**Analysis activity 5.6: Comparing different views**

The 1929 debates on Prohibition in the US Senate became so popular that people flocked to hear them. The two main attractions were opponents Senators Reed and Borah. Analyse their different views below.

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| **Senator Reed of Missouri argued for Prohibition to end** | **Senator Borah of Idaho argued for Prohibition and keeping alcohol illegal** |
| ‘Law has been the instrument of tyrants and the weapon of brutes since time began. An improper law, an unjust law, a cruel law may be as much a crime as is the act of an individual who assassinates in the dark … Let no man say because I have thus spoken that I am declaring we should defy this law. It is our business to proceed in the right way to remedy whatever wrongs exist, and the right way is to repeal bad laws and to change bad constitutions.’ | Time and experience alone will demonstrate that fact, but it was not a crime; the people of the United States were in sincerity struggling with that which was deemed to be one of the greatest evils of modern civilization … I am only committed against the change, the repeal of either of the amendment or the law, so long as nothing better and more effective has been or can be presented. If there be a better way to control the evil of drink, a more effective way, more thorough, and with better results to those whom we would serve, let us have it.’ |

1. What is the main argument of each politician?

1. What reasons does each give to support his argument?

1. Which argument do you believe to be more powerful? Explain why.