

DEBATE GUIDE

ALCOHOL RESTRICTION AT COMMUNITY EVENTS

In order to effectively advocate for a policy, it is important to be able to clearly communicate why you support it and the reasons that others should as well. It is equally important, however, to understand the concerns and opposing viewpoints that others may have about the issue. Use the table below as a guide to crafting your argument and beginning to think about some of the values and ideas that play a role in the debate about restricting alcohol at community events.

| Supporters | Opponents |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Defining the Issue:</i> <i>Is there a problem? Does action need to be taken?</i></p> | |
| <p>Supporters will need to prove that the proposed policy is necessary by showing that there is a problem that needs to be addressed.</p> <p>You may want to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistics on underage drinking and the negative effects - Data related to underage youth illegally buying alcohol | <p>Opponents will argue that this policy is not necessary by denying the presence of a problem in our community or disproving evidence of it.</p> <p>You may want to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If national or state data should apply to our community - If statistics from youth surveys are trustworthy |
| <p><i>Defining the Solution:</i> <i>Will the proposed action effectively address the problem?</i></p> | |
| <p>Supporters will advocate for tobacco retailer licensing by showing that it will effectively help to solve the problem at hand.</p> <p>You may want to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How restricting alcohol at community events will decrease underage drinking | <p>Opponents will argue against tobacco retailer licensing by showing that it will not effectively solve the problem</p> <p>You may want to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why licensing will not be effective in reducing illegal sales - If retailers are the primary issue in youth access to alcohol |

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The message the policy will send to young people about how the community views underage drinking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why passing the policy will not impact community norms |
| <p><i>Evaluating the Costs and Benefits: What impact would this solution have on the community as a whole?</i></p> | |
| <p>Supporters will argue that any associated costs are outweighed by the benefits and it will therefore benefit the community overall.</p> <p>You may want to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How alcohol restrictions may increase community participation in events and increase overall profits - Why the cost or burden of this policy on businesses is limited - Why this policy is necessary for safe community events | <p>Opponents will argue that passing this policy would negatively impact the community because it is unfair or will pose negative consequences or significant costs to the community.</p> <p>You may want to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How alcohol restrictions will reduce participation in community events - How restrictions make legal alcohol purchase more inconvenient - How it will cost more time and money to establish and enforce regulations |