WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON:
How to Talk About Immigrants

WEBINAR SUMMARY
November 2018

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.

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.

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.

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 Talk about immigration not as a broken system but an outdated one that can be fixed.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

Learn more at bit.ly/ILCintegration
public.education@ilctr.org | www.ilctr.org