



Planning your Coffee Party Talks

The purpose of this document is to assist you in developing your local Coffee Party Talks. The Coffee Party has already developed materials on how to hold civil discussions as well as other materials available on their website which you might find useful:

<http://www.coffeepartyusa.com/resources>

Here are the basic steps:

1. Choose a discussion topic.
2. Select a location
3. Get people together
4. Have a civil discussion

Choose a Discussion Topic

The Coffee Party is partnering with Living Room Conversations to provide you predefined topics with ready made discussion questions which should help you with your discussion. We have chosen some suggested topics we believe are pertinent for this year. However, you may choose other topics as you wish.

[Media & Polarization](#)

[The America We Want To Be](#)

[Crony Capitalism](#)

[Privacy and Security](#)

Here is a link to all of the topics and discussion guides for the Living Room Conversations:

<http://www.livingroomconversations.org/host/>

Coffee Talk Locations

Coffee Party Talks can take place at any location. If viewing the panel discussion as a group, the location should have internet access and big screen access for viewing, audio access in the least for listening.. If the discussion is not happening at the time of the live panel discussion, then encourage participants to listen/view it beforehand.

- Library
- Church
- Townhall
- Your living room
- Coffee shop
- Restaurant
- A park

Get people together

One of the greatest challenges will be getting people together. The Coffee Talk is like any other gathering you would host. Invite your friends, family, neighbors, anyone you know.

To encourage participation of everyone, the ideal group size is 6-8 people. If interested groups are larger than 8 people, then break out into smaller groups or hold multiple discussion times.

Having a civil discussion

How do we structure the conversation?

- Have everyone read/recite [Coffee Party Civility Pledge](#) at the start.
- Introductions: Name, Affiliations (optional), Reason for being at talk (optional)
- View/listen to the panel discussion then use the discussion guide/questions to continue the conversation in the small group.
- Closing: Thank everyone for sharing their viewpoints and ideas in a civil manner.

**REMINDER: There are more resources on the Coffee Party USA website to assist you!
See the link at the top of this document!**