

## Some Ground Rules and A Priori Understandings:

- **Love One Another** – Meaning respect each other person or party, whether present or not. Rhetorical sensitivity is key, as others may view our messages other than as we intended them to be received. Be kind always.
- **Put yourself in the other person's position** – The best communicators always seem to place themselves in the position of the other and are primarily concerned if the impact of their message on the other, rather than upon their own self-aggrandizement.
- **They won't care how much you know, until they know how much you care.** Frame your messages in your concerns, not just as rhetorical weapons.
- **Debate is a role playing game:**
  - So, please do not assume the views expressed are the core views of the speakers; it may be an assigned role.
  - Role playing is not lying, or being dishonest.
  - But never lie to advance a point.
- Finally, **the term Fiat** simply means in this make believe world of debate, if you can prove we should logically do something, then you can assume we would do through the almost magical concept of Fiat. It helps to advance the discussion