



Oregon School Activities Association
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2017 OREGON NOVICE DEBATE CASE AREAS

Each year, the OSAA designates a set of “Oregon Novice Debate Case Areas” in order to limit debate through December at Oregon debate tournaments offering a Novice division. Oregon debate coaches have requested that the OSAA limit the topic area in order to encourage Novice participation by selecting topics that offer a balance between the affirmative and the negative positions, provide relatively easy research for everyone and provide the opportunity for meaningful case debate, rather than generic argumentation.

The presentation of an affirmative case approach included within one of the case areas listed below does not preclude the legitimate option of the negative to challenge the topicality of any plan presented. The issue of topicality is still to be decided within the round.

In addition to restricting Novice teams to the following cases, it is Oregon policy that neither Kritiks nor counterplans may be presented in Novice divisions during the period of restriction.

The following topic will be designated as “Oregon Novice Debate Case Area” on the 2017-18 National Policy Debate Topic.

Case Area:

Education Reform

Funding Side:

- Increase funding for Native American education
- Increase funding for school choice vouchers
- Increase funding for STEM (science technology engineering and math) program

Regulation Side:

- Ban zero tolerance discipline policies
- Funding equalization of funding for low-income schools (perhaps by overruling the Supreme Court case in San Antonio Independent School District v. Rodriguez – 1973 5-4 decision that denied the 14th Amendment grounds for declaring education a fundamental right.)