

Be **Curious**, **Charitable**, **Conscientious**, and **Constructive**



The 4Cs

Engaging others

Humility

Try to identify conditions under which you would no longer hold your views

Empathy

Try to describe other people's views in a way that they would recognize and accept

Fairness

Don't exaggerate the strengths of your views or the flaws of others'

Practicality

Look for opportunities to work toward common ground

Responding to others

Receptivity

Try to understand how other people's views might inform your own

Forgiveness

If someone offends you, be prepared to accept a sincere apology

Resilience

Don't be hostile or defensive when your views are challenged

Flexibility

Be prepared to change your views

be Curious

Assume that you have something to learn

be Charitable

Assume that each participant has good intentions

be Conscientious

Listen carefully and speak thoughtfully

be Constructive

Remember that the goal is not to win, but to promote better understanding

**Civil
Discourse**
for Citizenship

CENTER
FOR ETHICS AND
HUMAN VALUES