

TTSO SUPPORTS STUDENT ACCESS TO **THE OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS** DATABASE THROUGH THE TROY LIBRARY WEBPAGE. By Marge Cargo (Librarian)

TTSO has provided, through the library, an important resource to our students this year: the **Opposing Viewpoints** database. This database gives students access to positions on both sides of issues. Students use **Opposing Viewpoints** to research background information on government bills and court cases in preparation for debates in government and history classes. Students also draw from material in this database when doing research projects on social or environmental issues. The database directly supports several of our California curricular standards. The English/language arts curriculum, for example, requires that students do research papers, and the standards in earth science and chemistry require that students investigate a science-based societal issue by researching the literature.

Information in the **Opposing Viewpoints** database has been carefully selected to support units that high school students typically research. Unlike some information on the Internet, the material in this database has gone through an editorial selection process before being included, and the database is therefore considered to be a trustworthy and authoritative resource.

Students in the Freshman orientation learn how to gain access to this database, one of two which the library subscribes to from the vendor Thomson Gale. In an ideal situation, money from the general fund would be sufficient to allow the library to subscribe to this database annually. However, some years are leaner than others. The support of TTSO this year has enabled the library to provide uninterrupted access to this database for all students and staff.

Students can access the Opposing Viewpoints database from school or from home by going to <http://library.troyhigh.com> and navigating to the **Opposing Viewpoints** link.