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It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

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Reports

- [Item#1](#)
CHILDHOOD POVERTY PERSISTENCE: FACTS AND CONSEQUENCES. Urban Institute. Caroline Ratcliffe and Signe-Mary McKernan. June 30, 2010.

The U.S. child poverty rate has fluctuated between 15 and 23 percent for the past four decades, but far more children, 37 percent, live in poverty at some point during their childhoods. Being poor at birth strongly predicts future poverty status. The study finds that 49 percent of children who are poor at birth go on to spend at least half their childhoods living in poverty. In addition, children who are born into poverty and spend multiple years living in poor families have worse adult outcomes than their counterparts in higher-income families.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/c5fl6O> [PDF format, 12 pages].

Item#2

DEEP HORIZON OIL SPILL: SELECTED ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Curry L. Hagerty and Jonathan L. Ramseur. June 18, 2010.

On April 20, 2010, an explosion and fire occurred on the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig in the Gulf of Mexico. This resulted in 11 worker fatalities, a massive oil release, and a national response effort in the Gulf of Mexico region by the federal and state governments as well as BP. Based on estimates from the Flow Rate Technical Group, which is led by the U.S. Geological Survey, the 2010 Gulf spill has become the largest oil spill in U.S. waters, eclipsing the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill several times over. The oil spill has damaged natural resources and has had regional economic impacts. In addition, questions have been raised as to whether the regulations and regulators of offshore oil exploration have kept pace with the increasingly complex technologies needed to explore and develop deeper waters.

Full Text:

<http://go.usa.gov/OCK> [PDF format, 44 pages].

Item#3

FUTURES THINKING FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS: HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2025. Association of College & Research Libraries. David J. Staley and Kara L. Malen. June 2010.

"For academic librarians seeking to demonstrate the value of their libraries to their parent institutions, it is important to understand not only the current climate. We must also know what will be valued in the future so that we can begin to take appropriate action now. This document presents 26 possible scenarios based on an implications assessment of current trends, which may have an impact on all types of academic and research libraries over the next 15 years. The scenarios represent themes relating to academic culture, demographics, distance education, funding, globalization, infrastructure/facilities, libraries, political climate, publishing industry, societal values, students/learning, and technology."

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/8YsxsI> [PDF format, 33 pages].

Item#4

GENDER EQUALITY UNIVERSALLY EMBRACED, BUT INEQUALITIES ACKNOWLEDGED. Pew Global Attitudes Project. July 1, 2010.

Fifteen years after the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women's Beijing Platform for Action proclaimed that "shared power and responsibility should be established between women and men at home, in the workplace and in the wider national and international communities," people around the globe embrace the document's key principles.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/c2K428> [PDF format, 34 pages].

Item#5

GROWING OPPOSITION TO INCREASED OFFSHORE DRILLING: OBAMA'S RATINGS LITTLE AFFECTED BY RECENT TURMOIL. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. June 24, 2010.

Since the beginning of this year, President Obama has signed a controversial health care measure, coped with a stubbornly high jobless rate, and struggled to manage the largest environmental disaster in the nation's history. In that period, Obama's overall job approval rating has moved from 49% to 48%. On major issues, ranging from the economy to Afghanistan, Obama's ratings also have changed little since the beginning of the year. He continues to get his highest ratings on foreign policy, energy policy, Afghanistan and Iraq; Obama gets his worst marks on the budget deficit and immigration.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/94Q9BK> [PDF format, 39 pages].

Item#6

ON THE STREETS: THE FEDERAL RESPONSE TO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HOMELESS YOUTH. Center for American Progress. Nico Sifra Quintana et al. June 2010.

Every child deserves a supportive and loving home. But for many lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children and youth, that home is not available. Gay and transgender youth are disproportionately represented among homeless youth in our country, experiencing extreme rates of violence, discrimination, and poor health while homeless. This is happening at least partly because gay and transgender people are coming out at younger ages as society becomes increasingly supportive of equality. Twenty years ago, most people started coming out in their 20s, well after most had left home and started working. If someone's family rejected them for being gay or transgender, it may have been emotionally painful, but the person could still likely take care of himself or herself.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/9BHTjZ> [PDF format, 41 pages].

Item#7

PUBLIC OPINION ON THE SUPREME COURT 2010. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. Karlyn H. Bowman and Andrew Rugg. June 28, 2010.

The report looks broadly at confidence in the Court, views of the Court today, knowledge of current Justices, and at the kind of nominee people say they would like to see. It also reviews areas where public opinion is not well formed. Questions about original intent, for example, seem to pull people in one direction or another depending on how they are worded. New and updated sections look at attitudes toward recent nominees, including Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor. This document includes some questions on abortion.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/99JEKi> [PDF format, 54 pages].

Item#8

REPORT OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION ON THE NOMINATION OF ELENA KAGAN TO BE ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. American Civil Liberties Union. June 21, 2010.

In accordance with ACLU Policy 519, the report summarizes the civil liberties and civil rights record of Elena Kagan, who was nominated by President Obama on May 10, 2010, to replace Justice John Paul Stevens as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/aoPz78> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Item#9

UNCERTAINTIES IN THE NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR THREAT. RAND Corporation. Bruce W. Bennett. June 23, 2010.

The report examines the uncertainties in the North Korean nuclear weapon threat, including the number and nature of North Korean nuclear weapons, their potential delivery means, how they could be used, and what effects they might cause.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/akAjM7> [PDF format, 83 pages].

Item#10

VOTING INTENTIONS EVEN, TURNOUT INDICATORS FAVOR GOP. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. July 1, 2010.

With four months to go before Election Day, voting intentions for the House remain closely divided, and neither party has gained or lost much ground over the course of 2010. However, Republicans are much more engaged in the coming election and more inclined to say they are certain to vote than are Democrats. This could translate into a sizable turnout advantage for the GOP in November that could transform an even race among registered voters into a solid victory for the Republicans, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/aL5Hpc> [PDF format, 48 pages].