Courageous Conversations: Creating Brave Spaces to Talk About Challenging Topics
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Introductions

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Courage and confidence! I cannot repeat this war-cry too often. We should make it our support in our life of conflict.

-St. Madeleine Sophie Barat
- The origin of Courageous Conversations
- Network of Sacred Heart Schools
- Training with Generation Global
Five Key Dialogue Skills

- Introspection
- Active Listening
- Authentic Questioning
- Critical Thinking
- Reflection
Building the Student Program

- Leadership Teams
- Logistics
- Publicity
- Facilitation
- Reflection
Event Overview

- Friday Night
- 3:00 to 8:00
- Student-guided Activities
- Dinner
- Dialogue
Dialogue Preparation Activities

- Dialogue Walk
- Dialogue Score
- Dialogue Compass
- Dialogue is/is Not
- Offensive/Ok
- Asking Authentic Questions
- Identity Wheel
- Active Listening
Dialogue Compass

“The compass was created to help us understand how we each process and engage with information about race. It is a way to understand one another's opinions and beliefs. According to the compass, there are 4 ways that people deal with race: Emotional, Intellectual, Moral and Social.”

-developed by Glenn E. Singleton, Courageous Conversations about Race
Dialogue Is/Is Not

- The same thing as a debate.
- Trying to find out how we are all the same through discussing similarities.
- Asking questions to find out more about the lives of others.
Dialogue Is/Is Not

- Making friends with someone else.
- An interview
- Listening carefully to what others say and responding to them.
Offensive or OK

- THAT IS AN INTERESTING POINT
- DO YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT?
- I HATE...
Offensive or OK

- Can you explain that to me again?
- That just doesn’t make sense
- We’ll have to agree to disagree
Asking Authentic Questions

-It’s demeaning for women to have to cover their heads, isn’t it?

-No other country cares about refugees as much as we do, do they?
Identity Wheel
Before
-ability     -race
-ethnicity   -age
-sexuality   -gender
-family      
-religion/spirituality
-socio-economics
Identity Wheel

After

Identity wheel

This is YOUR identity wheel. You can personalize the wheel so that it reflects the percentage of how much an identifier is important to you. You can use some or all the identifiers listed or you can write in your own. For example, if race is a big part of your identity, that section of the wheel will be larger than another section.

Identifiers
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Race
- Gender
- Belief
- Ability
- Socioeconomic class
- Language
- Religion/worldview
- Other ________
Active Listening
Dialogue Topics

- Environment
- Racism
- Immigration
- Politics
- American Identity
- Consumerism
- Gender
Reflection

- Post-event Lunches
- Student Social Justice Book Club
Next Steps

Faculty and Staff Training-August 2019
- Human Barometer (Four-Corners)
- Response vs Reaction
- Sample Statements

Ongoing Faculty Training/Conversations
- Division Specific Work
- Discussion Starter Sheet
- Faculty Dialogue with Faculty Facilitators
- DEI Committee
Next Steps

September School-wide Day of Dialogue
- Wide support of faculty
- Student planning meeting
- Pre-election

Network of Sacred Heart Schools
- Regional Network Dialogue Training
“Learning about dialogue at Courageous Conversations helps me to realize what my strengths and weaknesses are and how to work on them.”

“We need to set an example for other generations to follow in order to create a better world. Dialogue creates a more peaceful environment where everyone can respectfully let their opinions be heard, while understanding others’ views.”

-Courageous Conversations Participants
Time for Questions
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Thank you very much!

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