Congressman Himes

Let's Talk Politics!

1:1 conversations are the key effective communication, mobilization, persuasion. We want to make sure you have the tools you need to be successful.

The purpose of this toolkit is to break down barriers and help you engage in political conversation. We'll outline how to start, engage, and maintain a constructive dialogue.

You are the best messenger when it comes to sharing information about Jim and the issues Team Himes works for.

JIM HIMES
DEMOCRAT FOR CONGRESS

Step 1: Story of Self

What are your core values?
Values are what motivate you. Like integrity, honesty, compassion, or respect -- not policy.

Try to identify shared values, such as your support of fairness and mutual respect. From there, it can be easier to find common ground.

List some of your core values and what they mean to you here:

_____

_____

_____

Examine your values: Think about what you hope to achieve from your conversation.

Listen to understand (and show it!): Are you listening for points so you can argue or understand the other person's perspective and motives to have a productive discussion?

Look for shared values and stick to areas of common ground.

Step 2: Connect & Find Common Ground

Think critically: What values do you share with the person you are talking to? Look for opportunities to bond through shared values.

Ask the other person about where they see the urgency, or priority. Create a bridge, connect, and be open to different perspectives.

Not every conversation will result in a YES vote for your candidate, but it will plant a seed. Creating real human connection with a fellow voter can be an impactful moment, even if there is disagreement.

A: **What's important when you think about what matters in a leader?**

B: I want them to be fair and equitable

A: **So, you value fairness and equity. I do too -- everyone should have a fair shot.**

B: Yes, it's important everyone gets a fair shake.

A: **My candidate is also committed to equity** and are focused on plans that level the playing field for everyone. I appreciate seeing a leader who shares our dedication to fairness.

Step 3: Create Story Of US & Now

Connect your values and personal story to what is happening today.

Remember: The stakes are high. Share the urgency and importance of the moment, your hopefulness about our future, and build on your conversation through your natural enthusiasm, knowledge of current events, the issues, and common goals.

Start by talking to people you already know!

Who can you have a conversation with **today** about shared values?