downward Slide                                       320  
   Impact of Globalization                               323  
   Current Situation                                    326  
   Narrowing the Gap                                     326  
   Cash-Strapped States                                 328  
   Outlook                                              329  
   Silver Lining?                                       329  
   Notes                                                 330  
   Bibliography                                          333  

   
   Has globalization been good for women?  
   340  
   Should governments impose electoral quotas for women?  
   342  
   Do international treaties improve women’s rights?  
   346  
   Background                                           348  
   ‘Structural Defects’                                  348  
   Push for Protections                                  348  
   Women’s ‘Bill of Rights’                             349  
   Beijing and Beyond                                   351  
   Current Situation                                    354  
   Rise of Fundamentalism                               354  
   Evolving Gender Policies                              355  
   Political Prospects                                  358  
   Impunity for Violence                                358  
   Outlook                                              359  
   Economic Integration                                 359  
   Notes                                                 361  
   Bibliography                                          366  

15. Gay Marriage Showdowns: Will Voters Bar Marriage for Same-Sex Couples?  
   
   Should same-sex couples be allowed to marry?  
   373  
   Should state constitutions prohibit marriage for same-sex couples?  
   375  
   Should states recognize same-sex marriages from other states?  
   376  
   Background                                           377  
   Coming Out                                           377  
   Debating Marriage                                    379  
   California Showdown                                  383  
   Current Situation                                    384  
   Gay Marriage Ban Trailering                          384  
   Marriage Cases Waiting                               387  
   Outlook                                              388  
   ‘It’s About Marriage’                                388  
   Notes                                                 389  
   Bibliography                                          390