

Blake Diversity and Inclusion Conference

Topic Group - Content Warnings and topic sensitive content

Goal: How to develop a possible guideline for content warnings for students and tournaments that can allow the tournament to function, make it a safe space for all debaters and allow students to talk about issues they care about.

List of Questions to be discussed

- How does a tournament provide some policies - pre-tournament?
- Does a tournament get involved with in-round disputes on content debates, and if so how?
- Is there a list of what is and what isn't -- how does the debater deal with them
- Should a tournament weigh on this list?
- How do we deal with this right before a round?
- And still run the tournament on time?
- What happens if the debater decides to opt out?
- What is the penalty if a debater doesn't give a content warning, should there be a punishment and if there is a punishment is it tab or judge
- If you feel a need for a content warning should the tournament indicate it should be placed on a disclosure wiki?
- If trigger warning is given and the opponent doesn't want to debate, does the debater have to switch their argument

Ideas -- if you are unsure then maybe lean on the side of giving a warning

Bright line? Graphic material

Education material on content warnings and suggestions for how for the judge to deal with it?

Opt-outs are rare.

- 1) Should a tournament provide a list of possible content areas? Not exhaustive?
- 2) What happens if someone calls out a debater for not giving a warning - Just debate it in the round?
- 3) Is the list used as a debate argument in the round and does it guide the judge?
- 4) Judge can decide the round issue or they can call in the equity committee
- 5) Should a tournament suggest how that warning is given?

- 6) Can a student communicate with a coach if they are unsafe during the round and under what circumstances? Maybe just allow an text or email that says "unsafe" and then the tab sends someone in from tab or a tournament adult?
- 7) Is there a way for tournaments to share data on violations from tournaments.
- 8) Maybe a tournament requires teams to disclose their content warnings 24 hours before the tournament on the wiki
- 9) How can a safe space be achieved after the round has started
- 10) Does the content warning issued a second time for the judge and ask for replacement
- 11)