

# BRIDGING DIVIDES: PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE CONVERSATIONS ON IMMIGRATION AND POLITICS

This handout offers a representative sampling of trusted, nonpartisan resources to support thoughtful conversations across political and immigration-related divides. While not comprehensive, it highlights practical tools grounded in empathy, structure, and shared values. We welcome additional resources and suggestion to continue strengthening this collection.

## General Resources to Support Civic Engagement and Relationship Building:



- **Braver Angels: Skills for Bridging the Divide (10 skills for Civil Discourse)**
  - [Click here](#)
- **National Civic League: All-America Conversations Toolkit**
  - [Click here](#)
- **Essential Partners: Guide to Conversations Across the Partisan Divide**
  - [Click here](#)
- **Living Room Conversations: Faith in Politics Guide**
  - [Click here](#)

## Immigration-Specific Resources



- **Overcoming Polarization (American Immigration Council)**
  - [Click here](#)
- **Living Room Conversations: Politics of Immigration Guide (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship)**
  - [Click here](#)

## General Engagement Techniques



**Active Listening:** Summarize what the other person said to their satisfaction before you respond.

**Curiosity Over Conflict:** Ask, “How did you come to feel that way?” instead of “Why do you believe that?”

**Moral Reframing:** Use the other person’s core values (e.g., security, fairness, compassion) to explain your perspective.

**Establish Ground Rules:** Agree beforehand to pause or end the conversation if it becomes too heated, or to focus on local rather than national politics.



*Immigrant & Refugee*  
**RESOURCE COLLABORATIVE**