

#RightTrack

‘HOME’ CONVERSATION GUIDE

This conversation guide will help you have values-based conversations with members of the community about the Government’s use of temporary protection visas (TPVs), which deny refugees a chance to build a new life in our community and keep them in a state of distress and anxiety.



SELF: Sharing your experiences, feelings and values with each other in order to connect with each other and build rapport

BEGIN by asking: “So we’re asking people today, ‘what does ‘Home’ mean to you?”

ASK follow-up questions about their experiences of having a secure or insecure home

E.g. “Have you ever worried about your home being that safe and secure place? Have you ever been evicted or worried about not making the mortgage payments and losing the house?”

EXPLORE what’s important to them: e.g. family, safety, security, etc.

“It sounds like keeping your family safe is really important to you”

SHARE: respond with your own related experiences and values.

“I’ve experienced something like that...”

“Yeah, I really resonate with what you said about feeling safe. My home is my safe place where I can just be myself, you know?”



PROBLEM: Name and frame the problem in terms of its impact on real people, who is responsible, and how this violates the values explored in ‘self’

BEGIN by pivoting to the problem

“Today we’re talking to people about home because unfortunately our Government has decided to treat refugees unfairly by forcing them on to short term temporary visas, with the ongoing threat they’ll be deported back to danger. Have you heard about that?”

Add detail about the impacts this will have on people

“Without the security of a permanent safe home here in Australia, people are kept in a state of limbo and anxiety, and prevented from rebuilding their lives.”

ASK do they think that’s fair?

REMEMBER the Explore – Equalise – Elevate formula for handling objections

“Can you tell me more about why you feel that way?” “Yes, I agree – nobody wants people dying at sea...”

EXPLORE together why the Government is doing this *“This has nothing to do with deterrence or stopping people coming by boat. It just seems to be mean-spirited.”*

SHARE: you feelings about why this is a terrible thing, and if you know anyone affected

“I’ve actually become friends with a woman who is affected by this. I’m really worried for her...”

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VISION: Explain and explore a solution that upholds the values you share and meets the needs of the people affected

BEGIN by pivoting to a more positive vision for how people seeking asylum are treated

"I just think that as a community that values fairness we should be giving these people a fair go. And just as we all need a safe home, these men, women and children need a safe and stable home here in our community. If we restored the right to permanent protection for people who have been found to be refugees, we could give people that chance for a better life."

ASK: what do you think?

EXPLORE alternatives that do uphold your shared values and meet people's needs

"What do you think is fair? What support should we be providing people who have been found to be refugees in need of protection?"

SHARE: tell them what you hope for – what is your more positive vision?

"I'm really hoping the Government realises how unnecessary and cruel temporary protection visas are, and restores permanent visas. That way people can begin to rebuild their lives with their families, and make a real contribution to our community."



US: move people from interest to action

If the conversation is going well –

ASK them to take action

"It's really important that our elected officials hear from us that we want refugees to be given permanent protection. We have a petition here from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, calling on our Government to transition people from temporary visas to permanent residency. Will you sign it now?"

INVITE them to any future events or actions you think might interest them.

THANK them for having a chat with you today!

Resources and more information:

If people want more information, give them this link: <http://bit.ly/perm-protect>