

POLITICAL CONVERSATION

Union of Saints

A Rule Card for Respectful Dialogue

THE PURPOSE

To encourage open, informed political discussion while respecting different perspectives and maintaining a pleasant social environment.

OUR GROUND RULES

1. **Respect differences.** We do not have to agree to have a good conversation.
2. **Listen without interrupting.** Allow everyone a fair opportunity to speak and finish their thoughts.
3. **Discuss the issue, not the person.** Challenge ideas, policies, claims, and arguments without personal attacks.
4. **Value facts and evidence.** Distinguish facts from opinions, assumptions, and interpretations.
5. **Recognize biases and logical fallacies.** Be willing to examine your own reasoning as well as the arguments of others.
6. **Consider both sides.** Listen to opposing perspectives and remain open to credible evidence, even when it challenges your position.
7. **Respect personal boundaries.** No bullying, threats, intimidation, hostile confrontation, personal jabs, or demeaning language.
8. **No pressure to participate.** Anyone may decline a topic, refrain from answering, or request a change of subject.
9. **Keep it constructive.** Avoid manipulation, deliberate provocation, and attempts to silence or dominate others.
10. **Enjoy the evening.** Political discussion should encourage understanding, not come at the expense of friendship, courtesy, or everyone's enjoyment.

CHOOSE YOUR RESPONSE

Mark one response for each statement or topic.

- ☐ **AGREE** — I agree with or support the statement.
- ☐ **DISAGREE** — I disagree or hold a different position.
- ☐ **REFRAIN** — I choose not to comment or participate in this discussion.

THE GOLDEN RULE

Challenge the argument, not the person.

Disagreement is welcome. Disrespect is not.