

How to Respond to Disagreement, Pushback, and Anger

By Manny Gonzalez for EnCourage

Courage member, Manny Gonzalez, responds to another question from EnCourage members: "How would you recommend we respond to disagreement, pushback, and anger from loved ones, so that we can maintain a loving and respectful relationship with them?"

Do not speak from mere emotion and frustration. Doing so will end in nothing but arguments and regret.

Invite the Holy Spirit into every conversation which you and your loved one will have on the topic of same-sex attractions. Allow the words spoken on your behalf to be His, not yours.

Lastly, be compassionate in all that you say and do. Whether it be in speaking truth to your loved one or merely in a disagreement, NEVER do so in an aggressive, condescending, or violent manner. While love is indeed truthful and just, it is also patient and kind.

Ultimately you CANNOT control how your loved one receives your stance on the matter. As long as you are compassionate in your delivery and genuinely choose to still love them beyond their experience/decisions (whether you agree with them or not), then you have done your part in standing firmly with Him. Leave the rest in His hands.

Plant those seeds and let Him nourish the garden. You never know what fruits He will bear.

Manny Gonzalez is a member of Courage. He worked as an intern with Courage over the summer and is now a senior at the Franciscan University of Steubenville. [Watch Manny tell his story](#) with Jason Evert.

