

21H.181

Libertarianism in History

Debate #2: Rules and Roles

The subject of our debate is the Obamacare legislation. Your task is to argue either for (constructive) or against (negative) the constitutionality of the law. You should certainly take into account the relevant arguments in the Supreme Court decision that we are reading for this class, but you need not consider yourself beholden or limited to those arguments.

We will follow the rules of the Lincoln-Douglas style of debate. Please be prepared to argue the following positions and roles:

1. Preparation time (ten minutes): class as a whole
2. First affirmative constructive (ten minutes): affirmative team students 1 and 2
3. Cross examination by negative (ten minutes): negative team students 1 and 2
4. First negative constructive (ten minutes): negative team students 3 and 4
5. Cross examination by affirmative (ten minutes): affirmative team students 3 and 4
6. First affirmative rebuttal (ten minutes): affirmative team students 5 and 6
7. Negative rebuttal (ten minutes): by the negative team as a whole
8. Second affirmative rebuttal (ten minutes): by the affirmative team as a whole
9. De-briefing, recuperation, and rendering of judgment (five minutes): class as a whole

Recall that "cross examination" means that you should ask questions of the folks who have just spoken. The first affirmative "rebuttal" should address both your opponent's arguments and your own. The two subsequent rebuttals should each address the arguments of the previous speech and summarize the debate for the judge.

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