

Resource provided by the Long Island High School Ethics Bowl

Suggested questions judges might ask the presenting team:

Content-Based (Generic)

- You raised (this point...). What might be another way to view this (the opposing argument to this point)?
- You stated (this point...). What if (take the argument to the next logical level)? Can you still support your original argument/position?
- Your position is based upon (the scenario presented). What if (change the scenario slightly)? Would it still be the same? Would you still support your original position or would this change your argument?
- Your position is based on (this assumption). What would the counter argument be?
- Are there other choices that (the people in the scenario) might have made? How would that change your argument?
- What are the moral obligations of (each side in the scenario)?
- Who are the stakeholders in this scenario? Would you reconsider your position if (this stakeholder) were (change the situation slightly to weight it more toward one stakeholder)?
- What is the difference here between (the stakeholder's) ethical responsibility and legal responsibility? Does it matter if the two are not aligned? Which should take precedence?
- Is there anything inherently unethical about (whatever is the scenario)?
- Is it ever ethically permissible to (whatever the scenario poses)?
- What ethical obligation do (stakeholder) have in this scenario? What if (change the circumstance slightly)? Does this change the ethical obligation? Why or why not?
- Under what conditions might it be ethically permissible to (whatever the opposing viewpoint is)?
- In your argument, you state that the needs of (this stakeholder) have more weight. Under what conditions might (another stakeholder) have a stronger position?
- Is there a "greater good" to be considered in this scenario? If so, where is it?

Process-Based

- (1) What part of your argument position are you least comfortable with? Why?
- (2) What part of the other team's argument do you feel is most valid?
- (3) Were there any additional ethical issues that you considered in framing your argument?