

MENU FOR PEACE

A RESOURCE FOR FACILITATING CONVERSATIONS ON PEACE



STARTERS

Start by reading, or having 2 persons read, the following 2 Arabic proverbs:

“Wisdom consists of ten parts: nine parts silence, and one part a few words.”

“Examine what is said, not who is speaking.”

A BIG tip for deepening the conversation:

Listen. Then, listen longer. This is the only way you will

- a) find out what the other person is thinking and feeling about the topic and
- b) motivate those who may be threatened by your ideas to reciprocate by listening to you.

Ask the participants to agree to 3 things:

Listen with respect to person who is speaking; no interrupting.

Everyone will have an opportunity to speak; no one HAS to discuss every question.

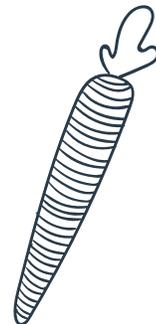
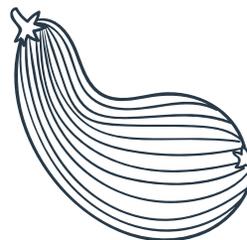
We are here to learn from each other and consider new thoughts,
not have our ideas necessarily reinforced.

SHAREABLES

Welcome everyone to the space + review the plan for the gathering.

Go around the room for a quick round of intros (keep this brief):

Say your name + where you are from + what are you bringing to the conversation?



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ENTRÉE/MAIN COURSE

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Invite someone who is directly impacted by this issue to share their experience

OR

Read aloud (or ask someone with a strong voice to read) "No One Leaves Home" by Warsan Shire

Are there other stories in the room that need to be shared? (Keep these brief)

Pair activity sharing emotional responses:

Ask people to pair up. Each person gets 3 minutes to express what she/he feels after listening to the story/stories or poem, without questions or interruptions. Then switch.

Whole group sharing: ask for a sample of people's reactions (4 or 5). Restate as needed:

"I'm hearing a lot of uncertainty about..." OR "The media coverage has been making people feel..."

Questions for Whole Group Discussion, Popcorn Style (not going around in a circle):

What are YOUR fears in our current situation?

How do we peacefully challenge Islamophobic questions or statements in a personal conversation?

What public actions can we do to combat Islamophobia and/or prejudice against Syrian and Iraqi refugees?

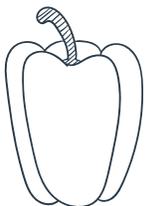
DESSERT

•.....•
Whole group read-around: as a sweet ending, have people read one proverb each from the handout.

Then warmly thank everyone for attending, and give them a few minutes to fill their

"Take Out Box" with reflections to take home and maybe share with others.

Don't forget your take-out box!



Give people a piece of pink paper to write a reflection:

What are you taking away from this conversation to digest at home?

