

Refutation and Rebuttal

Why?

- * Rebuttal is key to making your own arguments seem more significant and persuasive than your opponents'
- * Engaging with your opponent's material is what often will win a debate

- * The most elemental part of an argument
- * If you can undermine the assumption, you undermine the entire argument
- * Most effective way of rebutting
- * Ex: Equality is desirable

* Assumptions

*Taking an Argument at its Best

- * It can be strategically beneficial to build your opponent's argument for them
- * Run towards the difficult links
- * Even if....
- * Best case scenarios

*Disputing the Causal Claim

- *Where is the argument weakest?
- *Recognizing important strategic points
- *By breaking the causal chain, you change the outcome

*The Value Claim

- *Your opponents want to bring about a certain outcome, but is it really valuable?
- *Why is your outcome preferable?
- *Think about their assumptions

* Debating Importance

- * Damage limitation
 - * Not as important as they say
- * Other things are more important



*Engaging in the Comparative

- *Our X outcome is preferable to their Y outcome
- *Turning Examples can help turn the debate