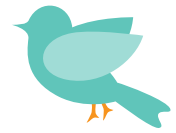




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About Debate

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It is interesting to watch this year's presidential debates in USA. It is clear that the office of presidential debate did not set a reasonable rule to guide such public debates.

We all know that public debates should be totally different from private debates. In particular, public debates should be focused on issues of public concerns or interests while private debates are for any topics within private circles.

Therefore, a presidential debate should let the nominees to mainly talk about things such:

1. What are past (and/or present) achievements (and/or) mistakes from a nominee while she or he was or is holding a public office?
2. How ambitious or narrow are the future policies advocated by a nominee?



3. How comprehensive or fragmental are the future policies advocated by a nominee?
4. How practical or illusive are the future policies advocated by a nominee?
5. What are merits or shortcomings of the future policies from a nominee if she or he will be holding a public office such as president of a country?

If we agree on the above rules or guideline, we can notice the following facts from this year's USA presidential debates:

1. One nominee has more or less followed the right way of pursuing the public debates by questioning his opponent's mistakes or crimes under the context of public affairs.
2. The other nominee has more or less abused the context of public debate by bringing out private matters which are not the evidence of any crime nor the evidence of any harm to the public if it is still kept in private circle. The exposure of such private matters is not only irrelevant to public debate but also has no benefit to clean up the mind of people including children. On the other hand, it is clear to the public that a third



party's exposure of private things without permission from all private persons involved is a violation of human right.

Democracy literally means leadership to be chosen by people, and is a good system to advance the progress of humanity only and only if we run the system in a proper way. Interesting enough, the ancient Chinese wisdom had already set the perfect guideline for any private or public debates or quarrels. Here, I quote the following Chinese sayings: 上等人谈智慧、中等人谈事业、下等人谈是非。 Basically, it told us that people of high class talk about wisdom, people of middle class talk about mission and people of low class talk about right-and-wrong.

