

NOTES

1. We describe one particular way to construct an argument to support value propositions in this chapter. Two caveats are necessary: First, ours is not the only method you can use to construct such an argument. Many methods are available to make arguments in support of a value proposition. We have chosen to illustrate one method that debaters have found successful. Second, we have not chosen to discuss the most traditional method, generally known as the “value-criteria” case. This traditional case is discussed in a variety of debate textbooks, including the second edition of this text.

2. Over the years, debaters have simply used the phrase “describe, relate, evaluate” to name the process of creating a case for a value proposition.

3. We understand the terms *affirmative action* and *positive discrimination* as synonymous. *Affirmative action* seems to be the preferred term in the United States, with *positive discrimination* used more often in Europe and Asia. For our purposes, we think of both terms as meaning any effort to redress past discrimination against minority groups to improve their position in employment and in education.

4. Chaïm Perelman and Lucie Olbrechts-Tyteca, *The New Rhetoric: A Treatise on Argumentation* (Notre Dame, Ind: University of Notre Dame Press, 1969), 115–142.

5. One hundred and thirty-four persons were executed in Texas while George W. Bush was governor of the state from 1995 to 2000. He stated, “As far as I’m concerned there has not been one innocent person executed since I’ve become governor.” *New York Times*, June 21, 2000. Cited in *Issues 2000*, http://www.issues2000.org/George_W_Bush_Crime.htm (March 30, 2005).

6. For instance, “A conference this November at Northwestern University Law School in Chicago highlighted a striking fact related to capital punishment: since 1976, 75 American men and women have been convicted of capital crimes, sentenced to death, and later found innocent—roughly one for every seven prisoners who have been executed. *The Economist*, November 28, 1998, 29.

7. *Birmingham Post and Mail*, January 19, 2005.