

How to Talk About Immigrants

The Values We Share

Dignity and Belonging

Everyone deserves basic compassion and respect no matter who they are or where they were born. We all share the same desire to belong in our communities.

Hard Work and Prosperity

Immigrants have been coming to this country since its conception to work hard and create better lives. All people want their families and communities to thrive.

Safety and Stability

Everyone desires safety and security for themselves and their families. We all want to live our lives free from fears of violence and upheaval.

Faith and Family

Many immigrants and U.S.-born share a strong guiding faith. No matter our religion, we all want the best not only for ourselves but also for our neighbors.

Frames for Talking About Immigrants

Human Dignity

Remind others of our American value of treating others with respect and compassion. We have a moral obligation to recognize the humanity in others and treat people as we want to be treated.

Shared Prosperity

Explain how everyone benefits when we support immigrants to achieve their full potential. The social and economic contributions of immigrants strengthen our economy and positively impact American culture.

Pragmatism

Frame your argument with logic and common sense. Talk about immigration not as a broken system but an outdated one that can be fixed. Provide tangible solutions for problems to show that change is possible.

Tips for Civil Online Discourse

Curb your impulse. Give yourself time to digest an argument and decide which frame to use in response.

Think about your purpose. Rather than trying to convince an individual, write for the benefit of everyone else reading your comments.

Keep it civil. If you wouldn't say something in person, don't say it online.

Toolkit

- [Out of Many, One: A Defining Moment for American Integration](#)
- [America Needs All of Us: A Toolkit for Talking About Bias, Race, and Change](#)
- [How to Communicate More Effectively About Immigration's Costs and Benefits](#)
- [Yes, You Can Argue Online Without Going Crazy. Here's How.](#)
- [Integrating Issues: Framing for Racial Equity and Children in Immigrant Families](#)

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