

PROPOSED CONTROVERSIAL SPEECH TOPICS

Since the U.S. destroyed the infra structure of Afghanistan in our abortive search for Osama bin Laden, what is our responsibility to rebuild that country? What are we doing to accomplish it?

What is being done by the U.S. in its attempt to resolve the tension with Iran?

Are there reason to believe that the internal Iraqi army which the Bush administration is building will defend Iraqi and not oppress it.

Would you agree or disagree with the Times Union, (Saturday, October 4, 2003) "that the strong pre-war case against Iraqi is wilting"?

What are the conclusions recently (October 5, 2003) reached by the CIA relative to the 18-month old assertion that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction?

Though Secretary of State Colin Powell stated, "We have not yet come to a conclusion about what do and what our actions should be," (about the wall Israel is building that extends into Palestinian Lands), what action do you believe the U.S. should take? As stated in the Times Union, is it "a wall of peace or barrier of hate?"

Do ethnic-sounding names pose an economic burden?

Should the Bush administration adopt a friendlier policy toward Venezuela?

Should a special counsel be appointed to probe the CIA leak that "outed" an agent?

What specific steps are being taken by U.S. to reconstruct Iraq?

What is being done to bring our troops home? Can we in the class take any steps that would accelerate that process?

Are the proposed overpasses on Atlantic Boulevard and Beach Boulevard a legitimate part of the "Jacksonville Plan"? Either way, should these overpasses be constructed?

What is being done in the U.S. quest to hunt down Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaida?

What role did Saudi Arabia play in the funding of bin Laden? (See Time Magazine, Sept. 2003)?

Should Congress accept Bush's request that Americans pay 87 billion dollars to reconstruct Iraq?

Are the southern states including Florida "giving most (military service and highest number killed) to the Iraq war" as stated in the Times Union?

What will be the result of the Episcopal Church anointing a gay bishop?

What if anything is being done to those responsible for the Wall Street financial fraud cases?

Was the focus on Martha Stewart an attempt to distract the public from the men who were accused of turning conglomerates into their personal piggy banks?

Were the litigations and attacks against Oprah Winfrey, Martha Stewart, and Rosie O'Donnell reaction against women who had "made it" in a man's financial world?

How did the new Duval County Courthouse turn into the financial problem it has become?

Is South Florida trying to steal our (North Florida's) water?

What are the primary reasons we should or should not have national health care?

How should military be better financially compensated?

Who should be the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party?

What are school vouchers? Will they help the financial crises our public schools are in the midst of?

Should George Bush be elected president?

What are faith based initiatives? Are they constitutionally sound taking into consideration separation of church and state?

Will the proposed policy of graduation from high school in three years instead of four years lead to higher (or lower) college enrollment?

Will Governor Jeb Bush's "One Florida", an attempt to limit affirmative action in college admissions, either increase or decrease minority and women's enrollment?

Are the projects of the Jacksonville plan creating more problems than solving them.

Does the media lie to the general public?

What brought about the problems with the 2000 Presidential election?

If one is famous, does he or she lose the right to free speech as was brought into question by the reaction of the general public to the Dixie Chicks?

Was Arnold Schwarzenegger a joke or a viable candidate for governor of California?

Should Gray Davis have been recalled in California?

Why were the charges of war criminal against President Bush and the Premier of Israel dropped by the Belgium War Crimes Tribunal?

Is your computer safe from other's eyes?

Should we reactivate the draft?

Do we need American police officers in Iraq?

Is the Patriot Act a violation of our civil rights or a necessity to protect our American way of life?

PERSUASION

The general purpose is to change or reinforce attitudes or behavior—to convince.

Persuasion attempts to influence.

An Informative speaker strives for listener understanding

A Persuasive speaker pleads for agreement.

We provide a reason they should agree by appealing to the audiences basic needs or desire. We convince them that if they agree, their action will satisfy their needs. (Tell spring break story.)

In reality you are satisfying their needs and yours.

Persuasion seeks to change attitudes, beliefs or values.

A persuasive speech that seeks to alter behavior is called a speech to actuate.

Our thoughts and actions are related to our needs and desires. Needs are those things we think are necessary. Desires are those things we hope for

We hold particular needs in common. How we achieve those needs varies. Our understanding of human nature assists us in figuring how to achieve both our needs and desires.

A persuasive individual gains agreement by understanding the needs of the audience and giving to them whatever their need is.

Basically we have a hierarchy of needs in common. The one in most common usage is Abraham Maslow's.

MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS

Physiological Needs

Safety Need

Love and Belonging

Achievement

Self Actualization

Life, death, hunger, thirst

Freedom from fear and pain

CLAIMS OF FACT, POLICY AND VALUE