

# *Investigating and Evaluating STS Issues and Solutions*

Harold R. Hungerford, Trudi L. Volk and John M. Ramsey, Stipes Publishing Co.

## **In a Nutshell**

amsey andelp students become more effective and capable citizens by enabling them to come to grips with the new and evolving issues in science, technology and society (STS). Its stated goals are to 1) teach learners the differences and interrelationships between science, technology, and society, 2) teach learners the intellectual skills needed for the autonomous investigation of STS issues, 3) provide learners with an opportunity to investigate one or more STS issues, and 4) teach learners the skills associated with the resolution of STS issues. Students are trained in how to proceed with their own evaluation and presented with options for follow-up actions. The text includes readings, photographs, worksheets, ratings, surveys, graphs and other evaluative and reflective instruments. The teacher's edition contains 108 extra pages of worksheets, text, answers to assignments, suggestions and activities.

## **What the Reviewers Said**

### **Key Characteristics**

### **Strengths Noted**

Fairness and Accuracy.....	Balance of issues and dialog. Learners look at all perspectives. Represents tough issues fairly. Appears to represent industry fairly.
Depth.....	Focus is on concepts and unifying ideas vs. specific content. Ties local and national/global issues and looks at context of issues.
Emphasis on Skills Building.....	Builds skill in analysis, criticism, evaluation, letter writing, and researching. Helps learner to go beyond provided materials.
Action Orientation.....	Includes chapter specifically on action. Incorporates values development regarding action and encourages balanced action. Empowers students to find solutions.
Instructional Soundness.....	Layout is learner-centered and material constructive. Includes ties to experiential and service learning.
Usability .....	Very logical and usable. Effective use of photographs as support materials.

## **The Bottom Line**

"I think this curriculum helps build confidence in students that they can tackle any subject in EE and investigate and evaluate the issue and find a balanced solution."

"This is a workbook/text designed to help students develop the idea off fairness and accuracy in analyzing all issues related to science and technology — not just environmental."

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**From *The Environmental Education Collection — A Review of Resources for Educators, Volume 1*, North American Association for Environmental Education, 1997.**