

LexisNexis® Scholastic—Research Guides

Forensics Team Help: Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Table of Contents:

If you have trouble accessing the LexisNexis® Scholastic database, contact one of your school librarians. If they need to speak with someone at LexisNexis, please have them call 800.227.9597, ext. 54846.

LexisNexis Scholastic is an invaluable research tool for high school students. Whether you're a student looking up a legal case for a homework assignment, or a debate team member gathering news articles for your next competition—LexisNexis Scholastic is a go-to resource.

Look to these guides for insight on the best ways for forensics teams to use the Scholastic database. This guide, in particular, deals with the **Lincoln-Douglas Debate** event. For the research scenario, we will use the September/October Lincoln-Douglas debate topic from the National Forensic League, found at nationalforensicleague.org.

Resolved: The United States ought to extend to non-citizens accused of terrorism the same constitutional due process protections it grants to citizens.

The guide covers the following searches to gather evidence:

1. Browse the U.S. Constitution/ Federal & State Codes.
2. Use law reviews to provide evidence and quotes.
3. Find news editorials that contain affirmative and negative points.
4. Find Landmark Cases about due process.

LexisNexis® Scholastic—Research Guides

Forensics Team Help: Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Browse the US Constitution/Federal & State Code:

As your debate topic is directly relevant to a constitutional amendment, what better way to start your research than by going directly to the source: the U.S. Constitution. If you have a topic that is relevant to federal or state code, these are also browseable inside of Scholastic.

The screenshot shows the LexisNexis search interface. On the left is a navigation menu with 'Legal' selected. The main area is titled 'Federal Statutes, Codes & Regulations'. It features a search form with three rows for search criteria, each with a search box and a dropdown menu set to 'Everywhere'. A 'Search' button is to the right. Below the search form is a 'Select Source(s):' section with a list of sources: 'Annotated U.S. Code (USCS) (Browse)', 'Constitution of the United States (Browse)', 'Public Laws', 'CFR - Code of Federal Regulations (Browse)', and 'Federal Register'. The 'Constitution of the United States' source is checked. To the right is a 'Quick Find' search box and a list of search results. The results include 'CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA' with a tree view of articles and amendments. The 'AMENDMENTS' section is expanded, showing a list of amendments from 1 to 14. Red arrows and numbers 1-4 point to the 'Federal Statutes, Codes & Regulations' link, the 'Browse' link for the Constitution, the 'AMENDMENTS' section, and the 'AMENDMENT 5' and 'AMENDMENT 14' links respectively.

1. Click on the **Legal** section, then the **Federal Statutes, Codes & Regulations** search form.
2. Click the **Browse** link next to the Constitution of the United States.
3. The Table of Contents for the U.S. Constitution will appear. Scroll past the articles until you see the Amendment section. Click the **+ sign** to expand the section.
4. Click on the **Amendment 5** and **Amendment 14** links to read the two Constitutional amendments relevant to the subject of “due process.”

LexisNexis® Scholastic—Research Guides

Forensics Team Help: Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Use Law Reviews to Provide Evidence and Quotes:

Scholastic's large collection of law reviews will help you form positive and negative arguments by reading expert opinions from the legal world. These law reviews will usually help researchers understand the philosophical theory of the topic, so important in L-D debate.

The screenshot displays the LexisNexis search interface for US Law Reviews & Journals. On the left, a sidebar menu is visible with categories like 'General Searching', 'News', 'Legal', 'Legislation', 'Companies', 'Subject Areas', 'Sources', and 'Help & Instructions'. The 'Legal' section is expanded, and 'Law Reviews' is highlighted with a red arrow labeled '1.'. The main search area is titled 'US Law Reviews & Journals' and includes a disclaimer: 'Use of this service is subject to Terms and Conditions'. The search form contains three rows of search terms: 'terrorism', 'due process', and 'non-citizens', each with a dropdown menu set to 'Everywhere'. A red arrow labeled '2.' points to the search input fields. A red arrow labeled '3.' points to the 'Search' button. Below the search form, there is a 'Specify Date' dropdown set to 'All available dates' and a 'Limit To' section with a list of legal topics and checkboxes.

Limit To:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Banking Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Law
<input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy	<input type="checkbox"/> Immigration Law
<input type="checkbox"/> Civil Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Labor Law
<input type="checkbox"/> Constitutional Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Ethics
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Securities Law
<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports & Entertainment Law
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Tax Law

1. Click the **Legal** section, then the **Law Reviews** search form.
2. Type a **subject or phrase** to start your search. Choose relevant words and phrases like **“terrorism,” “due process,”** and **“non-citizens”** in this scenario.
3. Click the red **Search** button to run your search.

