### List of Topics Used at the 2012 John Brown Tournament

Round 1A

1. We should be able to buy and sell whatever we want.
2. Greece’s austerity measures will cause more harm than good.
3. Honey Boo Boo is being exploited.
4. The United States is inadequately prepared to combat foreign cyberterrorism.
5. “Always vote for principle.” (John Quincy Adams)

Round 1B

1. "Honesty is for the most part less profitable than dishonesty." (Plato)
2. Online classes cannot match the traditional classroom.
3. The end of the election is bad for “Saturday Night Live.”
4. We deserve the government we have elected.
5. Pornography is good for us.

Round 2A

1. The United States should dissolve the Department of Education.
2. “The Talk” is better than “The View.”
3. There needs to be more music on MTV.
4. “The citizen who criticizes his country is paying it an implied tribute.” (J. William Fulbright)
5. It’s not a traditional America anymore.

Round 2B

1. “The people who think that the power of big business is enormous are mistaken.” (Ludwig von Mises)
2. It’s too early for Christmas decorations.
3. The American Music Awards are better than the Grammies.
4. The United States military should curtail the use of drone warfare.
5. Don’t have children.

Round 3A

1. The RIAA is bad for musicians.
2. The United States is a benign hegemon.
3. The Daily Show is more legitimate than Fox News.
4. It’s time to start thinking about 2016.
5. Pray not for a lighter load, but a stronger back.

Round 3B

1. “People first, then money, then things.” (Suze Orman)
2. Bella is a poor role model for girls.
3. We should regulate the sale of energy drinks.
4. Rachel Maddow is better than Bill O’Reilly.
5. The Senate should revise its filibuster rules.

Round 4A

1. We should have a holiday to honor Japanese internment camp victims.
2. Nicki Minaj is setting back female rappers.
3. Amorality is worse than immorality.
4. The Republican Party must radically change to be relevant in the future.
5. “All little girls should be told that they are pretty, even if they aren’t.” (Marilyn Monroe)

Round 4B

1. Children do not need to learn cursive writing.
2. The media gave Obama the victory.
3. Livestrong will live strong without Lance.
4. Apple should innovate, not litigate.
5. “The key to failure is trying to please everyone.” (Bill Cosby)

Round 5A

1. The federal government should pass the DREAM Act.
2. The United States was negligent in protecting its Consulate in Libya.
3. Obama won because of “gifts.”
4. The NHL will lose the entire season.
5. “The opposite of love is not hate; it’s indifference.” (Elie Wiesel)

Round 5B

1. Congress should pass the Cybersecurity Act of 2012.
2. We are overly concerned about China.
3. London is ready for some football.
4. Prepaid phone service is better than traditional contract phones.
5. “Indifference and neglect often do more damage than outright dislike.” (J.K. Rowling)

Round 6A

1. Let Texas secede.
2. Star Wars: Episode VII is a bad idea.
3. Congress lacks the resolve to save us from the “Fiscal Cliff.”
4. “The best and fastest way to learn a sport is to watch and imitate a champion.” (Jean-Claude Killy)
5. Liberty is more important than the law.

Round 6B

1. The privatization of correctional facilities is a bad idea.
2. States should put a moratorium on fracking.
3. Spain should allow a referendum on Catalan independence.
4. “Anyone who is capable of getting themselves made president should on no account be allowed to do the job.” (Douglas Adams)
5. Money is more important than power.

Octafinals

1. The United States should adopt the Ottawa Convention.
2. “Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes.” (Mahatma Ghandi)
3. Romney could have won the election.
4. Microsoft should have stayed out of the hardware business.
5. Lotteries in support of education cause more harm than good.

Quarterfinals

1. Patraeus should not have resigned.
2. “The mo’ money we come across, the mo’ problems we see.” (Christopher Wallace)
3. Pakistan is an enemy to the United States.
4. Print news media should prepare to write its own obituary.
5. Video games need more heroines.

Semifinals

1. The Voting Rights Act is unconstitutional.
2. “All I really need to know I learned in kindergarten.” (Robert Fulghum)
3. Iran has the right to research nuclear technology.
4. Moderates are being squeezed out of the American political process.
5. Tablets are a passing fad.

Finals

1. Congress should raise taxes on those making more than $250,000.
2. Employment discrimination laws should be repealed.
3. “Take care of yourself, and each other.” (Jerry Springer)
4. China’s new leadership will mean nothing to the United States.
5. It is better to receive than give.