

## How do I research a topic in CQ Researcher?

**Step One:** From the database roster, select CQ Researcher.

**Step Two:** From the main interface, select topic of interest from news or features. Conduct a quick search by placing a topic of interest into the search form at top of page. Select “go.”

The screenshot shows the CQ Researcher homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About, Help, and Log Out. Below this is a search bar with the text "children and poverty" entered. The search bar is circled in red. To the right of the search bar is an "Advanced Search" link. Below the search bar are several menu items: "Browse Reports", "Your Profile", "Product Info", "Other Products", and "Take a Tour". The main content area is divided into several sections: "FEATURED REPORT" with a report titled "Future of Homeownership" and a sub-heading "Should government do more to help homeowners?"; "DEBATE" with a topic "Should Congress phase out the mortgage interest deduction?"; "IN THE NEWS" with several news items; and "Recommendations" with a list of recommended reports. There are also social media links for Facebook and a "Get our Facebook App now!" button.

**Step Three:** Search results now appear, based on relevance. Date and topic sorting is available. Select a report title to view its contents.

The screenshot shows the search results page for the query "children and poverty". The page is titled "Search Results" and includes a "Save this search | Create Email Alert" link. The search results are sorted by "Relevance" and "Most recent". There are 686 results in total. The first four results are listed in a table with columns for "Title", "Topic", and "Date". The first result, "Child-Care Options", is circled in red. The table also includes a "Save to Favorites list" column with checkboxes.

| Title   | Topic                         | Date       |
|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Child-Care Options</b><br><i>Are there enough good facilities?</i>  | Family and Domestic Life      | 5/8/1998   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Child Poverty</b><br><i>Are out-of-wedlock births the root cause?</i>   | Family and Domestic Life      | 10/28/2011 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Domestic Poverty</b> Updated: April 27, 2011.<br><i>Is a new approach needed to help the poorest Americans?</i> | Employment, Labor, and Income | 9/7/2007   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Child Welfare Reform</b><br><i>Will recent changes make at-risk children safer?</i>                             | Family and Domestic Life      | 4/22/2005  |

**Step Four:** Subject report now opens with table of contents on left. Track the issue through gateway shown in right menu. Embedded footnotes (indicated by numbered balloons) link to full details on sources.

**CQ Researcher**  
Great research on today's issues starts right here.

Home | View PDF | Email a link back to... | Print... | Save to Favorite Documents | CiteNow! | Find Keyword

**FULL REPORT**  
Introduction  
Overview  
Background  
Current Situation  
Outlook  
Pro/Con  
Chronology  
Short Features  
Maps/Graphs  
Bibliography  
The Next Step  
Contacts  
Footnotes  
About the Author  
Comments  
Permissions

**Child Poverty**  
*Are out-of-wedlock births the root cause?*  
By Peter Kotel

October 28, 2011 • Volume 21, Issue 38

**Introduction**

One in five American **children** lives in a household with income below the **poverty** line — \$22,050 for a family of four. Not only are the daily lives of **poor children** difficult, but experts worry that many will suffer lifelong effects from early deprivation. Concern about **child poverty** has grown especially strong amid a push in Congress for sweeping budget cuts, including reductions in spending on food stamps and other anti-**poverty** programs. As **child poverty** continues to rise amid the nation's persistent economic woes and high unemployment, a long-simmering debate over the problem's root causes is heating up. Liberals argue that fewer **children** would fall into **poverty** if the government safety net were stronger and more jobs were available for struggling parents. Conservatives, on the other hand, say **child poverty** largely stems from parental behavior — particularly a growing tendency to have **children** out of wedlock.

**Overview**

Jason Barnett and his two brothers have better reason than many **kids** to welcome Friday afternoons. That's when they open a special backpack full of donated food that Jason brings home from his elementary school in Belen, N.M.

Inside are plastic-wrapped single servings of peanut butter and jelly, crackers, raisins, milk, juice and other healthy items. "You should see their eyes," says the boys' mother, Shannon Barnett. "There's usually cereal in it, which helps with breakfast over the weekend. If they're still hungry, I'm able to give them another bowl."