LexisNexis® Scholastic—Research Guides

Forensics Team Help: Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Find News Editorials:

News editorials will help debate team members form negative and affirmative arguments.

The screenshot shows the LexisNexis search interface. On the left is a navigation menu with categories like News, Legal, Legislation, Companies, Subject Areas, Sources, and Help & Instructions. The 'News' section is expanded, showing 'All News' (indicated by arrow 1), 'Newspapers & Wires', 'TV & Radio Transcripts', 'Foreign Language', and 'Business & Industry'. The main search area is titled 'All News' and includes a disclaimer: 'Use of this service is subject to Terms and Conditions'. The search form has three rows: the first row has 'terrorism' in the search box and 'Everywhere' in the location dropdown; the second row has 'And' in a dropdown, 'due process' in the search box, and 'Everywhere' in the location dropdown; the third row has 'And' in a dropdown and an empty search box with 'Everywhere' in the location dropdown. A red arrow (2) points to the search input fields. Below the search form is an 'Add Row' link. The 'Specify Date:' section has a dropdown menu set to 'All available dates' (indicated by arrow 3). The 'Select Source:' section has a 'By Type:' dropdown set to 'US Newspapers & Wires' (indicated by arrow 3) and an 'Or by Name:' text input field. Below this is a link to 'Find Sources or Browse Sources'. The 'Article Type:' section has a grid of checkboxes: 'Book Reviews', 'Movie Reviews', 'Music Reviews', 'Restaurant Reviews', 'Deaths & Obituaries', 'Editorials & Opinions' (checked, indicated by arrow 4), 'Interviews', and 'Letters & Comments'. A red arrow (5) points to the red 'Search' button in the top right corner of the search form.

1. After selecting **News**, click on **All News**.
2. Type a **subject or phrase** to start your search. Choose relevant words and phrases like **“terrorism”** and **“due process.”**
3. Change the sources to **US Newspapers & Wires**, since you want results specifically from the U.S.
4. Check the **“Editorials & Opinions”** box.
5. Click the red **Search** button to see your results list.

LexisNexis® Scholastic—Research Guides

Forensics Team Help: Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Find Landmark Cases about Due Process:

Insight from Landmark Supreme Court Cases can add weight to the resolution.

Check the Landmark Cases form for examples relevant to your topic.

Use of this service is subject to [Terms and Conditions](#)

Use the [Federal & State Cases](#) search form to locate cases not listed here.

Abortion & Birth Control

- 1965 [Griswold v. Connecticut](#), 381 U.S. 479
Defendants, a director of medical clinic and a doctor, challenged a decision from the Supreme Court of Errors of Connecticut, which convicted them of violating a state law that prohibited the dispensing or use of ...
- 1973 [Roe v. Wade](#), 410 U.S. 113
Plaintiffs, a pregnant single woman and a married couple, and intervenor physician sued defendant district attorney challenging the constitutionality of Texas abortion laws, and sought an injunction. The United ...
- 1989 [Webster v. Reproductive Health Services](#), 492 U.S. 490
Appellees, public health care officials and nonprofit corporations that performed abortions, filed a class action against appellant State of Missouri, which challenged the constitutionality of a Missouri statute ...
- 1992 [Planned Parenthood v. Casey](#), 505 U.S. 833
Petitioners, abortion clinics and physician, brought suit against respondents, the governor and others, seeking declaratory and injunctive relief from five provisions of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act of ...
- 2000 [Stenberg v. Carhart](#), 530 U.S. 914
In an action brought by plaintiff physician challenging the constitutionality of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-328 (Supp. 1999), which criminalizes performance of "partial birth abortions," the Court granted certiorari to ...
- 2007 [Gonzales v. Carhart](#), 550 U.S. 124
Petitioner, the United States Attorney General, sought certiorari review of judgments from the United States Courts of Appeals for the Eighth and Ninth Circuits affirming district court rulings in favor of ...

1. Click on the **Legal** section, then the **Landmark Cases** search form.
2. Scroll and browse through the list of Landmark Supreme Court Cases to see cases relevant to your topic. A **"Find"** (Ctrl+F) search might be useful here. **Ctrl+F** and searching **"due process"** found three examples of cases that were relevant to due process. Also, there is an entire section on Terrorism.