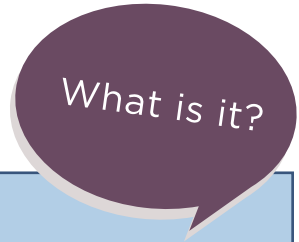


We all come from different backgrounds and unique experiences. Seek opportunities to hear others' viewpoints, truths, and experiences. **Avoid debating and strive to create dialogue.**

**DEBATE** vs **DIALOGUE**



Debate is...	Dialogue is...
Believing there is only one correct answer and it's yours	Understanding there can be many right answers and being willing to listen to the reasoning supporting those answers to create new solutions
Having a combative attitude — trying to prove the other opinion wrong	Having a collaborative approach — working in unity to find common ground
Only focusing on winning the argument	Focusing on learning and exploring common ground
Listening to find shortcomings and create arguments	Actively listening to understand, learn, and find grounds for agreement
All about creating a winner and a loser in all things and casts aside further opportunity for discussion	All about keeping the topic open for conversation, even when the discussion is formally over



Debate closes your mind because you...	Dialogue opens your mind because you...
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See your idea as the only truth and defend it as the only truth	Reexamine your ideas for other ways to look at the issue with the hope of seeing the issue in a new light
Only look at the other sides of the issue for the purposes of disputing them	Look at all sides of the issue for the purposes of understanding and learning
Actively defend your self opinion against those of others	Actively admit that learning from other opinions can improve and broaden your own opinions
Seek flaws and fragility in others ideas	Seek stability and ideals in others ideas

**IMPORTANT!!!** It is important for diverse groups of people to work together with open minds, so we can learn, grow, and work towards understanding one another better.

