

Team "Debate" -- Triage

The Situation

A nuclear apocalypse has devastated the United States, killing millions and leaving more millions in desperate need of medical attention. A life-saving elixir has been developed that promises to heal the sick, but it's in scarce supply, and there are no means of producing more of it. Only about 20% of people whose lives depend on the elixir can receive the it. You have been recruited onto a small committee of people who must decide which victims will receive medical attention. In other words, you must decide who lives and who dies. In groups of 3, construct the most convincing paragraph you can defending your position. Be sure to strike a productive and persuasive balance in your argument, appealing to all three Aristotelian appeals. A jury of your peers will determine whose system for treating victims is the most persuasive, and that plan will be adopted. The lives of untold millions are in your hands.

Position 1: People who have the best chance of survival (i.e. the least sick or wounded, the youngest, and those having the best health prospects generally) should receive the elixir first.

Jorge, Cameron, Tanner

Position 2: People whose survival would most benefit society at large (i.e. nurses, teachers, firefighters, etc., and no criminals) should receive medical attention first.

Anthony, Jesse, Erin S., Vanessa, Jenn M., Kyle, Mohammad, Gabe

Position 3: People should receive medical treatment on a first come, first serve basis, regardless of who they are.

Jacob, Erin B., Ryan, Jenn A.

Jury: Ethan, Tyler, Hannah