

Format

Overview

- Introductions, ordering food, etc: 20 minutes
- Topic 1: 45 minutes
 - Ask first polarized question
 - Ask party for agreement
 - If there is descent in the group, ask minority opinion to argue their stance
 - Allow majority opinion to rebuttal and further discourse to progress naturally
 - If discussion dies off, ask additional questions related to Topic 1 and repeat this process
- Topic 2: 45 minutes
 - Repeat steps for Topic 1
- Closing
 - Ask for feedback

Procedures

Registration

Go to www.dinnerpartymovement.com and fill out the host registration form.

1. All events must be hosted in a public venue, ie a restaurant, park, etc. Make sure this is not a overly crowded or loud location like a sports bar, nor a quiet location like a library.
2. Events should allow for 45 minutes of discussion per topic
3. Select a date at least a week in advance to allow people to make time in their schedules to attend
4. After you apply, the event will be confirmed via email and posted within 24 hours
5. Upon confirmation, share the website to get participants involved

Preparing for the event

Research your topic and come up with questions. The more quantitative the question the better.

1. Have at least 3 questions prepared per topic that people could answer differently depending on their political ideology
2. Research both sides of the argument in order to compose better questions especially if the group is mostly on one side of the aisle. Play devils advocate for the minority opinion when possible to encourage full participation
3. Look for an email from us, we collect questions from people as they register and will send them to you within 24-48 hours of your event

Hosting Guidelines

Your role as the host is not to dominate the conversation, but to facilitate it. The three primary goals are to:

1. Keep people talking
2. Keep the peace
3. Ensure people enjoy themselves

If you can achieve this, the movement will grow and people will be more willing to listen to one another. Below are some basic dos and don'ts

Do	Don't
Ask questions to keep the conversation going	Insert bias unless to help a minority opinion
Take notes and stay engaged	Dominate the conversation or spend time on an electronic device
Open the floor to people who haven't had a chance to speak but seem like they'd like to	Force anyone to talk. A fair number of participants are just there to listen and learn.
Stop the conversation if tensions get high and change topics/ask another question	Look things up to support any side. This prevents organic conversation and gives that side an unfair advantage
Try to keep things light hearted	Single anyone out when things get heated. We're all passionate about what we believe and accidents happen