



CONVERSATION-STARTERS

POLITICS AND RELIGION

FIRST, NEXT MEETING

Some Common Grounders have learned to schedule their next conversation while they are face-to-face with each other, and to take care of this first, before discussing the questions below. So get out your calendars and set your next meeting—

Date:

Time:

Place:

NOW, CONVERSATION

Don't feel like you have to work through these questions systematically; just use them as a springboard to honest discussion. Feel free to ask additional questions as well.

1. Was there a spiritual or religious background to your childhood? What had the greatest influence on the way you see the world today?
2. Was there a political background to your childhood? What had the greatest influence on how and whether you participate in the political process?
3. How are your spiritual/religious views related to your political views? Which has more influence over the other?
4. Why do you think most churches are not multi-cultural? Is it acceptable to have Latino churches, Black churches, White churches—where people who are different might not feel comfortable?
5. Talk about politics and religion and community in Lansing. Do you see politics and religion as community-builders, or as a source of division?