Debate Topic #1: Should marine mammals be kept in human care?

Pro

Facilities provide care to sick or stranded marine mammals that may otherwise be euthanized

Important for learning more about species

Educate public on best behavior when interacting in the wild with marine mammals

Inspire next generation of stewards

Facilities provide enrichments to keep them healthy

https://www.animallaw.info/article/detailed-discussion-dolphins-under-mmpa#id-24 https://www.leisurepro.com/blog/scuba-diving-stories-news/against-keeping-captive-cetaceans/ https://www.leisurepro.com/blog/scuba-diving-stories-news/for-keeping-captive-cetaceans/ https://thetylt.com/culture/is-it-wronq-to-keep-dolphins-captive

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Need more space

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Family separated

Need more mental stimuli

Shouldn't be made to perform

What about sea pens/sanctuaries?

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Con



Debate Topic #2:

Should swimming with dolphins and boat tours be allowed?

Pro

Emotional connection to animals (especially if no longer in zoos/aquariums) so people will protect what they love

Education on ecosystems

Umbrella species: If you protect an apex predator you protect all the species that support it Disturbs animals when resting

Animals become to accustomed to boats

Con

Teaches illegal behavior to guests

Dangerous to the animals



South Carolina

Aquarium

South Carolina Aquarium

https://www.animallaw.info/article/detailed-discussion-dolphins-under-mmpa#id-24 https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/six-reasons-why-you-should-not-swim-wild-spinner-dolphins https://www.travelandleisure.com/articles/should-you-or-shouldnt-you-swim-with-the-dolphins https://thetylt.com/culture/should-swimming-with-dolphins-be-banned-in-hawaii

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Debate Topic #3:

Should offshore drilling be allowed?

South Carolina

Pro

Creates domestic jobs

Self-sustainable/not relying on international trade

Society needs current fuel type

Con

Destructive to environment and animals

Amount of oil available not worth the energy and risk

Should look into alternative energy sources



South Carolina

Aquarium

https://thetylt.com/politics/should-offshore-drilling-be-banned

https://www.washingtonpost.com/energy-environment/2018/11/30/trump-administration-approves-seismic-tests-that-coul d-harm-many-thousands-atlantic-dolphins-whales/?noredirect=on

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