Directions: Watch the debate or read the transcript and answer the questions below. Time stamps for each section are located at the bottom right corner of each question.

**OPENING STATEMENTS**

1. Summarize the opening statement of Kenneth Roth
   - Time: 1:50

2. Summarize the opening statement of John Yoo
   - Time: 11:06

3. What are the main points of Kenneth Roth’s rebuttal?
   - Time: 19:21

**THE DEBATERS**

KENNETH ROTH
Executive Director
Human Rights Watch

JOHN YOO
Attorney, Author
Torture Memos - OLC
How does John Yoo respond to Roth? What are his 3 points?

Questions from the moderator - Geneva and Abu Ghraib

What article of the Geneva Conventions does Roth say applies to Al Qaeda? Did the US ratify this part?

After listening to the opening arguments, do YOU believe that the Geneva Conventions applied to members of al Qaeda and other high value targets captured after 9/11? Justify your answer.

Is there a connection between memos that Yoo wrote and what happened at Abu Ghraib? Is it fair to blame policy makers? Listen to both sides and summarize their responses.
What does Yoo say should be done with people who were seized in the Afghanistan side of the war (suspected Taliban and Al Qaeda)? In 2005, when this debate was held, many were at GITMO (Guantanamo Bay).

What does Roth say should be done with them?

After listening to the opposing arguments, what do YOU think should be done with people seized in the “War on Terror? Whose side do you most agree – Yoo’s or Roth’s?

Is there a state of war? What does that mean? Does the government get a blank check? Summarize Yoo’s and Roth’s answers here.
What is your opinion? Are we in a state of war? Does the government get a “blank check” to fight it?

Questions from the audience – POW’s and Unlawful Combatants

Are the people seized in the “war on terror” POW’s or Unlawful Combatants? If they are POW’s then Geneva applies. If they are Unlawful Combatants then it does not. Summarize how Yoo and Roth respond.

So which is it? Are people seized in the “war on terror” POW’s or Unlawful Combatants? Explain your answer.

Questions from the audience – Nuclear Scenarios

If a nuclear bomb is going to off in 24 hours in a major American city, does it justify using torture to get information to stop it? Summarize the answers given by Roth and Yoo.
Is there a “ticking bomb” exception that would justify torture? Explain your answer.

Questions from the audience – Nuclear Scenarios

Note: The transcript does not include this question. Watch the video, starting at 1:03:08 for this section.

If a nuclear bomb is going to off in 24 hours in a major American city, does it justify using torture to get information to stop it? Summarize the answers given by Roth and Yoo.

Questions from the audience – Justifiable Torture? / Problems

In the “world we live in now” are there times when torture is justified – even in the face of the Geneva Conventions and United States Constitution? Summarize Roth’s answer.

What, according to Yoo would allow the President of the U.S. to use torture?
The moderator, Jeffrey Toobin, did not have the audience vote on who they believed won the debate. If he had, who would YOU have voted for and why? Justify your answer with examples that match your opinions.