

Debate Reflection Assignment 3

Purpose:

The overall purpose of the debates in class is to enhance all students' learning. This will happen in a different way if you are a debate participant or not. But preparing for the debate, presenting (or listening), and reflecting on what happened will reinforce both the particular material being covered during the debate as well as the methodology of philosophical argumentation and progress.

Our third debate will focus on the use of race in medicine. The particular debate resolution for the third debate is this:

Resolved: Race is a relevant category for clinical medicine.

Below are the assignments for the debate participants and the debate listeners respectively.

A. For Debate Participants

Task:

Reflect on the debate and the Q&A and answer the following questions:

1. Do you think your team did a good job in presenting a clear view of what the resolution means and what your team's view is?
 2. Identify the strongest argument your team prepared and evaluate how well it was communicated.
 3. Discuss the most challenging argument made by the opposing team and how persuasive you found it.
 4. Reflect on your team's division of roles and debate strategy. What worked? What would you change?
 5. Explain whether participating in the debate shifted your view of race in medicine and why. What is your current view of the utility of using race in medicine?
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B. For Debate Observers

Task:

Reflect on the debate and the Q&A and answer the following questions:

1. Summarize what each team's position is.
2. Summarize the strongest argument presented by each team.
3. Evaluate which team made the more effective case and explain why.
4. Identify one issue or objection you wish had been addressed more fully.
5. State your own philosophical position: Do you think race is a relevant category for clinical practice in medicine? Why or why not?
6. Reflect on how watching the debate differed from only reading the texts—did it help clarify or complicate the issues?