The Roadrunner Food Bank, New Mexico's major food charity, started the program 11 years ago after school officials in Albuquerque said some students went hungry on weekends. Now, demand is booming throughout the state, where 40 percent of New Mexicans — 806,000 out of a total population of 2 million — missed meals last year, according to a Roadrunner study.<sup>[1]</sup>

How many **children** went hungry isn't known. But **children** make up one-fourth of the population of New Mexico, which has a **child-poverty** rate of 30 percent, second only to Mississippi's (33 percent).<sup>[2]</sup>

**ISSUE TRACKER for Related Reports**

Poverty and Homelessness  
 ▶ Oct. 28, 2011 Child Poverty  
 ▶ Sep. 07, 2007 Domestic Poverty  
 ▶ Sep. 10, 2004 Ending Homelessness  
 ▶ Dec. 22, 2000 Hunger in America  
 ▶ Apr. 07, 2000 Child Poverty  
 ▶ Jan. 26, 1996 Helping the Homeless  
 ▶ Aug. 07, 1992 The Homeless

**BROWSE RELATED TOPICS:**  
 ▶ Children

**READER COMMENTS (0)**  
 No comments on this report yet.  
 ▶ Comment on this Report

**Step Five:** Select the “Background” section for a discussion on the topic in American history. “Pro/Con” explains stances; chronology summarizes significant events. A full bibliography is provided with each report. Links are included to original state and federal reports for further evidence and information.

**CQ Researcher**  
Great research on today's issues starts right here.

Home | View PDF | Email a link back to... | Print... | Save to Favorite Documents | CiteNow! | Find Keyword

**FULL REPORT**  
Introduction  
Overview  
Background  
Current Situation  
Outlook  
Pro/Con  
Chronology  
Short Features  
Maps/Graphs  
Bibliography  
The Next Step  
Contacts  
Footnotes  
About the Author  
Comments  
Permissions

**Child Poverty**  
*Are out-of-wedlock births the root cause?*  
By Peter Kotel

October 28, 2011 • Volume 21, Issue 38

**Bibliography**

**Books**

Mead, Lawrence M. , *Expanding Work Programs for Poorer Men* , AEI Press, 2011. A leading conservative **poverty**-policy expert lays out a case for requiring low-income men to work, following the example of the 1996 welfare law and its demands on largely female welfare recipients. **Poor children** would benefit, he writes, as **child**-support payments increased.

Nadasen, Premilla, Jennifer Mittelstadt and Marisa Chappell , *Welfare in the United States: A History With Documents, 1935-1996* , Routledge, 2009. Three historians chronicle and analyze welfare history from a pro-welfare recipients' perspective.

**Articles**

Alderman, Lesley , "Government Helps to Insure **Children**, Even Above the **Poverty** Line," *The New York Times*, Oct. 9, 2010, p. B6, [www.nytimes.com/2010/10/09/health/09patient.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/09/health/09patient.html). Successful results are reported for the federal-state health coverage program for low-income **children**.

Crary, David, et al. , "Behind the **poverty** numbers: real lives, real pain," *The Associated Press*, Sept. 19, 2011. In a series of profiles from across the country, AP correspondents report on the hardships faced by growing numbers of families.

D'Innocenzio, Anne, and Dena Potter , "Food-stamp shoppers buy at midnight across the country," *The Washington Post*, Oct. 24, 2010, p. A8, [www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/23/AR2010102300179.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/23/AR2010102300179.html). *The Post* uncovers a nationwide trend of families racing to stock up on food as soon as their electronic food-stamp cards are recharged once a month at midnight.

Davey, Monica , "Families Feel Sharp Edge of State Budget Cuts," *The New York Times*, Sept. 7, 2011, p. A22, [www.nytimes.com/2011/09/07/us/07states.html?pagewanted=all](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/07/us/07states.html?pagewanted=all). Hard-pressed states are reducing aid to **poor** families, a correspondent reports from the Midwest.

**ISSUE TRACKER for Related Reports**

Poverty and Homelessness  
 ▶ Oct. 28, 2011 Child Poverty  
 ▶ Sep. 07, 2007 Domestic Poverty  
 ▶ Jun. 10, 2004 Ending Homelessness  
 ▶ Dec. 22, 2000 Hunger in America  
 ▶ Apr. 07, 2000 Child Poverty  
 ▶ Jan. 26, 1996 Helping the Homeless  
 ▶ Aug. 07, 1992 The Homeless

**BROWSE RELATED TOPICS:**  
 ▶ Children

**READER COMMENTS (0)**  
 No comments on this report yet.  
 ▶ Comment on this Report