


PUBLIC SPEAKING



DEBATE

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Affirmative Cases

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Outline of Lecture

1. Preparing the affirmative case
2. Types of cases

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Preparing the Affirmative Case

1. The AFF has the burden of proof but also has had unlimited preparation time.
2. The AFF should be well prepared with plenty of evidence to support their case and virtually any argument that the NEG might raise.

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Choose a case that:

1. You understand
2. Is simple
3. Is topical
4. Is current and would make good policy
5. Has the right evidence
 - Look for plan advocates and adopt their ideas as your plan
 - Research before choosing a plan and format

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

1. AFF begins and ends the round
2. AFF must defend their plan which must be
 - Clear
 - Organized
 - Analytically sound

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Tips for affirmative case construction

- Understand the Affirmative Case Topic
- Figure Out Your Stock Issues
- Pick an Affirmative Case Format
- Balance and Outline Your Main Arguments
- Tag Lines: Get to the Point

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Tips for affirmative case construction (cont.)

1. Understand the Affirmative Case Topic

- Background information
- Research
- Negative positions

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Tips for affirmative case construction (cont.)

2. Figure Out Your Stock Issues

- Categorize evidence into issues of
 - Problems
 - Blame
 - Cost
 - Probable cures

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

•Ask these questions

- *What is the problem?*
- *How significant is the problem?*
- *What proof do you have that the problem exists?*
- *What is affected by the problem?*

- *What conditions have contributed to the problem?*
- *What obstacles must be overcome to fix the problem?*
- *What might be done to solve the problem?*
- *Can we justify our solution?*

Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Tips for affirmative case construction (cont.)

3. Pick an Affirmative Case Format
 - Choose the format that best suits your plan and evidence

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Tips for affirmative case construction (cont.)

4. Outline Your Main Arguments

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Preparing the AFF Case (cont.)

Tips for affirmative case construction (cont.)

5. Tag Lines: Get to the Point

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Types of Affirmative Cases

1. Comparative Advantage
2. Goals/Criteria
3. Traditional

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Types of Affirmative Cases (cont.)

Comparative Advantage Case #1

Observation #1: Definitions

Observation #2: The goal of the present system is _____

A. Subpoint 1: The status quo laws support policy X

B. Subpoint 2:

Observation #3: The status quo fails to achieve this goal.

A. Significance

B. Inherency

Plan

Observation #4: Advantages

A. Advantage 1

B. Advantage 2

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Types of Affirmative Cases (cont.)

Comparative Advantage Case #2

- Observation #1: Definitions
- Observation #2: Inherency:
 - A. Example 1
 - B. Example 2:
- Observation #3: The status quo is bad and needs to be fixed
 - A. Example 1
 - B. Example 2
- Plan
- Observation #4: Advantages
 - A. Advantage 1
 - B. Advantage 2

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Types of Affirmative Cases (cont.)

Goals/Criteria Case

- Observation #1: Definitions
- Observation #2: Criterion: the standard by which a value you establish will be measured. EX: *A good energy policy should promote national security and the economic and social stability of the US*
- Observation #3: Plan
- Observation #4: Goal 1:
 1. Inherency
 2. Harm
 3. Solvency
- Observation #5: Goal 2:
 1. Inherency
 2. Harm
 3. Solvency

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Types of Affirmative Cases (cont.)

Traditional affirmative case-also called “need-plan case” and “harms/solvency case”

- Observation #1: Definitions
- Observation #2: Inherency (applies to harms)
- Observation #3: Harms (show SIG & INH)
- Observation #4: Plan
- Observation #5: Solvency (applies to plan & advantages)

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Traditional Case (cont.)

Definitions

1. Key terms in the resolution
2. Can include key terms in the AFF case

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Traditional Case (cont.)

Harms

Problems that the AFF claim exist in the status quo

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Traditional Case (cont.)

Inherency

1. AFF presents a harm/problem that needs to be fixed
2. Show that the harm does exist in the status quo
3. Show that the harm will not be solved with out the AFF plan
4. Show that the AFF is proposing a new solution that will change the current policy/status quo

Traditional Case (cont.)

Affirmative Plan

Provides a plan to fix harms

- Mandates
- Agency
- Funding
- Enforcement

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Traditional Case (cont.)

AFF Plan (cont.)

1. Mandates
 - The "law" the AFF would pass to implement the plan
2. Agency
 - The government bureau the AFF will use to carry out the plan
3. Funding
 - How money will be provided for implementing the plan
4. Enforcing
 - The agency that will enforce the plan

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Traditional Case (cont.)

Solvency/Advantages

Cite advantages

- Show how the AFF plan creates advantages to the status quo and solves the harms presented earlier

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Plan Advocates

It is helpful to have Plan Advocates

- Professionals who support your plan

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