

Appendix 12.1. Suggested Issues for Student Research

While it is best to select issues that are personally meaningful and relevant to your own community, the following suggestions can serve as starting points for your own investigation:

- Relative distribution of funding for men's and women's sports (see Appendix 12.5)
- Privileges for athletes (e.g., behavioral or academic allowances)
- Media attention on women's sports
- Practice venues for various sports (e.g., disparities in quality among sports)
- Rules governing fan involvement during games
- Teen athletes taking performance-enhancing supplements
- Source of funding for sports teams (e.g., fully funded or pay-for-play?)
- Uniform colors and/or team names
- One-sided victories vs. "mercy" rules
- Marginalized sports teams
- Increased pressure on children from parents and coaches to perform
- Highly competitive sports for young children
- Alcohol and drug abuse among athletes
- Social isolation and bullying in sports
- Time requirements for sports (e.g., for practice, travel, and games)
- Colleges recruiting high school (or middle school) athletes
- Focus of attention on sports success vs. academic success in school

Remember that different stakeholders may have different perspectives on what the issue *really* is in a given situation. For example, a fencer might think the issue with his sport is that he feels marginalized and overshadowed by high-profile sports like basketball, while others might think the issue is that sports such as fencing are overfunded compared to the number of students served. Uncover and thoroughly explore relevant perspectives.