

# Lesson 1: Intro to PF debate

Global Public Forum

# History of PF

- Ted Turner (founder of CNN) played a significant role in creating PF debate.
- He drew inspiration from the TV show "Crossfire" and sought to create a debate format that was accessible and allowed for a wider range of acceptable argumentative approaches
- The event was almost named "Ted Turner Debate" in his honor.



# What is PF debate?

- Public Forum Debate is a competitive debate format engaged participants in discussing topics of public concern (healthcare, job security etc.).
- PF Debate involves two teams, each consisting of two debaters (a first speaker and a second speaker), who present arguments and counterarguments based on research and analysis.
- PF debate is unique in that it's meant for a layperson (a random person picked off the street should be able to understand your argument).
- benefits to the Public forum style including developing analytical thinking, good communication, and research skills.



# Structure of a PF debate round

Speaker 1, Team A	Case	4 min
Speaker 1, Team B	Case	4 min
Speaker 1, both teams	1st Crossfire	3 min
Speaker 2, Team A	Rebuttal	4 min
Speaker 2, Team B	Rebuttal	4 min
Speaker 2, both teams	2nd Crossfire	3 min
Speaker 1, Team A	Summary	3 min
Speaker 1, Team B	Summary	3 min
All speakers	Grand Crossfire	3 min
Speaker 2, Team A	Final Focus	2 min
Speaker 2, Team B	Final Focus	2 min