

SATURDAY NIGHT CONVERSATION CLUB

WELCOME

We welcome you to our Community Conversation Club
where people enjoy thoughtful conversation
on timeless topics and current events.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the
Saturday Night Conversation Club
is to provide opportunities to enhance our
intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, creative thinking,
and emotional, social and communication skills.

PROCESS

1. We all benefit when you bring a topic to discuss. We appreciate when you present a question, article, story, poem, fable, myth, quote, joke, song lyric or a picture to discuss.
2. We encourage you to be intellectually inquisitive and we welcome your wonder.
3. It helps to be focused, clear and direct – staying on point, speaking to the topic.
4. Some people were socialized with put-downs. Avoid eye-rolling intended to demean and rude sarcasm that may cause another person not to share.
5. Use “I” statements. They empower and cause you to own what you say in a strong way. “You” statements are not empowering. They water down your message. Speak for yourself and don’t assume you know someone else’s full experience.
6. Make an effort to avoid interrupting others. Encourage others to finish their thought. We value hearing what you have to say and want your time to be uninterrupted.
7. Pay complete attention to the speaker. One person speaks at a time. We have one discussion at a time. Side conversations take the focus away from the speaker. Your attention lets speakers know they are valued and treated respectfully.
8. Share the Conversational Pie. You can speak up to 4 minutes. If you have spoken twice on a topic, wait until all others speak. When many want to speak at the same time, raise your hand to be called on to speak.
9. Conversation is not a competition. Be interested in others’ sharing. Respectfully clarify ideas and seek reason. Be respectful of different values, feelings and opinions.
10. Practice distinguishing between facts, feelings, values, needs and opinions. Listen carefully for others’ feelings, values and needs that create their point of view.
11. No cross talking – negative commenting on other’s ideas. We may disagree respectfully. We may examine and discuss opposing ideas for their underlying needs and concerns.
12. Signal completion by summarizing your point or asking a question and going silent. This lets the next person know you are finished, and they may then speak.
13. Enjoy yourself. Positive humor 😊 – well-timed – is a gift and appreciated !!!
14. Keep it confidential. People are willing to open up if they believe what they say will stay in the meeting.

CO-FACILITATION

If you see that the group is going off topic,
or others are not being given a chance to share, make an intervention.
Say something to bring the group back to being on track.

Feel free to help co-facilitate our meeting.
When many in the group co-facilitate, based on our shared guidelines,
we are guaranteed to have a great meeting.

Thanks for being co-creative!

SOME TOPIC IDEAS

Curiosity, Wonder, Awe,
Mysteries of the Universe & Life

Person, Personality,
Human Development

Friendship, Relationships,
Human Relations

Sex, Money, Power

Family, Children

Community,
Community Development

Education, Ethics,
Evolution

Religion, Mythology,
Philosophy, Values,
Meaning, Purpose,
Character Development

Culture, Arts, Theater, Books,
Media, TV, Internet

Travel

Nature, Planet Earth, Universe

Science, Systems

Sustainability

Facts, Truth

Politics, Civics

Government, Justice, Law

War, Peace,
Politics, Diplomacy

Health, Nutrition, Food, Water,
Exercise, Rest, Sleep,

Addictions, Wellness,

Work, Financial, Career,
Business Development,
Abundance, Law of Attraction

Creativity, Play, Fun, Humor

The Future, Artificial Intelligence,
Technology, Robots