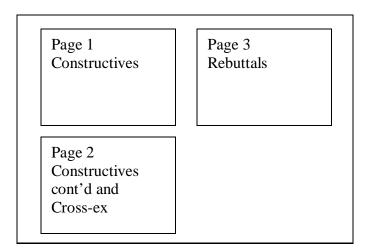
Flow Chart¹ of the Final Round: Connecticut Debate Association, Joel Barlow High School, March 28, 2009

Resolved: The U.S. should significantly limit total compensation paid by corporations to individual employees.

The final round at State Finals was between the Wilton team of Thomas Dec and Michael Tartell on the Affirmative and Joel Barlow team of Alyssa Bilinski and Evan Streams on the Negative. The debate was won by the Negative team from Joel Barlow.

Format Key

It's hard to reproduce notes taken on an 11" by 14" artist pad on printed paper. The three pages below are an attempt to do so. The first page covers the constructive speeches, the second page covers the cross-ex, and the third page covers the rebuttal. The pages are intended to be arranged as follows, which is how my actual flow chart is arranged:



Note that the first page containing the constructive speeches always has arguments related to the Affirmative contentions at the top, and those relating to the Negative contentions at the bottom. This is not how the speeches may have been presented, in that often a speaker will deal with Negative arguments prior to the Affirmative. The "transcript" version of this chart presents the arguments in each speech as presented.

The chart uses "A1," "N2," etc. to refer to the Affirmative first contention, the Negative second contention and so forth. It also uses the following abbreviations:

"XX" XX

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First Affirmative Constructive	First Negative Constructive	Second Affirmative Constructive	Second Negative Constructive
1) Introduction	We all want a stable, efficient economy. The	I would like to spend my speech comparing the	I hate going to bed because the light switch is
2) Statement of the Resolution	Aff. side does not do this.	Aff and Neg contentions	by the door, and after I turn off the light I have
3) Definition: "limit" any legal initiative to lower	2) The Aff plan seems to be all kumbaya,	2) The Neg say that they don't see a problem	to walk through the dark to get to bed
compensation	everyone sits around and talks.	a) Companies make less, lay off workers,	2) This is like the Aff plan. They haven't been
a) "Compensation" means any one of the	a) The Aff plan is vague. Does it require	executives still get more pay	clear so we don't know where everything is.
five major components: salary, bonus,	every shareholder, everyone voting?	b) Aff wants to align the interests of the	a) Shareholders and the corporation are
long-term incentives, benefits and perks.	b) There is no mechanism to implement it.	CEO and workers	distinct from the US, so it isn't clear how
4) A1: Adopting the resolution benefits the	How will it be enforced?	3) The Aff Plan is to increase direct shareholder	they meet the resolution.
shareholders and workers.	c) Who will be affected? Since Aff didn't	input on executive compensation	b) Also, the shareholders appoint the Board
a) In 1990 CEOs made 55 times the average	say, we assume it will be at least the	 a) We'd also give unions a say in executive 	currently
worker's wage	Fortune 500 and firms receiving bailout	pay	i) Unless they have thousands at the
b) By 2000 it was 119 times	funds.	b) Now the average shareholder does not	meeting, their plan won't work
c) How much is too much? We need	3) A1: These people work long hours at risky,	have a large say	ii) Many employees are already
regulation to prevent CEOs manipulating	stressful jobs. They deserve their pay.	 Now CEOs can drive companies into the 	shareholders, they would have a say
their pay.	 a) Not all high paid employees are CEOs. 	ground and get a bonus and a golden	iii) How many would be involved?
d) We don't need an explicit pay cap	4) A2: The Aff confuses the problem	parachutes	
 i) If we strengthen the competing 	 a) AIG and Citi don't justify limiting the 	4) A3: If we pay less to the CEO:	
interests involved in setting pay	others	 a) The company can prevent layoffs and 	 The parties involved might not cut pay. This could be a very bad
ii) If we provide a more equitable way	 Financial market are risky, workers 	continue to pay benefits	mechanism
of determining pay	deserve high pay.	5) A1 vs. N2 and freedom of contract	
iii) Now the CEO is often the Chairman		 a) We aren't requiring existing contracts be 	
of the Board of Directors		renegotiated.	very topical. It doesn't satisfy the
5) A2: There is an inherent need to regulate			resolution
executive pay			i) They want to affirm, but not for very
a) The current scandals over Citigroup and			long. Where is the change, the
AIG show this			significance?
b) Executives are getting exorbitant pay			3) A1: Depends on shareholders and workers not
even as they drive these companies into			having a say now.
the ground			a) Currently shareholders elect the Board,
c) How are the workers going to feel about			some are on the Board
this.			b) So how much is too much? It will still be
6) A3: Adopting the resolution will benefit the			up to the company unless the gov't is
economy			involved
1			4) A2: We need new regulation, but not this
			regulation
			 a) The recession is due to mortgage backed
compensation			securities and leverage
c) CEO's pay structure encourages massive			 Regulation needs to control leverage
risk taking			and derivatives
d) The system isn't working, it doesn't			b) There is no linkage to executive pay
properly reward hard work			c) Aff proposal is irrelevant to the fate of
e) How can US workers and shareholders			AIG or Citibank
institute change?			5) A3: Is based on the same assumptions as the
			other contentions.
	N1: High salaries attract good employees	1) Angry mob?	N1: Executives will move to where they get
	a) There is a global war for talent	a) People have made the connection between	earn higher salaries
		profit and pay	a) They will go to companies that aren't
	i) There is a war for talent in the US	b) Economic success isn't due to pay	affected or overseas
	b) It's easy to switch jobs	incentives alone but a partnership with all	2) We shouldn't have to stumble around in the
	 Limits on salaries would cause 	workers	dark
	talented workers to switch jobs or	2) Violates capitalism?	Gark
	move abroad	a) The resolution looks out for the general	
	ii) For example, in the 1960's high	welfare	
	taxes in the UK prompted the		
	Beatles' song "Taxman"		
E' 1D 1M 1 20 2000	<u> </u>	a) At the same time workers are getting fired	

