

# Vassar 2022 Invitational Motions

## **Round One:**

**THBT** colleges should bar standardized testing as a determinant of academic admissions.

**THBT** the United States should have free public colleges.

**THW** implement a uniform curriculum for all public schools in the United States.

## **Round Two:**

**THBT** nuclear energy is better for the environment than other forms of renewable energy

**THBT** there should be a mandatory cap and trade program for carbon emissions in the United States.

Cap and trade is a system designed to limit pollution in the atmosphere. The cap places a firm limit on how much large companies are allowed to emit, which is lowered over time. The trade is a market that enables companies to purchase and sell allowances that let them emit only a certain amount, as supply and demand set the price.

**THBT** students should be encouraged to strike for climate change.

Starting with Greta Thunberg, students around the world have walked out of/missed school (typically on Fridays) in order to protest lack of action in fighting climate change.

## **Round Three:**

**THBT** protest in front of the private property of public servants is a legal means of democratic expression.

**THBT** the restriction of accounts known to spread false information is an affront on personal liberties.

**THBT** social media websites should be able to mine data.

## **Round Four:**

**THBT** the pledge of allegiance should not be recited in schools.

**THBT** school uniforms are beneficial to student's education.

**THBT** American public schools should not ban books.

## **Round Five:**

**THBT** Supreme Court justices should have term limits.

**THBT** the United States federal government should expand the number of justices on the Supreme Court.

**THBT** voting in all democratic nations should be mandatory.

### **Varsity Quarters:**

**THBT** drug companies should not be allowed to patent any vaccines or medication.

**THBT** the market inflation of life-saving pharmaceuticals should not be allowed.

**THBT** the United States federal government should legalize marijuana.

### **Novice Semis:**

**THBT** the benefits of the United States providing military aid to Taiwan outweigh the harms.

**THBT** the United Nations should impose a ban on lethal autonomous weapons.

**THBT** the harms of the United States 2020 withdrawal from Afghanistan outweigh the benefits.

### **Varsity Semis:**

**THW** eliminate the charitable donation deduction for income tax purposes.

**THBT** the United States should establish a universal basic income.

**THBT** monopolies are beneficial in a free market economy.

### **Novice Finals:**

**THBT** incarcerated criminals should retain the right to vote in United States elections.

**THBT** the death penalty is should be abolished.

**THBT** all individuals incarcerated for non-violent drug-related crimes should be released.

### **Varsity Finals:**

**THW** pull the lever in the trolley problem killing one person and saving five.

The trolley problem is an ethics and psychology thought experiment that goes as follows: You find yourself at a lever. A runaway trolley approaches five people who are tied to the tracks. Pulling the level will divert the trolley to a different set of tracks where only one person is tied down.

**THBT** censorship can never be justified.

**THBT** civil disobedience is justified in democracies.