

Debate Approach

Name of Faculty: Dr. Meghna Sharma

Name of the topic: Human Values

Name of the activity: Debate on whether “Scientists should be ethically responsible for the consequences of their research”.

Students Involved: B Tech first year.

Human Ethics in Research

In today's fast-paced environment where the end results matter the most, in this situation should scientist be only focused on the results of their own particular field or the negative consequences associated with their research also matters, this is a topic of serious discussion in today's scenario.

Description of activity

In this activity the students were divided into two groups of FOR and AGAINST to debate the topic “Scientists should be ethically responsible for the consequences of their research”.

Both groups were given a chance to discuss the merits of their opinion and counter each other's opinions in a healthy environment so that various points of view are put on the table for serious thinking.

Required Skills

Good communication skills, persuasion skills, logical and critical thinking, and excellent command over language.

Activity Process

- Students were divided into groups of two each.
- Every group was given a chance to put forwards the merit of their opinion in the opening remarks.
- Then the house was open for debate and discussion.
- All opinions were respected with a focus on discussion, not finding a winning or losing opinion.

Outcome of the activity.

- Students were able to improve their communication skills.
- Activity helped them to learn how to weigh an opinion objectively.
- Students were able to improve their critical and logical thinking.
- Students could relate to the topic with their own personal work, which helped them decide which approach to take.

Conclusion.

Activity-based learning helps students to develop their communication, teamwork, and leadership skills. It opens up their critical thinking process which is much required for engineering students.

Students learn to plan, solve problems, do course corrections, and counter opinions in real-time during such debate activities.