	(1) Tax rates hit 95%	b) CEOs get paid millions for doing a bad
	(2) Many emigrated for tax	job.
	reasons	4) The resolution doesn't incite class warfare
2)	N2: Limits on salaries violate our values	a) Pay will be determined by the
	 a) Article I Section 9 protects the right of 	shareholders
	contract	b) If CEO does well, there will be no cuts.
	 There is no justification to change 	He may even get a raise.
	these contracts	c) Only if company is driven into the ground
	b) The resolution is a mob reaction	can the pay be renegotiated and cut.
	i) People are really mad, going to	5) N3: We believe the resolution is enforceable.
	executive homes	Shareholders are not the government
	c) Capitalism may be in crisis, but that	
	doesn't justify this regulation	
3)		
	a) We don't have the specifics of the plan	
	b) If we reduce salaries overall, these are	
	high tax individuals and so we will lose	
	revenue	
	c) Federal micromanagement will cause	
	shifts	
	 Hedge funds were created to avoid 	
	investment regulation	
	ii) Credit default swaps were created to	
	avoid insurance regulation	
	iii) Companies will change to avoid the	
	regulation.	

Cross-ex of First Affirmative		Cro	ss-ex of First Negative	Cros	ss-ex of Second Affirmative	Cro	ss-ex of Second Negative
1)	Under your plan everyone would get a say on	1) 2)	You say workers will go elsewhere? Yes Were the Beatles executives? Since the salaries	1)	In the status quo, are there shareholders on the	1)	Do you stand by your partner's belief there is no
2)	executive pay? If they are shareholders How many are there? Many	2)		2)	Board? Only a few Is the CEO on the Board? Yes	2)	problem with executive compensation? Yes Did the Aff propose an intrusive plan? I don't
1 ′	•		are determined by the Board, and it's not clear	3)		2)	know.
3)	How will you include all these shareholders? Don't know. We aren't congressmen or	3)	what your plan is, it's a good example. Is there a problem with executive	3)	Isn't that where shareholders come together to negotiate pay? The CEO controls the Board	3)	
	e e	3)		4)	The Board are all shareholders? No	3)	What is wrong with shareholders ratifying
1	experts.		compensation? I'm not sure, but it isn't the	4)		4)	executive pay? It's not an alternative
4)	Don't recent newspaper articles show we have	4)	government's job.	5)	Don't shareholders appoint the Board? I'm not	4)	Are corporate Boards concerned? Yes Do shareholders vote on the Board? Yes
	transparency? More transparency would be better.	4)	Salaries 114 times the average worker isn't a problem? No	6)	aware. You said that if executives were successful	5)	
5		5)	1	0)		6)	Why not have shareholders ratify pay? That is
5)	Is "transparency" part of the resolution? If	5)	Why not? It's what the system calls for. Hard		their pay could go up? Money could go up or down in the next iteration.	7)	the current system. It's not. Don't the Board and the shareholders
	people knew about these pay packages they would limit them.	6)	work, risk, stress, 14 hour days.	7)		1)	have different motivations? Sometimes, but
6)		6)	Isn't the gov't responsible for the general welfare? Not to redistribute wealth.	()	So it might only go down a little or not at all. How is that consistent with the resolution?		The state of the s
6)	Don't they know already for the large	7)				8)	both want to make money. Why are salaries so high? They were
	companies, the S&P 500? Isn't it in the articles	1)	Why are there taxes? We need to pay for basic facilities.	8)	Depends on the significance	0)	
7)	we have? Not enough detail.	6)	Couldn't we use a flat tax? It makes sense for	0)	Is "a little" significant? Depends on the definition		negotiated ahead of time, and executives would
7)	Does the resolution say to increase	8)		9)	So if you are fixing the system, why will this	9)	leave if they weren't. What checks exists? Companies determine if
	transparency? Transparency is a more	0)	the rich to pay more.	9)		9)	*
8)	reasonable way to check power. Are bonuses bad? Yes	9)	Did we say contracts would be renegotiated?		only apply to one contract? We want higher accountability for CEOs	10)	they are adequate. Who determines? The Board.
9)	If they are paid to people who have fulfilled		You didn't say. But you gave AIG as an example.	10)		11)	
1 9)	their contract, why is it bad? Our interpretation	10)	•	10)	Did high pay cause the crisis? Not entirely, but limiting it will help us get out.	11)	who is sometimes the CEO.
	builds flexibility.	10)		11)		12)	The CEO? He's still answerable to the Board.
10)			No. The constitution upholds the right to contract.	11)	Executives who do a good job will see no pay cut? Most Boards will cut pay.	13)	
10)	all but most.		contract.		cut? Most Boards will cut pay.	13)	members? Yes.
11)	If everyone gets together and agrees on pay						
	does does mean it is this fair? Not necessarily.						
12)							

