

Rebuttal In Debate Examples

Example 1: Debate speech on 50th Anniversary Commemoration of Bloody Sunday in Selma (By President Barack Obama)

“For we were born of change. We broke the old aristocracies, declaring ourselves entitled not by bloodline, but endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights. We secure our rights and responsibilities through a system of self-government, of and by and for the people. That’s why we argue and fight with so much passion and conviction, because we know our efforts matter. We know America is what we make of it.”

Example 2:

Point: “It is the government’s duty to protect people from themselves”

Rebuttal: “No, the government has the duty to protect people from outside dangers but people have the right to make their own decisions regarding their own behavior as long as it doesn’t affect anybody else”

Example 3:

Point: “Prostitution is a serious problem (and therefore we should legalize it)”

Example: “Just because prostitution is a problem doesn’t mean we should legalize – you’ve failed to show how legalization would make it better”