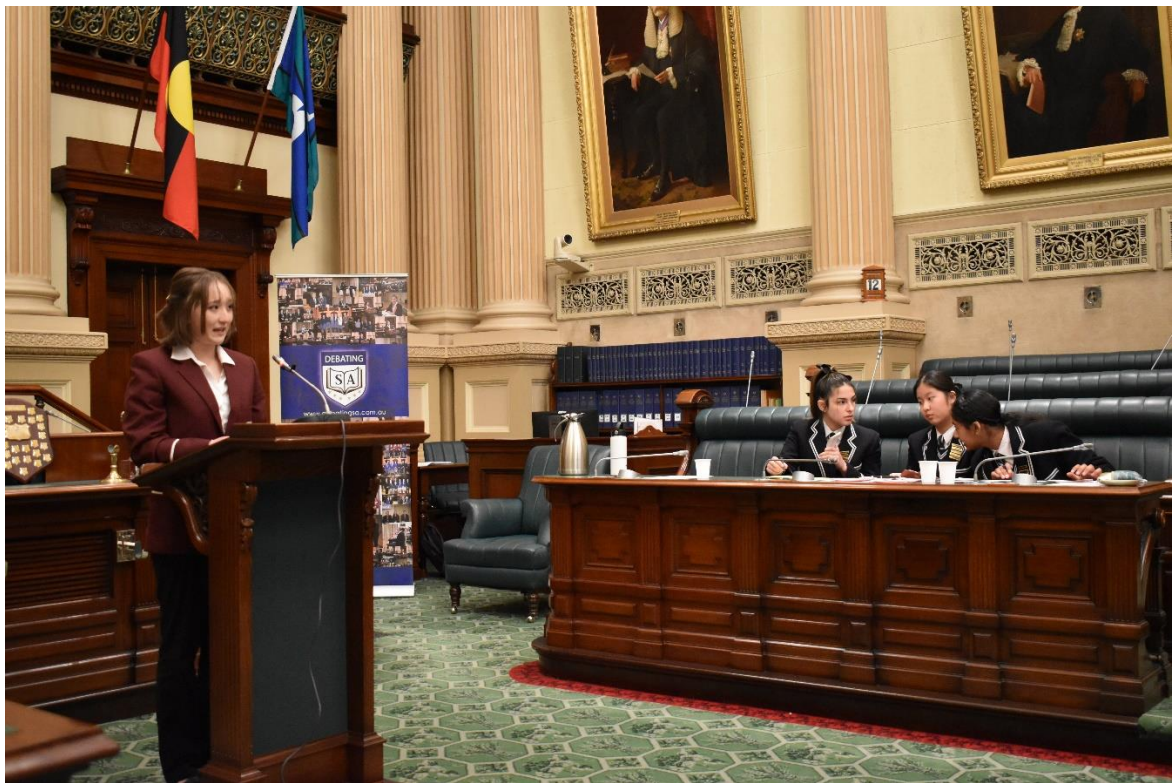




The Beginner's Guide to Rebuttal



2. THERE IS NO GOOD EVIDENCE

There are three main ways to attack the other person's evidence

- (a) facts are wrong
- (b) unreliable evidence
- (c) evidence not useful or relevant

2 (a) Facts are wrong

The opposition has made a claim where they have used incorrect information or facts

'That cloth nappies are better than disposable nappies'

- "The opposition said that you only need to use three nappies a day for a baby.
- According to www.hellonaturalliving.com babies need a nappy change
- 10-12 times a day"

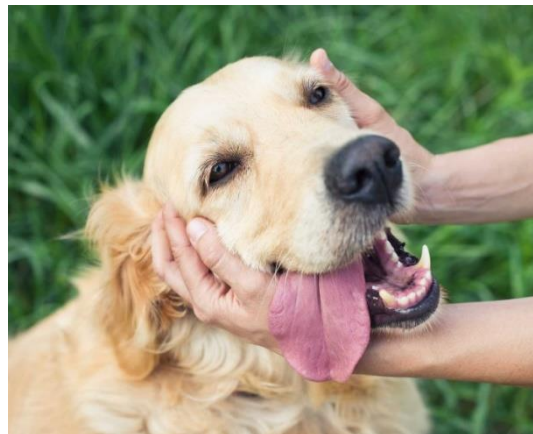


2 (b) Unreliable evidence

The opposition has used evidence that is unreliable

"That cats are better than dogs"

- "The opposition has said that he asked 10 friends at school if they like dogs and 9 people said 'yes'
- This evidence is unreliable
- Asking 10 students at school out of 26 million people in Australia is too small a sample, perhaps there was a bias, or maybe your friends wanted to help you."



2 (c) The evidence is not useful or relevant

The opposition has used evidence that is not useful or relevant and has no real connection to the topic.

“That cats are better than dogs”

- “The opposition has said that in ancient Egypt, cats were worshipped as gods and were magical creatures bringing good lucks and they were dressed in jewels and mummified when they died
- This is irrelevant to the topic”



3. THE REASONS AREN'T LOGICAL

The opposition has said something that doesn't make sense or uses a fallacy.

“That cats are better than dogs”

- “The opposition has said that everyone knows that cats are better than dogs.
- That is a fallacy (appeal to the masses)
- Just because everyone thinks that cats are better, this does not make it true.”



4. IT'S TRUE BUT...

The opposition has said something that is true, but there are other factors which need to be considered.

“That cats are better than dogs”

- “The opposition has said that dogs are not good pets because they bark
- While it is true that dogs bark, their barking lets you know that a visitor might be coming to your house, such as an intruder”

