

September 28th, 2020

### About Our Motions

The motions for the ASOMEX Halloween Tournament adhere to the American School Foundation's vision and Mission and align with American, AP and IB curricular standards. The School, and therefore our tournament, is an inclusive and diverse community, offering an international, academically rigorous, university-preparatory education. In addressing our Core Value of *Truth*, our motions often examine preconceived notions of taboo subject-matter in a highly academic manner as we encourage the integration of multidisciplinary and often challenging perspectives to understand the human condition.

When dealing with *eroticism*, the ASF Debate Community recognizes this subject as ubiquitous across our behaviors and relationships regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation. Feeling in love, or finding yourself attracted to another person, comes not only as a coming of age ritual but also as an ideal for fulfillment when we seek a so-called *happily ever after*. However, as human beings we often experience issues with interpersonal relationships when we fail to recognize how hurtful we might be. We may be blinded by such feelings. A friend might become a tad too obsessed, a text too commanding, a date turned into a nightmare. Without surprise, this gets publicized across black screens and gallery floors. The argument stands: *is eroticism in media inherently violent?* The evidence that we'll use to guide this debate therefore begins by exploring the biological and psychological understanding of human relationships to understand how eroticism plays a role in art, music, literature, and advertisement.

We will take the following actions to ensure that our community is well-prepared to debate this highly relevant topic, and encourage your teams to do the same.

1. Institutionally, the content has been approved by our Executive Director and is undoubtedly High School level (9th through 12th grade).
2. Students will be responsible for covering the content provided by ASF Debate to be well-informed and academically prepared for discussion. The content will be available live on October 1st at 4pm through this [Zoom link](#) and will be uploaded to our [Tournament Website](#) later on that night.
3. ASF Parents will be briefed in a virtual face-to-face meeting about the tournament, its content, and their responsibilities as guardians of the ASF Debate Team members.
4. The Team Coach will be responsible for guiding students in their research, providing relevant and appropriate sources for students to evaluate and use in the preparation of their cases and addressing any child protection issues.
5. Our Team will take precautionary measures to choose the most qualified judges for this semi-finals motion.

It is because the ASF Debate Community strongly believes in combating violence in our society that we have chosen to bring awareness in the best way we know how: by encouraging dialogue through debate. Through this motion we hope to instill a sense of self-awareness in what we deem erotic, its value and purpose, but also its inherent dangers and limitations. For this reason, we encourage having a conversation about this topic at home since it is pertinent to all, from maturing to mature adults.

On behalf of The American School Foundation Debate Team,  
Roberto Jones