



Good Group Handout

by Craig Freshley

Tips for Talking Sex Ed in a Divisive Environment

Let people talk and then show them that they've been heard

Paraphrase what you heard back to them in real time verbally or in writing, or in the meeting minutes later.

Demonstrate respect to all people at all times

Remain calm and polite at all times. Treat people as equals, not as less-than. Do not ascribe motive or question identity. Give people the benefit of the doubt.

Steadfast allegiance to established rules and roles

Do not waver on following duly established procedures. Remind people about the lane. Stay in the lane. The fabric has been tested before. It will endure.

Constant reminders about our common goals

We want the same things: educated, self-confident young adults. We are working on ____ for the good of our community.

Correct mis-information

When people state wrong facts or imply bad things about your efforts, stand up to them with correct facts, if not immediately then later.

Be curious

Don't get furious, get curious. Keep in mind: I can be curious about your beliefs without having to change my beliefs. You are on solid ground if you ask questions yet agree to nothing.

Guidelines for Personal Peace

It's probably not about me. My job is to stand tall and speak truth.

Do your best and let that be enough.

Seek compassion and counsel from peers.

Keep in mind that you and your curriculum are being subjected to much larger forces at play.

For More Information

Free resources such as Tips, Videos, Handouts, and eLearning courses at

