Discussion Guide: How Status Can Get in the Way of Belonging

PDF of slides
Link to video

****This video is Part 1 of a 4 part series that can go together. Each video can be watched individually, but we do recommend them together. Also check out Mental Models, How to have Equitable Conversations, and Community Agreements.****

Community Check in

1. What does it feel like when someone talks over you?

2. What does it feel like when someone truly listens to you?

What is belonging?

1. What's your reaction to this definition of belonging and how it compares to inclusion?

How does status disrupt belonging?

1. In what contexts have you been assigned:
    - high status?
    - low status?

2. Have you ever noticed any of the previously mentioned behaviors?

Recommended Resources:

1. IDEAL Center at the Science Museum of MN, PAGE Cohort 2025-2026
2. john a powell
3. Cecilia Ridgeway “Why Status Matters for Inequality (2013), and Status (2019)
4. Elizabeth Cohen and Rachel Lotan (2014), Designing Groupwork
5. Caste by Isabel Wilkerson
6. Robin DiAngelo