

DEBATING FOR BOYS

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Debating for Boys by William Horton Foster

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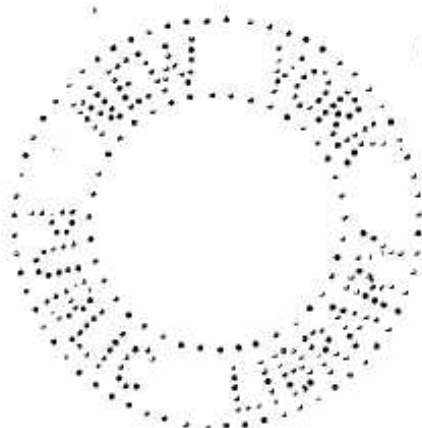
WILLIAM HORTON FOSTER

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PREFACE

The judge, in awful ermine, on the bench; the jury, glowering, in its box; the prisoner, THE BOOK, in the dock: enter in humility, the attorney for the defense, THE PREFACE.

"What excuse for existence has the prisoner?" thunders the judge in tones that make the culprit's leaves shake.

In cringing deference, the attorney for the defense falters, "None, your lordship, none, but . . ."

Such is the scene that many prefaces suggest. This preface, however, is different—and quite shameless. It says, merely, that the title "Debating for Boys" carries its own statement of its reason for being. Boys like to debate; debating will do them good. This volume is a simple, unpretentious manual designed to help boys to debate efficiently—to get from the most manly of all sports, and a royal sport it is, all of the pleasure and profit it has to offer. The book is designed, first of all, as an aid to the boy himself—in home, club, school, church—and, also, as an aid to the father, club director, teacher, clergyman, all, in fact, who are his friends and advisers.

1931
MAY
TRANSFER FROM

PREFACE

I wish to thank *The Youth's Companion* for its courteous permission to reprint one chapter which originally appeared upon its Boys' Page; *Boys' Life*, the Boy Scouts' magazine, for kind consent to the republication of much matter which first saw the light of print in its columns; Mr. Henry Smith Chapman for valuable material upon parliamentary law; and Mr. Warren Dunham Foster for his general editorial direction of the book.

Acknowledgment is due Mr. Rollo L. Lyman of the University of Chicago, and Mr. George P. Baker of Harvard, whose methods of teaching argumentation have become standard.

W. H. F.

Boston, Massachusetts.

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1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and government operations. The text notes that without reliable records, it becomes difficult to track expenditures, assess performance, and ensure that resources are being used effectively and ethically.

2. The second part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data collection and analysis. It highlights that while modern technology offers powerful tools for gathering and processing information, the quality and integrity of the data are often compromised. Issues such as incomplete reporting, inconsistent formats, and potential biases can lead to misleading conclusions. The document stresses the need for standardized protocols and rigorous quality control measures to ensure that the data being used is both accurate and trustworthy.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of leadership in fostering a culture of integrity and ethical behavior. It argues that leaders have a significant influence on the actions of their subordinates and that their own conduct sets a powerful example. By promoting transparency, encouraging open communication, and holding themselves and others accountable, leaders can create an environment where ethical decision-making is the norm. The text also discusses the importance of providing ongoing training and support to help individuals understand and navigate complex ethical dilemmas.

4. The fourth part of the document explores the impact of external factors on organizational behavior. It notes that organizations often operate in a complex and rapidly changing environment, where external pressures such as market competition, regulatory changes, and public scrutiny can influence internal dynamics. These external forces can sometimes lead to shortcuts or unethical practices as organizations seek to maintain their competitive edge or comply with new regulations. The document suggests that organizations should proactively assess these external influences and develop strategies to mitigate potential risks to their integrity and ethical standards.

5. The fifth and final part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and offers recommendations for future research and practice. It reiterates the importance of a holistic approach to ethics, one that considers the interconnectedness of record-keeping, data management, leadership, and external influences. The document calls for continued research to explore new ways of enhancing transparency and accountability, as well as for organizations to remain vigilant in their commitment to ethical conduct. It concludes by emphasizing that a strong ethical foundation is not only a moral imperative but also a strategic advantage that can lead to long-term success and trust.

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