

Public Speaking Activity

Chapter 15-Speaking to Persuade Ethics

The purpose of this activity is to assess ethical and unethical nature persuasion. Answer the following questions about persuasive speaking and be prepared to share your answers with the class.

1. Is it ethical for one person to try to persuade another? Why or why not?
2. What is the most ethical approach for a speaker to take when trying to persuade an audience?
3. To what extent should a persuasive speaker reveal her or his true motives to the audience?
4. Are there any situations in which it would be ethical for a speaker to distort the truth in order to persuade an audience?
5. Is it ethical for a speaker to use emotional appeal to sway listeners? In what situations?