



# Science and Social Issues



## IN A NUTSHELL

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### SUBJECTS

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Economics  
Health  
Science  
Social Studies

This student textbook looks at the importance of science and technology in addressing a number of social issues. The social issues discussed in this book include euthanasia, hunger, pollution, genetic engineering, abortion, cigarette smoking, endangered species, energy resources, and human population. Each of the twelve chapters contains a brief introduction to the social issue in question, followed by case studies that demonstrate the influence of science on how the issue might be addressed. Each case study concludes with a questions for the students to ponder and a list of background readings. An assignment called "The Buck Stops Here," in which the student is called on to make a decision or develop a plan for addressing the issue, is also included. The text is illustrated with black and white photographs, diagrams and drawings. It includes an index and an appendix detailing the two sides of the evolution/creationism debate.

**Grade Level**  
9-12

**Length**  
236 pages

**Date Published**  
1992

THE BOTTOM  
LINE

"The case studies lend themselves to higher level critical and creative thinking and moral/ethical development."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Incorporates different viewpoints and encourages discussion of issues.	Text could go out of date quickly due to changing laws and discoveries. Some errors in dates were noted.
	Depth	Builds awareness of different issues.	No conceptual framework or outline. Devotes only one chapter to each complex issue.
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Engages higher level thinking skills and research abilities. Uses case studies to analyze issues.	
	Action Orientation	Helps students see relevance of issues to their own lives and develops a sense of personal efficacy.	Focus is not on taking action.
	Instructional Soundness	Material is interdisciplinary, drawing on history, literature and other subjects.	Material is text-heavy and primarily reading based.
	Usability		Teacher guide is only one page. Background readings not provided in text.

"Includes thought-provoking readings, case studies and discussion questions."

"Opportunities to engage in mature discussion and belief formulation permeate this guide."