

TEN STEPS TO FOLLOW IN DEBATING THE OPPOSITION

Ben Shapiro

1. **MOVE TOWARD THE FIRE**

You have to love the fight and not be afraid of it. Have fun.

2. **FRAME YOUR OPPONENT**

Rip away the facade that they are better than you. Take away high moral ground because they don't have it.

3. **FRAME THE DEBATE**

E.g., "Why do you want to from loving each other?"

"Why do you think a child does not need a mother and father?"

"Why should government value one set of relationships over another, especially one that hurts another."

4. **SPOT INCONSISTENCIES IN THEIR ARGUMENTS**

"Assault weapons need to be banned."

"Most deaths occur with hand guns, why do you not want to ban those?" (They do!)

"Global warming is killing the polar bears, so we need to reduce CO₂ emissions."

"But do you know what level of CO₂ is needed?"

5. **FORCE THEM TO ANSWER QUESTIONS**

If you are on the defensive, you are losing. Get away from feeling arguments.

6. **DON'T GET DISTRACTED**

"President Bush did..."

"Well President Wilson did... This is not a relevant conversation. What about now?"

7. **IF YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT SOMETHING, ADMIT IT**

Don't fake it.

8. **DON'T GET SUCKED IN BY THEIR PARADIGM**

You don't have to defend a position you don't hold. "I disagree with that position."

9. **LET THE OTHER SIDE HAVE MEANINGFUL VICTORIES**

They want to make you sound like you hate Mexicans if you want immigration reform.

"What specifically are you advocating?" Ask them to define terms.

10. **BODY LANGUAGE MATTERS**

Image (staging) matters.