

AOS/IES 171 Prof. Hitchman Spring 2011
Assignment #4 "The Great Debates"
10 points

Name_____

I will bring paper copies of this assignment to class on Thursday. Please hand this in *on the last day of class, May 5*.

During the last part of the course we will focus on what we should do as a global society regarding the issues we've discussed in class. You get to pick the statements to be debated!

Attached is a list of suggested statements to debate, derived from previous classes. On R April 28 we will select five statements to debate. Then we will take a look at the random assignments for which side and question you are on! There will be four people per side, so 8 per debate statement. If you volunteer to be a moderator then you don't have to be on a debate team. On R April 28 you will have some time in class to work on this with your team. You may find yourself advocating a position which you disagree with. This actually allows us to understand other points of view better and perhaps to be more persuasive with your own arguments in the future.

To get 10 points you need to come to class both days and participate (5 points) and write a paragraph or two below which describes your contribution to your side of the debate question (5 points).

“GLOBAL CHANGE DEBATE STATEMENTS”
SURVEY

You will vote for five statements.

1. The U.S. should cut the military budget to fund environmental programs.
 2. Nuclear energy is a viable solution to the current energy problem.
 3. Impoverished people cannot concern themselves with environmental issues.
 4. Education is the key to solving environmental problems.
 5. The U.S. should intervene in countries with tropical deforestation.
 6. The definition of economic value should be expanded.
 7. Global warming will likely improve global agricultural production.
 8. Computers are good for the world.
 9. The U.S. should regulate companies' environmental impacts more carefully.
 10. The U.S. should impose a large gas tax.
 11. The worth of human civilization is greater than the worth of biodiversity.
 12. Carbon trading is good for the planet.
 13. We need to change our habits radically to help the planet.
 14. Capitalism is destroying the earth and corporate globalization is at the core of this crisis.
 15. The U.S. refusal to sign the Kyoto treaty was the right decision.
 16. Global warming is causing increasingly extreme weather.
 17. Buying green is becoming a useless fad.
 18. Biofuels alleviate greenhouse warming.
 19. The U.S. should continue to invest in biotechnology and genetically modified foods.
 20. Renewable energy sources can solve most of our energy needs.
 21. Geoengineering is a viable solution to global change.
 22. We will approach the carrying capacity of our planet in this generation.
- *****Write your contenders here!*****
- 23.
 - 24.