

## A Roll of the Dice

**This activity required facilitator who is very knowledgeable about the topics and has good conflict mediation skills.**

**Give your students a list of topics for debate.** You should include simple topics as well as ones that are more controversial. Then divide your students into pairs and give each pair a standard die. For each round of play, one person makes a statement about one of the topics. Her partner then rolls the die. If he rolls an odd number, he must disagree with his partner. If he rolls an even number, he must agree with her. Encourage your students to spend a few minutes discussing each topic. Students should feel free to be creative during their discussions since they may or may not be arguing their actual position on a given subject. This will also need some follow up so students can research some of the points made during their mini –debate to verify facts given. Another important follow up question is what made them make their original statement and where did their attitudes about their topic come from. This activity will teach students how to respectfully disagree with someone and give them knowledge about related topics. It will also give the facilitator a good idea of which topics the students need more education on.

Some suggested topics:

The legal drinking age

Legalization of marijuana

Smoking/vaping in public

A link between video games and violence

Social Host laws

Jail vs. treatment for drug related crimes

Jail vs. treatment for repeat DUI offenders

A link between social media and mental health

Common Core

Teen driving laws

Here is a list of phrases that can be used to agree or disagree. Some are more polite than others. Discuss the different phrases as well as tone of voice and body language.

If you put it that way, I suppose...

I agree up to a point, but...

I'll go along with that

You could say that. However ...

I'll take your word on it

Although I can see where you are coming from...

Well, you're the expert

I wouldn't quite put it that way myself

I still have my doubts, but...

I still have my doubts.

I'll give you the benefit of the doubt

That doesn't tally with the information I was given

You have my full agreement

I can't go along with that

I couldn't agree with you more

That's out of the question

You took the words right out of my mouth

You've got to be kidding

That's just what I was going to say

I'd like to agree with you...

I second that

I find that very difficult to accept

Okay, you've convinced me

I'm not going to give way on this

Reluctantly,...

I thought we'd already decided...

That's just the point I was trying to make

We don't seem to be in complete agreement

With reservations...

There is no way on earth...