

# 1:1 Conversations about Immigration (60 minutes)

## Part 1: Opening (8 minutes)

After chatting in person or taking time to make sure the online settings are working, one of you reads the goals and then the other reads the ground rules.

### Goals

- ✓ More understanding of each other's values, concerns, and ideas for U.S. policy on immigration
- ✓ Discovering any areas of commonality in addition to differences

### Ground Rules

1. We're here to listen, share our views, and understand the other person, not to convince anyone to change their mind or attitudes. In other words, this is an open sharing, not an argument to establish who has the right perspective or correct facts.
2. We're here as individuals. Let's not assume the other person holds the views of a larger group or organization—unless they say they do.
3. We're going to stick to the process for each stage of the conversation. Example: if the question is what we each learned about how the other person sees an issue, that's all we do then even if it means resisting the urge to "correct" them.
4. We give each other permission to offer gentle reminders if we veer off from the process, as in "I think right now we're supposed to be doing...."

Are we both on board with these goals and ground rules, and ready to go?

If so, proceed to page 2.

## Part 2: Questions about Each Other (30 min.)

### Question 1: Why we are participating (4 min.)

**Why did we each decide to participate in this conversation?**

*Each of you takes up to 1 minute*

*Afterwards, back and forth conversation, 2 minutes total (here and elsewhere, feel free to use less time)*

**Did you see anything in common in why you are participating?**

*Suggestion: from here on, alternate who responds first to each question.*

### Question 2: Something about ourselves (4 min.)

**Share something about ourselves** such as where we each live and for how long, family, and (if we like) a fun question: What was your favorite meal as a child? *Up to 2 minutes each.*

### Question 3: The heart of the matter. What's at the heart of the immigration issue for you, and what life experiences influence how you approach it? (10 min.)

*One of you goes first, taking up to 3 minutes. Then the other person goes, taking up to 3 minutes. Then talk about what you learned about the other person from what they shared, and did you see anything in common? (Talk back and forth for up to 4 minutes)*

### Question 4: Values and concerns. What values and concerns do you bring to your views on immigration policy? (12 min.)

*One of you goes first, taking up to 4 minutes, then the other person goes. Don't get into detailed solutions right now. Focus on what core values are at stake for you along with your main worries or concerns. It's okay if you repeat some of what you said in answering question 3.*

*After you both share, go back and forth for up to four minutes on what you learned about the other person's values and concerns, and did you see anything in common? .*

(proceed to page 3 after answering question 4)

## Part 3: How to Move Forward (18 min.)

**Question 5: U. S. policy. What immigration policies and remedies might reflect the values and concerns you have both shared? (12 min.)**

*Take 4 mins to individually review [the Pre-Read on Immigration Policy Options](#).*

*You do NOT need to go through the document point-by-point. Each of you should pick about 4 policies/remedies that you agree with and that you think the other person might agree with. Feel free to draw on the document as helpful; you're also welcome to mention policies and remedies not discussed in the pre-read.*

*Take turns for up to 4 minutes apiece to answer the question, "What immigration policies and remedies might reflect the values and concerns you have both shared?"*

*Focus on your agreements, not your disagreements.*

**Question 6: Are you both willing to share with Braver Angels any common ground policies and remedies you found in this conversation? If so, [please enter up to 5 points of agreement at this form](#) while you discuss, with wording you both agree on. (6 min.)**

*Go back and forth for up to six minutes on any common ground policies and remedies you came up with. If one of you proposes something as common ground and the other doesn't agree, don't argue the point: just move on to other policies/remedies you might agree on.*

*One of you should open the form and enter the information: your names and your email addresses. Then, enter up to five points of agreement. (The form asks about your name and email address so we can have a record of how many people are participating in these conversations.)*

*Note: it's okay if you don't arrive at any points of agreement. The goal is to learn about each other and to make a deep dive into the issue of immigration. If you don't find any points of agreement, please still fill out the form so we have your information.*

## CHECK OUT (4 minutes)

**What are we each taking with us from this conversation? 2 minutes each person**