

DELVING INTO THE WHY WELL!



How do debaters successfully:
❖ challenge assumptions?
❖ ask brilliant questions?

They ask “Why”!

How . . .

Who . . .

What . . .

When . . .

Where . . .

The technique

Start with a statement

“multiculturalism is good”

- ◆ Give speakers 5 minutes to prepare their argument(s)
- ◆ With each point presented, ask why (or other appropriate question)
- ◆ Keep having the speakers justify their answers, until you have come to the **bottom of the well** and either:
 - ❖ Found the truth behind the assumption
 - ❖ Completely defeated the assumption

“Multiculturalism is good.”

Why? - *Because then all cultures feel included.*

Why does that matter? - *Everyone wants to participate and work together. We fight less.*

How do you know? - *We will feel valued for who we are and we value others*

Why does that matter? - *We can see all the good things in our differences.*

Why is that important? - *We get the best things from each individual. Our culture grows and changes.*

Why does that matter? - *A society must keep growing and changing to survive.*

{Fundamental value that change is at the root of societal success}

OR

“Multiculturalism is bad.”

Why? *Follow this down to diversity leads to tension and conflict, and end with society must be productive and united to succeed.*



The WHY WELL reveals the fundamental roots and values at the core of the debate and makes debaters ready to approach a case position.