

# HOWS AND WHYS OF DEBATING

The UPEI Debating Society employs a form of debate known as parliamentary. It uses the rules and traditions of Canadian Parliament. Don't let this scare you - it is fun and exciting. Here's how it works: two teams of two persons each square off. One represents "Her Majesty's Government" and the other "The Loyal Opposition". A normally vague, and often bizarre resolution is presented to both teams, and the government has 10 minutes to prepare a "case". This case takes the form of a logical argument to prove something that is in some way related to the resolution. It is then the duty of the opposition to argue against the government's case. Simple, right?

The emphasis in this sort of debate is on style and common logic rather than on factual verification of evidence. Because of this, the subject matter of the debate must remain confined to topics of general knowledge. This type of debate encourages quick reasoning, creative response, and eloquent speaking. The point is to train your mind to think.

If this has interested you in trying your hand at this very worthwhile and fun activity, drop by the next meeting of the UPEI Debating Society. We're always happy to see new members! We hold two weekly meetings - Wednesdays at 4:00 pm and Mondays at 7:00 pm. You have the option of attending either or both. If you can't make it at either of these times you can still get involved with the society by calling David Sims at 672-3036 or 566-0812.