don't think that will happen in general.

First Affirmative Rebuttal	First Negative Rebuttal	Second Negative Rebuttal	Second Affirmative Rebuttal
a) The Neg is lost in the dark b) About the plan i) Aff wants to increase shareholders say (1) There is no direct vote now ii) We also want to increase transparency, which is always good. iii) It's also legitimate to increase unions iv) Aff believes this is clear and equitable c) Neg. doesn't think there is a problem i) My grandfather came over from Italy, worked hard, built something ii) Now many are getting laid off while CEOs are paid exorbitant sums. d) Correcting this will increase worker morale i) That will increase productivity ii) It will also encourage immigration iii) The Neg doesn't address the morale and moral arguments e) Aff is not breaking contracts f) The US is the best economy in the world. There is no place else to go. g) The Aff is not lost in the dark i) There are risks, but the benefits outweigh the risks	h) The Negative has three questions. I'll discuss the first two and my partner will discuss the third i) Will the Aff plan work? ii) Are high salaries harmful? iii) Is gov't action appropriate i) Will the Aff plan work? It's a plan of ideas, not actions i) How will it increase shareholder influence ii) How will they enforce limits on compensation iii) Today this is already done by the shareholders and the Board iv) In the rebuttal the Aff said the shareholders would ratify pay and they would increase transparency (1) But how are they going to get them to vote on these issues? v) They may not choose to reduce total compensation (1) Aff said it might go down, but that it might go up (2) They want the plan to work, but they can't show it will have a significant effect j) Are high salaries harmful? This is the class between A1 and N1. i) What about CEOs who didn't drive their companies into the ground? No change? ii) What about the others? They have a contract, and many have left their companies iii) The Aff dream is that you come to the US, work hard, rise in the world, and best case you get low pay. (1) The Negative believes they will go elsewhere if the Aff plan is effective.	k) Resolved: All companies appoint all shareholders to their Board i) Otherwise, how will the Aff implement their plan? ii) Neg agrees that not all shareholders are involved now, but how do you force them to be involved? Aff doesn't say. l) Is gov't action appropriate? i) We do need new regulations, but not this one (1) Pay is not related to the crisis (2) Pay caps won't prevent risky products ii) Average hard working American? (1) Resolution won't help them. Won't stop layoffs due to the economy (2) Layoffs not related to pay. It's the result of bad decisions and risky products iii) Values? (1) Aff sees a different American dream. Climb the ladder and bang your head on a glass pay ceiling (2) Neg. values capitalism. (a) This change to the Board is nationalization. iv) We don't really know what the plan is, it won't work, and it's immoral. v) The Aff may appease anger, but it's no fix for mortgages. (1) Until those programs are fixed, it won't help workers vi) The Neg wants to turn on the light so we don't have to stub our toe on the inequities of human nature.	m) Neg is not only stumbling in the dark, but they shut the door as the Aff tried to lead them out. n) Aff made a moderate proposal i) No radical pay cuts ii) Linking shareholders to pay is reasonable iii) Calling it a "glass ceiling" is an unreasonable interpretation o) Shareholders will lower salaries because they are motivated to i) Success will cause pay to rise, pay for performance p) Is pay the cause of the crisis? It's not relevant to the resolution. q) What is the best way to improve companies? What is the best way to improve companies? What is the best way to improve grofitability? i) Without limits, CEOs take unnecessary risks. Fail and they have golden parachutes ii) Capitalism is about making markets work r) We urge an Aff ballot to keep the American dream alive i) Give shareholders a say, and only pay for performance