Clear Topic vs. Broad Topic

Here are two examples that clearly state the ideas that will be explored:

- Biracial Adoption Helps Children
- Gay Marriage Should Be a Civil Right

Neither topic is overly broad. In the first example, the researcher will focus on biracial adoption’s effects on children rather than looking at all aspects of adoption. In the second, the researcher will focus on the legal arguments for gay marriage rather than looking at all aspects of this topic.

Here are two other examples that would be difficult, if not impossible, to research:

- Society Should Approve of Biracial Adoption
- Gay Marriage Is Good for America

Both of these topics are overly broad. What’s more, they use terms that are difficult to define (what constitutes “society,” for example?) or make statements that cannot be proven.