



## LVMS PARENTS' PLACE

Though important, we know that initiating & navigating challenging topics with adolescents can be tricky or even uncomfortable. We also know how powerful this dialogue can be in promoting kindness, respect, and good citizenship.

With that in mind, in partnership with the Morris County Prosecutor's Office who visited LVMS on January 31st to present to our students on some of these topics, we wanted to provide some quick reads for parents that might be helpful as we work together, as a community, to promote good global citizenship and maintain a safe & welcoming school for all students.

1. [ASCA's Guidelines for Facilitating Critical Conversations](https://www.schoolcounselor.org) (schoolcounselor.org)  
This article provides a structured approach to initiating and guiding discussions about critical topics like racism and bias. It highlights the importance of establishing norms for respectful dialogue, setting goals for these conversations, and providing shared starting points to connect the discussion to children's experiences. Parents can adapt these strategies to foster open and meaningful conversations with their children at home.
2. ["Talking to Children about Racism: The Time is Now"](https://www.healthychildren.org) (HealthyChildren.org, AAP)  
Written in the wake of events like the killing of George Floyd, this article emphasizes the importance of addressing racism with children. It offers advice on how to answer their questions, help them process emotions, and turn challenging moments into opportunities for education and advocacy.
3. ["Keeping Children Safe Online"](https://www.cisa.gov) (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency)  
From the CISA, this is a resource that provides tips and guidance for parents, educators, and guardians on protecting children from online threats. It covers topics such as cyberbullying, privacy protection, safe social media use, and recognizing online dangers. The page also offers best practices and links to additional cybersecurity resources to help create a safer online experience for kids.
4. ["How to Talk to Kids About Race and Racism"](https://www.unicef.org/usa) (UNICEF USA)  
This guide includes strategies for starting conversations about race with children of different age groups. It focuses on creating a safe space for questions and fostering empathy and understanding.
5. ["Get Help Now"](https://www.stopbullying.gov) (StopBullying.gov)  
StopBullying.gov is a U.S. government website providing resources to prevent and address bullying. It offers guidance on recognizing, preventing, and responding to bullying, along with laws, policies, and support for schools, parents, and communities.