Junior A, Semi Final

"That we, as young South Australians, would leave South Australia for work."

1.   Type of Topic

This is an actor debate, where the group of people with the power to make the decision are young South Australians. As Junior A, you are in an advantageous position to develop an argument according to what is in your own best interests. In this case, are young South Australians going to benefit by leaving South Australia for work?

The Affirmative side of the House should consider how moving interstate will be better for young South Australians' prospects in terms of their career. The Negative side of the House should demonstrate how this is not in their best interests.

When deciding whether an argument is relevant in an actor debate, teams should consider the actor's motivations, interests and needs. Arguments should be made to demonstrate whether the decision to move interstate for work does or does not align with these motivations, interests and needs. For example, would this lead to a better lifestyle, better income, better quality of life, career advancement? The Negative could deflect or diffuse these arguments by suggesting that a move for young South Australians is high risk, low reward, outlining issues like impulse, ideals, economic realities and long-term consequences.

Remember to use logical reasoning to step-out your argument.

2.   Background / Context

South Australia, particularly Adelaide, offers fewer job opportunities compared to larger states like New South Wales and Victoria, which have more diverse and higher-paying roles. This disparity in job prospects makes relocating appealing for career advancement.

Economic growth in New South Wales and Victoria often exceeds that of South Australia, with expanding sectors such as finance, technology, and media providing more opportunities. Additionally, while South Australia has reputable educational institutions, some might seek specialised programs or postgraduate courses available in other states.

Cost of living is another important consideration. Cities like Sydney and Melbourne have higher living costs compared to Adelaide, though higher salaries in these cities might offset these expenses. Personal lifestyle preferences also play a role, with some preferring the vibrant life of larger cities and others valuing the more relaxed lifestyle in South Australia.

While moving might offer better opportunities, it also carries risks. The new job might not meet expectations, or the individual might face difficulties adapting to a new work culture, which can affect long-term career satisfaction.

Local initiatives in South Australia aim to retain talent by creating job opportunities and fostering industry growth, influencing the decision to stay.

3.   Questions for Consideration

- What specific career opportunities and economic benefits are available interstate, which may not be present in South Australia?
- What industries or sectors in South Australia are experiencing growth, and could they offer comparable career opportunities to those available interstate?
- How do the salary and job growth prospects in other states compare to those in South Australia?
- What are the personal costs associated with moving interstate?
- How does relocating impact an individual's social support network, family connections, and overall well-being?
- How might the departure of young professionals affect local community engagement, cultural development, and demographic balance in South Australia?
- What lessons can be learned from other regions or states that have successfully managed talent retention and economic development?